



GRAND COMMANDERY OF WYOMING

<https://yorkritewy.org>

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In like a lion, and out like a lamb!

Sir Knights, I owe all of you an apology. When I took this office, I promised I would have an article every month, on time.

I have not upheld that promise. When I started this article at the beginning of the month, VEDGC Forbis and EGCG Hill were in Alaska representing Wyoming at their Grand Sessions. Twenty days later we are looking at Palm Sunday!

This begins the Holy time leading to Easter, when we celebrate the return of our Savior and the Triumph over Death, the promise of Life Evermore. Commercialism has trained us to focus on Christmas as the main Holiday (Holy Day), but I feel that the return in triumph is a more significant event. Our Lord came as God incarnate, all God but all man. He knew what was coming and he knew fear. Ultimately, there is no courage without fear. There is no reward without sacrifice. He knew his duty. If Jesus had stayed in the grave, or if God had granted his prayer to “let this cup pass from me”, we would be lost! Thankfully, Jesus closed his prayer in the garden with, “nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt”.

Jesus had to experience death to conquer death. Our Lord descended into the Tomb to show it had no hold over Him. That through his Love and our Repentance, death has no hold over us.

I often ask myself, why did the Angels stay? Did the stone at the tomb NEED to be rolled away for Christ's return? Of course not, all this was done for us, so **The Word** would spread.

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Genesis 1:3

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

There are many times in the Bible the Lord speaks reality into being. This shows the power of the spoken word, and perhaps why Masonry teaches us to control our tongues!

I hope that you will all be active in your local churches this season, and if not, take the opportunity to reacquaint yourself. If you are a regular attendee, consider wearing your Class A (minus Chapeau and sword at your discretion). Church is the best place to recruit young men, and remember, as a Templar you are free to start the conversation!

This last weekend I had the honor to attend the conferring of the Chivalric Orders in Sheridan. This is one of the great pleasures of the Office, seeing how other groups, do the same work you do at home. Sir Knights, they Knighted 15 men that day! There were two PGCs and one current Grand Commander, Knighting these men, and I promise you they got quality work. Hats off to the hard work and dedication the Sheridan York Group puts into high quality degree work!

Sir Knights, the hunt goes on for Grand Recorders/Secretaries. I fear this will be the death of Wyoming York Rite, long before numbers or Grand Encampment politics gets us. If you have any ideas on a man who, if approached the right way, might be willing, or if you have ideas as to what might be an appropriate enticement, please email me at:

c.schroeder@bresnan.net.

Or even if you just want to chat about the Craft.

I want to leave you with a thought or two to ponder:

There were two trees in Eden we were not to eat of: Life and Knowledge. We were tempted to eat of the tree of Knowledge, not Life. Why?

Also,

As soon as we ate of Knowledge, we immediately saw ourselves as naked, and in shame, clothed and hid ourselves. When God discovered this, what did God ask us?

Who told thee that thou wast naked?

At that moment we substituted our morality for God's and went astray. At that moment, shame entered the human emotional spectrum.

BTW, I would also point out that the first time Man got in trouble with God, the first thing he said was:

And the man said, the woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

Right! We blamed our wife! 🤔

How many times have you heard someone say, “I know right from wrong”. How did that work out for them?

Gods plan, not ours.

God’s law, not ours.

God’s morality, not ours.

It’s the only way out of this.

And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever.

Why did God say, “As one of us”? Why plural?

Email me with your thoughts.

Yours in Service,

SK Chris Schroeder