



## Grand Prelate's Monthly Message

OCTOBER 2025

Recently, my wife and I took a ride to Skyline Drive, as we usually do at this time of year, to reminisce about our first outing together when we began dating 32 years ago. While sitting there we picked up some acorns that had recently fallen from the trees. My wife reminded me that we had done the same on that first trip, and that she still has one of those acorns. She said that it reminds her of how—like the acorn can grow into a mighty oak—our relationship began small but has grown significantly over three decades.

That same analogy inspired this month's message. And while it is not an original idea by any means, I have decided to share it anyway.

It is amazing that a small acorn can grow to be a mighty oak tree. It seems like such a small, insignificant thing, but, over time, that shell can break open and that seed can sprout, take root, and grow into a towering tree which has so long been a symbol of strength and endurance.

Isaiah 61:3 tells us, "They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor."

While this passage was written to God's people mourning in Zion, it is a promise of God that can be applied to all believers today. No matter how small and insignificant we may feel, God tells us that we are strong and firm because of Him as our foundation.

The acorn is a reminder of the kind of faith each of us can have, the kind of confidence we should have, for it reminds us that God has made many promises. God has said that since He is the one who began a good work in us, He is the one who will bring it to completion.

Just as it takes years for an acorn to become a mighty oak, sometimes it takes longer than we would hope for changes that God makes in world through our works to become evident. I once heard it said, "Scripture contains the word of God in the way that the acorn contains the oak tree. It is all there, but its presence is made known to us little by little." Living at God's speed means accepting that my understanding of the way God works in my life will come to me in *God's time*.

Take the oak tree for example. It produces acorns year after year, often without any of them becoming a tree. Yet that is not a failure. The oak continues to make more acorns. Does it sometimes seem to you that all your good deeds, all your efforts to serve others seem to produce little or no results? Even so, we should keep on doing those things because that is what we do, regardless of the results. Christians plant seeds!

Even when the oak tree does not make another tree, the squirrels love those acorns! They have more than one purpose. Who knows what "squirrels" in your life are being blessed by God through your sharing of His love.

Always and All Ways in Christ  
Rick Saunders  
*Grand Prelate*