

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MINNESOTA

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*"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."
-Proverbs 27:17*

HE is risen! HE is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Happy Easter to all Sir Knights wherever so dispersed.

What a difference a week makes. We talk so much about; if we don't like the weather, wait a minute or next week things will be better or how much longer? Another day, week, month, next year. As I sit here contemplating the forecast for the next few days, I think about what a difference a week makes. Winter has gone on for an extended period of time. More snow and ice than we know what to do with, and much more being forecast. Not that many years ago, the crops were up, the fieldwork done, and the lawns were green. In this case, what a difference a year makes.

Thinking about Easter, what a difference a week makes. We have seen the Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, being hailed as the king, the messiah, the Chosen One, to celebrate the Passover as was the custom. From celebrating with friends to being arrested, scourged, spit on, slapped, and have a crown-of-thorns woven and pounded into his head, as a way to further mock and humiliate him. And for what, because He said that He could tear down the Temple and rebuild it in 3 days, or maybe because He said He was God's son. Because He raised people from the dead, or said their sins were forgiven. Because He healed, He cured, and He helped the poor, the downtrodden and those who cannot or could not help themselves. Was it because He was getting rich, or He was demanding payment. NO. It was because they were scared. They didn't know how to deal with His messages of Peace, Forgiveness and Love. They had someone else do their dirty work. Pontius Pilate, basically an innocent bystander, was involved because he had the power to do something they could not. He could put someone to death. He knew that Jesus was innocent, but he gave in to the persuasion of the crowds and said Jesus was to be crucified. He was nailed to a cross, He was humiliated even more, many of his closest followers deserted him, and our Savior died, alone with the weight of my and your sins upon him. Some of his followers who were still there, used their influence where they could and acquired his body and prepared it for burial.

But what a difference a week makes! Exactly one week from His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, our Savior rose from the dead and proved everything he said TRUE. What a difference a week makes! Without this week there would be no forgiveness of sins, no everlasting life, and no love.

Sir Knights, I ask you to reflect upon Easter. Play the Easter story out in your mind again and again. It is the same story that we the Knights Templar are trying to tell today. We have a message of chivalry, of unity, and of a better world. There are so many people out there who don't understand, who say bad things, make accusations, and hurt others. Why? Because they are lost and scared. They see something that they do not know or understand, and they lash out.

Stay strong my fraters. Be vigilant in your duties and show the world the love that we as soldiers of Christ know in our hearts. Defend innocent maidens and helpless orphans. Make a stand for our Christian faith.

May the blessings of Easter be with and upon you and your families during this Easter season and forever.

In His service,

David J. Dumonceaux

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