

VIGINTI

The Twenty Qualities of Knights

I. **Nobility** - A Knight moves, not without honor, but to bless his CREATOR and to better his neighbor; he is upstanding in all his ways, simple, and pure-of-heart, and being both good and noble in title, blood, and deed, he will make good and noble ends of only good and noble means, dispensing justice and proclaiming freedom to all peoples, as an upright and worthy agent of a most holy Lord.

II. **Bravery** - A Knight is strong and courageous in nature, virtue, and resolve, fearless in the face of hardship, horror, and certain death and valiant in contention with the violent destroyer of the helpless.

III. **Gallantry** - A Knight by incredible gallantry inspires bravery in the weak and by cautious vigilance ensures that all his actions and intentions, either directly or indirectly lead only to the advancement and never the oppression of any people.

IV. **Heroism** - A Knight is the guardian of the gospel of Christ and all to whom it is offered, the defender of the Faith and all by whom it is held; He is the protector of all who are endangered, the champion of all who are in need, and the conqueror of all who work wickedness against innocence.

V. **Servitude** - A Knight, by submission of will and humility of character, adheres unto a high calling of heroism; driven by duty, not only to protect, but also to serve, he bears his own burdens and the weight of the weak, and should ever the need arise, he is ready-made to die in the way of saving life.

VI. **Courtesy** - A Knight, for reasons of dignity and respectability, presents himself with care as a refined and well-mannered gentleman; expressing civility and courtesy to all, but especially toward children, elderly, and women, and lacking both crudity and vulgarity, in thought, word, and deed, he behaves always with the utmost respect.

VII. **Purity/Holiness** - A Knight, owning his own body in chastity, modesty, and integrity, disciplines his desires unto an ordered and orderly life; desiring both physical cleanliness and genuine sexual purity and demanding both personal correctness and uncompromising spiritual clarity, he is eternally dependent upon propriety and excellence.

VIII. **Humility** - A Knight, living in tranquility and calm, moving with a quiet spirit, and minding not but his own affairs, strives with dignity in the cause of holiness and piety and stoops in ministry with care for the poor and lowly, befriending the friendless with sincerity, serenity, and trust.

IX. **Innocence** - A Knight, though never faultless, is blameless and all intentions; though never perfect, he is innocent of all the world's ills; though never beyond succumbing to sin, he is always beyond the reproach all evil.

X. **Goodness** - A Knight is a tenacious force of goodness and virtue, a passionate crusader, determined and dead-set against villainy, depravity, and barbarism, and an abstinent Overcomer of the conditions and Temptations which persistently threaten the undoing of endearing values and the degeneration of self, from man to beast and from beast to monster.

XI. **Worthiness** - A Knight is always admirable, amazing, and awe-inspiring, in short, nothing short of sublime; he is the marvel of his generation, the wonder of a lifetime, breathtaking and beyond belief; he is outstanding in a strange world, a great light in a dark universe of chaos and shadowy hell.

XII. **Loving-kindness** - A Knight is a vision of Christ, an unique earthly sight of Heaven; he is the epitome of love, the essence of compassion and the emulation of Orthodox Faith, shining with every smile, glowing with every motion, reaching higher and rising higher, ever ascending into the attributes of his Almighty Lord.

XIII. **Honesty/Integrity** - A Knight will be found in constancy to both speak the truth and do the truth, and in character to be true and trustworthy; possessed of honest merits, authentic without affectation, he will be faithful, loyal, and reliable in all requirements and responsibilities, without falsehood, without loathsomeness, without remission, and without regress.

XIV. *Greatness* - A Knight walks tall with stately bearing, in confident composure and elegant equanimity, professional without pedantry, proud without vanity, regal without crown, holding within himself a spirit of strength and greatness, of might unconquerable, of power from On High.

XV. *Wisdom* - A Knight, being dissatisfied with illiteracy, ignorance, and incompetence, dedicates himself, in time and will to the education of mind, the growth of knowledge, and the development of eloquence, competence, and intelligence within himself and his community.

XVI. *Reason* - A Knight, being well balanced in our beliefs and devoid of all extremes, and keeping continuity of thought with wisdom and understanding, employees in every undertaking the disciplines of reason, logic, and rationale as a vigorous lifelong learner.

XVII. *Self-Control/Discipline* - A Knight deals tactfully when differing with people, tastefully when despising wicked things, and carefully when discerning what is appropriately aesthetic; With temperance and continence, he endure suffering with silence, persecution with patience, and discomfort with contentment, ardently directing all his actions toward abstemious applications.

XVIII. *Respect* - A Knight is wholly tolerant of the beliefs and practices of others, and holds in high regard, all peoples of dissimilar faith; Without ever validating their ways, he accepts always the validity of their rights, and pursuant to the preservation of peace, he lives in harmony among them, fiercely defending their own interests against all threats and aggression.

XIX. *Gentleness* - A Knight offers compassion for the plight of the afflicted, consideration for those subject to injustice, and comfort for the victims of wrongdoing; with sympathy for those crushed by outward corruption, and empathy for those entombed by inward iniquity, he is never course, never cruel, never loud, and by action or inaction, never allowing the innocent to come to harm.

XX. *Grace* - A Knight is an instrument of peace at all times and an instigator of love toward all people; he is the herald of hope, the minister of mercy and the giver of grace; pardoning friends in kindness and forgiving enemies in charity, he facilitates Faith for the praise and glory of the LORD.





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