

A letter from Past Master, Pete Barnhardt

Greetings Brothers,

When I was a growing up, I use to watch a lot of TV and read and hear a lot of different stories. Being a boy, we would have gotten a posse together and lynched the guy who invented the "Lifetime" channel! On the other hand, the TBS guy would have a gotten a roast and a medal. As you can tell from the preceding sentence, I liked Westerns, and Action films. It's no wonder Clint Eastwood and John Wayne were kings of our boob tube! Back then, it was all "good guy finished first" movies. It all goes back to the good knight on a white horse, won, no matter what the odds were, just because he was right. That same nobility was found from the Musketeers, through the cowboys and up to the modern day good guy.

One problem, the good guy does not always seem to finish first anymore. Hollywood has trouble with a good ending too many times. Our children are not always seeing the nobility in being noble. Look at their idols, as compared to what we looked up to. Look at the results. This was what my eyes seen as a young adult with young children.

Now, that I am a bit older, I see things differently. I don't bother watching the negative TV. I read a lot more than I ever dreamed; I am watching the noble stuff on TV and tuning out the rest. And the children I was worried about.....they are more the age I was when I thought things were going downhill and are turning into fine adults. (I am still keeping my fingers crossed)

Maybe, just like a lot of folks my age I am advancing back, to the simplicity that is found in masonry. When, as a child, your heart rules your head, and as an adult, sometimes your head rules your heart. But, as you get older, and wiser, you can find the best of the first two generations of your life and find true harmony. I believe that is what happens. I see it in my older brothers, and on a daily basis, I seen it in my Pop.

I could be wrong, but the coliseum was full last week because of a preacher from Houston, and Jesus was the biggest box office smash this past year. (No thanks to the Hollywood elite. Sorry, there I go again)

I will continue on this journey as a traveler, as long as the good Lord allows. Learning from my older brothers as well as my younger ones. All for one and one for all.

Fraternally yours,

Pete Barnhardt