

**GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for February 2024**

Web Site



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GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

February, the month that corrects the 6 hour difference each of 4 years with an extra day to keep our calendars even with our annual trip around the sun. The actual time per annum is 5 hours, 48 minutes and 45 seconds. Adding a whole day of 24 hours does not make our calendars perfect. There is nothing in this world that is perfect. We as Christians and especially Knight Templars celebrate and worship the perfect trinity, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. The main figure of that Trinity is The Christ Jesus of Nazareth. Christianity developed from the birth, life and death of a man given to the world by his father to better mankind. It is foretold that Jesus will return to Earth. What will he find when that event occurs.

Only a small number of men and women understood what he taught at his first coming. They in turn spread the gospel of his teachings at the risk of death. The Romans tortured and fed these first believers to the animals in the arena for their entertainment and yet became the center of Christianity.

How do we emulate those Christian believers that knowingly gave their lives that, when seen by the Roman populace, changed them from idol worshipers to believers of the one true God and his Son Jesus? I wish I was a prophet and could tell you how to follow in their footsteps. One thing I have learned that each one of those first Christians made it their own choice. We as Knights Templar have to

individually make choices that influence others to make this world a place that Jesus can come back to and rejoice.

February 14th is a day set aside to love one another. "God so love the World that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16 KJV. We as Christians, Masons and Knights Templar need to practice this love. "Beloved, If God so Love us, we ought also to love one another." 1 John 4:11 KJV.

Love You All

Yours in the Christ Jesus

SK John E. King

Grand Commander Knights Templar of Oklahoma



GRAND PRELATE'S MESSAGE

We often think of Valentine's Day as the day for couples to show their love to one another, but rarely do we use the day to remind us of God's unmatched love for us, His children. For many single people, Valentine's Day can be a bitter reminder of their singleness and desire for a relationship. Luckily, God doesn't leave anyone, single or in a relationship, out of His unending love and grace.

In 1 John 4:8, the author says, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

God is love itself. We wouldn't have any conception of "love" at all if it weren't for God, the definition of love.

God further defines love in the classic 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 passage that reads, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."

God describes love in this way, and then tells us that He is love. This further emphasizes that God himself is all these things. God is patient and kind. He keeps no record of wrongs. He always protects, always trusts, always hopes and always perseveres. God's love is a perfect love that no one on earth could ever emulate. We often read this 1 Corinthians passage near Valentine's Day or at weddings to remind us what love should look like, but God is the perfect demonstration of it.

John 3:16 says, "or God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

He gave up His only son for us. He gave us eternal life because of His great and unmatched love for each of us. The theologian C.S. Lewis once said, "He died not for men, but for each man. If each man had been the only man made, He would have done no less."

God loves you so much. If you were the only one on earth, He still would have sent His son for you.

So, this Valentine's Day, remember to set your sights not on earthy relationships, but on the God above who loves far more fully and abundantly than we could ever imagine.

Respectfully,
Steven Cox
Excellent Grand Prelate