

Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

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Robert D. McClarty, REGC 2022-2023

The New Year and New Temptations

Sir Knight Justin Crippen, Eminent Grand Senior Warden

The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked his other officers to write articles for the insert, and this month's article was written by our Eminent Grand Senior Warden.

What do you think of the new year? Do you make resolutions or is it just another day and year to you? These are interesting questions for sure. When I think of the new year, I feel it is a time for renewed promises in your life to yourself. It is a time to make the recommitment to something you stopped doing. Maybe you started the last year off working out and watching what you were eating. Afterwards you soon found yourself back to the same old thing of eating too much or even better, gorging yourself on the "good stuff" you enjoy.

It is easy to get back into the old habits because that voice in your head, the devil, is telling you it is alright to eat! He says "just one more trip through the line! You don't need to exercise and stay healthy; you will live forever!" You know that you are supposed to do the right thing, but there is something saying it's alright not to.

Better yet you say you are going to quit smoking and you don't. Well, you started off by slowing down and then you said tomorrow you would stop. Then tomorrow, then another tomorrow and before you knew it, it was six months later, and nothing had changed. You still cannot breathe, you don't have any energy, but there is that voice saying to you, "Its ok! You will be fine, just keep smoking."

So, you decide it's time to start working out and eating right again. It's the new year, I'm going to do it this time. I'm going to quit smoking too but do you know who keeps saying "no, you don't have to?" He continues to say "you don't have to do those things because you will be fine. Come enjoy them with me."

I am sure none of this really makes sense to you but that's my point. Temptation is all around you. It is in your face at all times, never giving you a break or letting you catch your breath. It creeps up like a slow-moving fog. Blinding you from what you should see and what you know is there. What you know to be true.

That's why you have to be true to yourself and believe you can do anything. If you believe and have faith, then nothing can stop you. Something I like to think about when the temptation is getting to me comes from one of my more favorite lines from the King James Bible, Matthew 6:13, *“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”*

This speaks to me so much. We can do anything we desire when we put our mind to it. We can possess that power, and that glory, to do wonders. We just have to do it. We have to give it to the Lord and let him guide us. So shall the kingdom flourish in you forever!!When the New Year comes make sure you renew your actions as well as your faith!

IN MEMORIAM



Sir Knight Dennis H. Taylor

Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander 2022-2023

Grand Commandery Knights Templar
of Kansas

Born November 8, 1952

Died January 28, 2023