

**GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for October 2023**

Web Site



Grand Commander SK John E. King REGC

Editor SK John E. King REGC, Email: jek41@sbcglobal.net Cell: (580) 471-0636



GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

By becoming a Knight in this *Order* you have joined another Masonic organization. Is it what you expected? Do you have expectations of the organization? What do you commit to doing to advance the organization?

This organization that you have joined is based on the Knights Templar who guarded the pilgrims as they traveled to the Holy Land. They also fought alongside the armies sent to secure the Holy Land from the Muslims. They were monks with weapons.

This is a Masonic order with a military organization. A military organization is formed with a common interest in its ranks. Modern military personnel are trained to shoot, move and operate military hardware. They are trained to think, follow and lead. You cannot train a Soldier to kill. Killing is new to the Soldier, when he first gets into battle. Killing in battle is defensive and becomes a common drive when the soldier or one or more of his buddies is in danger of getting killed. On the battlefield the soldier is totally depending on his buddies to keep each other alive. That bond, which generates a lifetime of Brotherhood.

Chivalry: the Qualities of the ideal knight: chivalrous conduct. The Knight Templars had that bond secured with Christianity. The Templars lived together, ate together, prayed together and fought and died together. Without that bond

the battles would be lost. In all of our wars there is countless documentation of the bonds that one man gave his life for another.

We, as Masons and Knights Templars are not going into actual battle, but need to build that bond that develops a lifetime brotherhood ready to battle for the morality of men. We hear in our very first degree, "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." We are told throughout our Masonic journey that we are brothers and bound to help and love one another. We as Knights of Christ are bound together by our beliefs in the Christ Jesus.

If we are to survive as Masons and Knights Templar we must work as one team of bonded men, focused on the battle that we are fighting to keep Masonry and Templary relevant to the public. They may see Masonry as something to take into their lives and apply to themselves. As Knights Templars we must bond together as one to show Christian Masons the way to serve as a Soldier of Jesus Christ.

Yours in the Christ Jesus
SK John E. King
Right Eminent Grand Commander



GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN'S MESSAGE

Title: The Gospel of Matthew Chapter 5 Verses 13-16: what is it Importance to The Knights Templar

With this year's inspections concluded, and after checking multiple Bibles to see that they are on the correct chapter. I asked myself why is this chapter and verse so important to us as Knight Templars.

Matthew 5:13-16 reads as follows:

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and

trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

“For Knight Templars, this scripture has two metaphors: salt and light. These metaphors represent the impact Christians are meant to have in the world.

Let’s first examine verse 13,

Salt had a number of purposes in the ancient world for instance Flavoring, Preserving.

As Christians, we should bring positive and enriching influences to the world. We’re to spread the word of God around us and enhance it, add flavor to things that would be bland, drawing out the blessings of whatever is good, and providing a contrast by being distinct and different. As Knight Templars, we should try to maintain code of morality, justice and social_conscience in our own lives and those around us.

The reference to ‘light of the world’ in verse 14 and 16 is the symbolism for guidance, illumination, and enlightenment. That we as Templars, should ensure that our actions and life bring glory to God. A light cannot be hidden; it naturally attracts attention. Similarly, Christians are encouraged to live in a way that others are drawn to their faith, asking questions, and desiring to experience the transformative power of God.

In conclusion, the scriptural reference of Matthew 5:13-16 played a crucial role in shaping our spiritual activities. We are called to be salt, preserving God’s truth and bringing flavor to our interactions with others. We are to be light, shining in the darkness to guiding others toward living in a way so that others see our good works and give glory to God

SK Robert W. McLeod
Eminent Grand Junior Warden