

A Survey of Nature

by the late Reverend Sir Knight Donald Kerr

April showers bring May flowers! So we are told, and that's the way nature works. Among the many good sayings that have been passed along over the years this is one from Rollo May, "Nature does not require that we be perfect; it requires only that we may grow, and we can do that from a mistake as from success." The amazing miracle of nature is that it moves according to schedule. It knows the time when flowers should bloom and for the ducks to fly northward. When it is springtime, nature tells us the grass will grow and the sun will shine more warmly. Nature commands that we adjust to its pattern.

Sometimes nature makes a mistake, and we all suffer from it. Hurricanes blow, tornadoes rumble, the earth shakes, and we know trouble is at hand. Even so, nature does not remain static but goes on with its schedule. Life is like that. It also grows by its mistakes as well as its successes.

Long ago, the wise Shakespeare once said, "We are the stuff as dreams are made on." How necessary to life is the dream! To see beyond our noses and to catch the glimmer of that invisible spiritual world which nature provides.

Many years ago the following verse came to my attention, and I pass it along for you to ponder:

"Great it is to believe the dream,
When we stand in youth by the starry streams;
But a greater thing is to see life through
And to say at the end,
The dream is true!"

The evolution of the seasons moves along without delay. Constantly we are being reborn with new ideas, new horizons, new possibilities. If we never grow, we would have nothing to live for or hope for. The dream is always before us! So may it be!

The late Reverend Sir Knight Donald C. Kerr, a member of Beauseant Commandery No. 8, Baltimore, Maryland, was Pastor-emeritus of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church in Baltimore. He submitted many seasonal articles to the Knight Templar magazine over the years, and this is one that was not previously published. We publish it here in his memory.