

Chaplains Message – October '21

Brethren, we hope this finds you and your families all well. It's been a tough Nineteen Months for us all. We don't know of any family or individual that has not suffered during this pandemic. Hopefully we have got over the worst and have now turned a huge corner. We **all** have to remember that COVID is still here and we must stay vigilant and learn to live with the virus. **'STAY SAFE'** not only for ourselves but for everyone that we have come in to contact with.

We now have to look forward!!!!!!

Looking Forward

Brethren, in recent weeks we have been preparing for the opening up of our Lodges and it has been thoroughly enjoyable. There is something special about making plans and looking forward to their implementation, then after a period of expectation, we would hope to experience the satisfaction and joy of seeing them fulfilled.

We should consider some of the things that people face when they look back, especially at the start of a new season or a new year or on important days such as birthdays and anniversaries. We see that looking back can be either a positive or a negative experience for a variety of reasons.

Even today we discover that this is also true when people look forward. Their sense of anticipation can range from eagerness and delight through to anxiety and dread. The tragedy of worrying like this is that things we worry about rarely happen

the way we imagine. Somebody once said “Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday” and that is a truth we must grasp.

(Philippians. 4: v 6.)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

We are sure that with God’s help Brethren we can look forward to the future with confidence and positivity.

(Isaiah 41: v 10.)

So do not fear, for I am with you;

Do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you;

I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

(Psalm 118: v24.)

This is the day the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

‘STAY SAFE BRETHREN’