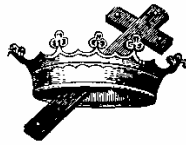


ALABAMA SUPPLEMENT



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Grand Prelate's Apartment

Sir Knights, the poem by Sir Knight Edgar A. Guest given below is an "oldie but a goodie." We should always remember that we are someone's impression of Masonry and the Knights Templar.

Let us always endeavor to live in such a manner that we bring no dishonor upon Him under whose banner we have enlisted and whose Name and Sign we bear.

*I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me than merely tell the way.
The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear,
Fine counsel is confusing, but example's always clear;
And the best of the preachers are the men who live their creeds,
For to see good put in action is what everybody needs.*

*I soon can learn to do it if you'll let me see it done;
I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run.
And the lecture you deliver may be very wise and true,
But I'd rather get my lessons by observing what you do;
For I might misunderstand you and the high advice you give,
But there's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live.*

*When I see a deed of kindness, I am eager to be kind;
When a weaker brother stumbles and a strong man stays behind
Just to see if he can help him, then the wish grows strong in me
To become as big and thoughtful as I know that friend to be.
And all travelers can witness that the best of guides today
Is not the one who tells them, but the one who shows the way.*

*One good man teaches many, men believe what they behold;
One deed of kindness noticed is worth forty that are told.
Who stands with men of honor learns to hold his honor dear,
For right living speaks a language which to everyone is clear.
Though an able speaker charms me with his eloquence, I say,
I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one, any day.*

In His Name,
George L. Marshall, Jr., PGC, KCT
Grand Prelate

HONORS IN THE YORK RITE – COMMANDERY AND OTHER

This concludes a list of various awards in York Rite Masonry I started in an earlier issue.

Knights Templar Cross of Honor

The Knights Templar Cross of Honor is awarded by the Grand Encampment upon the recommendation of the Grand Commander for exceptional and meritorious service to the Order. One award per year is made in each Grand Commandery, but Grand Commanderies with membership over 75,000 may award a second medal.

Knight Commander of the Temple

One or more Sir Knights may be honored each year in a jurisdiction with this award, recognizing the honoree's service to the causes of Knights Templar.

Strictly speaking, these next three awards are not honors of the York Rite. They are awarded by the Sovereign York Rite College of North America, an appendant body whose members are all York Rite Masons. In a coming month I intend to discuss this and other bodies appendant to or associated with the York Rite.

York Rite College Gold Award

This award is presented to any Mason for outstanding service. Each College may nominate one or more Masons in their area to receive this award from the Sovereign College.

Order of the Purple Cross

This award is made to members of the subordinate Colleges to the Sovereign College. Each College may nominate one member for this award. This nomination must be first approved by the Grand Governor of the state or province, and then by the Sovereign College itself.

York Rite College Service Award

One of these awards may be made each year in each jurisdiction. The Grand Governor of the state or province makes the nomination based upon leadership, service, and moral and intellectual qualities.

LESSONS ON LIFE

There was a man who had four sons. He wanted his sons to learn not to judge things too quickly. So he sent them each on a quest, in turn, to go and look at a pear tree that was a great distance away.

The first son went in the winter, the second in the spring, the third in summer, and the youngest son in the fall.

When they had all gone and come back, he called them together to describe what they had seen.

The first son said that the tree was ugly, bent, and twisted. The second son said no it was covered with green buds and full of promise.

The third son disagreed; he said it was laden with blossoms that smelled so sweet and looked so beautiful, it was the most graceful thing he had ever seen.

The last son disagreed with all of them; he said it was ripe and drooping with fruit, full of life and fulfillment.

The man then explained to his sons that they were all right, because they had each seen but only one season in the tree's life.

He told them that you cannot judge a tree, or a person, by only one season, and that the essence of who they are and the pleasure, joy, and love that come from that life can only be measured at the end, when all the seasons are up.

If you give up when it's winter, you will miss the promise of your spring, the beauty of your summer, fulfillment of your fall.

-- Author Unknown
E-Mail Ministry: <http://www.emailministry.org>