



## Free! Free! Free!

by R. Em. Kt. Bruce Miller

**T**he term "something for nothing" is not often true, but do we have a deal for you. Just send the editor the email address of a Frater in your Preceptory who is willing to be part of your Knight Templar Advancement Committee (we're all supposed to have one) and who is willing to show this CD to his Preceptory and it's yours – free of charge!

R. Em. Kt. Carl Sherwood and V. Em. Kt. Bruce Miller have created a CD of PowerPoint Presentation to help Knights Templar to become more knowledgeable and more interested in the work of the Preceptory. The CD contains:

### The Mentors Program:

- The Mentors Program (Overview)
- The Illustrious Order of The Red Cross
- The Malta Orders
- The Order of The Temple

### Protocol & Procedures

- Sword Work
- Highlights of Procedure And Protocol

### History & Legends

- The History of The Order of Knights Templar (Ancient)
- Legends of The Knights Templar

## I Remember...!

by R. Em. Kt. Carl Sherwood

It was great to see a goodly number of Fratres at the Christmastide Observances throughout the Grand jurisdiction celebrating Christ's Birth Day with members and friends.

However, it was sad to see a few mantles un-pressed and not clean due to having been transported in a bag in a rolled up fashion.

I remember when I was consecrated and was told, "We place this cross upon your breast that you may love it with all your heart." The Presiding Preceptor went on to say, "Receive this **mantle of pure white**, the livery of this Holy Order, ennobled with the red cross of our Redeemer, by Whose power thou mayest overcome thy spiritual enemies."

How wonderful it would be, to enrich both our Order and the lives of the Fratres, if each member would also remember their consecration and reflect upon its spiritual and symbolical significance.



## The Spiritual Power of Christ

From the earliest times, in almost all countries, the cross has been a sacred symbol. Early Christians assigned to the cross, in any form, magical powers. They took pleasure in making the sign of the cross over themselves on every occasion, because they received spiritual help from the act and proved that they were Christian. Throughout the known world the presence of the cross carried the spiritual power of Christ.



**The Maltese Cross** can be seen in three forms: a white cross on a black background for the Order of the Knights of Malta; the red cross on a white background for the Knights Templar; and a black cross bordered in white for the Teutonic Knights.

**The Passion Cross** is worn on the mantle of every Sir Knight of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada. It symbolizes the cross on which Jesus suffered crucifixion.



**The St. Andrew's Cross** is made in the form of the letter "X", traditionally the form of the cross on which St. Andrew suffered martyrdom. As the Patron Saint of Scotland, the St. Andrew's cross represents Scotland in the Union Jack and forms part of the jewel of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland,



**The Latin Cross**, also known as the "Cross of Calvary", is often seen with two arms. In Masonic usage, we recognize it as the badge and symbol of a Preceptor of Knights Templar.



**The Cross of Salem** is a Latin cross with three arms. In Masonic symbolism, it is the insignia of the Supreme Grand Master and Past Grand Masters of Knights Templar.

As Knights Templar, we wear the cross to commemorate the life and death of Our Lord and the gift of salvation he wrought for us upon the cross.

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## Exerpts from New Mentor's Manual

The following is given to a candidate, prior to his receiving the Order

### The Order of Knights Templar

The Order of Knights Templar is composed of three orders: The Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, the Order of Malta, and the Order of the Temple, or Knights Templar.

Although the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross is based upon Biblical records of the history of the Jews at the time of Darius Hystaspis, it is generally agreed that Knights Templar Masonry evolved from the Christian Orders of the period of the Crusades in Palestine from the tenth to the thirteenth centuries.

"Knighthood" as a political and religious order of chivalry dates back to the early centuries of Christianity, the ceremonies accompanying the investiture of a knight were of a symbolic character.

His oath dedicated him to the defence of religion and the church, and to the protection of widows, orphans, and all who were powerless or suffering under injustice and oppression. To shirk from the performances of those duties when called upon, even at the sacrifice of his life, was to incur dishonour for the rest of his days.

One of the most rigid laws enforced in "Knighthood" was an inviolable attachment to truth.

Courage was an essential quality for knighthood; any act of cowardice, cruelty, or of dishonour in battle, was marked with infamy. Temperance and prudence were essential elements of a true knight; generosity to a conquered foe was required: genuine courtesy was a universal duty under all circumstances.

In all these notable elements of the Masonic Order of Knights Templar has striking similarities, both in symbolic ceremonies and in moral and chivalric requirement. The lessons inculcated are truly interesting; making better men, better citizens, and a better society.

## A Code of Chivalry

### **Prowess:**

To seek excellence in all endeavours expected of a knight, martial and otherwise, seeking strength to be used in the service of justice, rather than in personal aggrandisement.

### **Justice:**

Seek always the path of 'right', unencumbered by bias or personal interest. Recognise that the sword of justice can be a terrible thing, so it must be tempered by humanity and mercy. If the 'right' you see agrees with others, and you seek it out without bending to the temptation for expediency, then you will earn renown beyond measure.

### **Loyalty:**

Be known of unwavering commitment to the people and ideals you choose to live by. There are many places where compromise is expected; loyalty is not amongst them.

### **Defence:**

The ideal knight was sworn by oath to defend his liege lord and those who depend upon him. Seek always to defend your nation, your family, and those to whom you believe worthy of loyalty.

### **Courage:**

Being a knight often means choosing the more difficult path, the personally expensive one. Be prepared to make personal sacrifices in service of the precepts and people you value. At the same time, a knight should seek wisdom to see that stupidity and courage are cousins. Courage also means taking the side of truth in all matters, rather than seeking the expedient lie. Seek the truth whenever possible, but remember to temper justice with mercy, or the pure truth can bring grief

### **Faith:**

A knight must have faith in his beliefs, for faith roots him and gives hope against the despair that human failings create.

### **Humility:**

Value first the contributions of others; do not boast of your own accomplishments, let others do this for you. Tell the deeds of others before your own, according them the renown rightfully earned through virtuous deeds. In this way the office of knighthood is well done and glorified, helping not only the gentle spoken of but also all who call themselves knights.

### **Largesse:**

Be generous in so far as your resources allow; largesse used in this way counters gluttony. It also makes the path of mercy easier to discern when a difficult decision of justice is required.

### **Nobility:**

Seek great stature of character by holding to the virtues and duties of a knight, realising that though the ideals cannot be reached, the quality of striving towards them ennobles the spirit, growing the character from dust towards the heavens. Nobility also has the tendency to influence others, offering a compelling example of what can be done in the service of rightness.

### **Franchise:**

Seek to emulate everything I have spoken of as sincerely as possible, not for the reason of personal gain but because it is right. Do not restrict your exploration to a small world, but seek to infuse every aspect of your life with these qualities. Should you succeed in even a tiny measure then you will be well remembered for your quality and virtue.

-Battleford Preceptory No. 75