

ALASKA SUPPLEMENT



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CONTINUATION: Commander's Words: SK Jack R. Newell Friday December 17, 2010

I am inspired in the advancement of a young and spirited boy, by hearing an aged, older George Washington's prayer for America. He was a Mason with great vision and with the truth guiding his heart that was touched by the divine providence of our Creator for the betterment to his fellowmen and ladies, their children and future generations of Americans:

Almighty God; we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to humble ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

How simple and yet profound. A well known phrase says that if we put God first, everything else falls in to place; when we keep the faith and believe this truth of our Great Light of Masonry, many Templars will enjoy and appreciate membership in this Magnanimous Order if by first principle we stand for that which we claim; that we are a Christian Knighthood for the defense of the Christian Religion.

The invitation to Christian Masons should come from Templars. We should not be arrogant or stand idly by and assume Christian Masons will storm our doors to join simply because our cause is noble, even though we have something they need. We should be the ones to initiate the selective process, by extending an individual invitation to each Christian Mason and when our Christian brother who has been invited to join these ranks becomes sufficiently interested, he will find a way to accomplish it.

I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes; first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. In the gospel, a righteousness from God is revealed; a righteousness that is by faith, from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

One thing that I understand and respect, however, is that one of the cornerstones of this nation is that there is no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. I do not think there is any group forcing anyone to believe God's truths and wisdoms, so why are those progressive ideas trying to force people NOT to believe the values and mercies presented by the God of Israel? If any expression of Christian faith is really that offensive, then one could consider carefully; does one deserve the freedoms created by Christian faith in the United States, regardless of whether or not they were born here? The push to suppress religion simply cannot be passed off as anything other than a desire to

FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to encourage all Sir Knights to submit articles, letters, pictures, or comments for inclusion in this supplement. Articles need to be submitted to me by the 25th of the month for the next issue (March 25th for May issue).

control the minds of others. After all, if one truly believes that everyone is entitled to their own opinion, then one would have no reason to object to expressions of religious Christian faith and the Truths therein of the Great Light of Masonry which is the Holy Scriptures that have endured challenges throughout the times of the ages. Please Sir Knights, do not let a brother be a "forgotten brother" because of disagreement; invite with a convincing Christian welcome to fellowship together with us, for the knight and brother you reach may have the same attractive personalities: keen mind, strong body and Christian spirit that will rekindle a friendship that should have never been taken by the deeds of darkness. Finally, let us not forget the religious character of our origin. Our fathers of times past were brought hither by their high veneration for the Christian religion. They journeyed by its light and labored in its hope. They sought to incorporate its principles with the elements of their new society and diffuse its influence through all their institutions, civil, political, educational, or literary. Let us cherish these sentiments and extend this influence still more widely with the full conviction in knowing the happiest society which partakes in the highest degree of the mild and peaceful spirit of Christianity will prosper America for future generations. "Fortune Favors the Brave." Be ever willing together to lead by example and promote the Christian Truths and Wisdoms as Knights Templar.

Commander's Closing Statement:

Keep on loving one another as brothers. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing, some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. So, we say with confidence: "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"

"I am the Resurrection and the Life; sayeth the Lord. He that believeth in Me, though he were dead yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die." Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And, do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices, God is pleased.

Pray for each other. Be sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way. To all, may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ our Lord in His name, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Sir Knight Jack R. Newell, Commander, Anchorage No. 2, K.T.