



To whom it may concern,

In Virtue I greet you and offer you a great opportunity.

My name is Magister Tideborn, from the Tideborn chapter-house, formerly of Longshire, Reikos. You will, I hope, forgive being just one of many letters that my Chapter-house's scribes have copied this evening – but I dearly hope that what I have to say catches your interest. If this is the case, then we may have some chance of building a firm friendship based in Faith and fortune.

Let this letter stand as an invitation to join us in a grand endeavour: At the Autumn Equinox this year, I am to host the first Synod Symposium since the reign of the Empress Varkula – a formal meeting in which we can wrestle with the nature of Virtue; and discourse in a place where all may hear us. Let us speak openly on the shape of Orthodoxy, let us slay false Virtue and lay false Exemplars down. Let us raise the banners of our faith and rise up as warriors of Virtue. Let us hear you sing out in praise.

The details are simple: Each of the Assemblies will be offered seats at the Symposium – to be distributed by the Cardinals and Gatekeepers as they see fit – while a number of other seats will be assigned by the Civil Service or granted to the Bourse; the Academy and to those notable individuals as reach my attention over the coming months. It will, of course, be entirely within your right to sell those seats assigned to you for cold hard cash, should you wish – if this case, I can but hope that you will donate any proceeds to the Virtue Fund, as I shall be doing.

What we require most, however, is speakers – individuals of Virtue willing to espouse their views and to offer lessons and demonstrations on the finer points of Doctrine. I am particularly interested to meet with you if you believe that you are able to speak with eloquence, clarity and above all the brevity of the Wise, for do not forget -

“Let every word you speak carry meaning; do not use forty when four will do.”

We will of course be working closely with Citizen Samson and the other members of the Synod Civil Service, who have expressed a keen willingness to assist us, so that, should Judgements need to be raised as a result of the Symposium, they will be on hand to do so. Let it never be said that your words do not carry the full weight of the Synod.

Should you, or any other of your acquaintance wish to meet with me and discuss this project further, simply give your name to Citizen Samson at the Hub and ask of him when I shall be visiting Anvil – there we can meet, and plan our great endeavour together. This young bird cannot spread its wings without your aid - pledge your willingness and together we will see it fly.

If you wish to offer suggestions for topics that you would like to speak on, then you should, again, offer them to Citizen Samson at the Hub. He and I, with any of you that wish to assist us, will lay out the final list in the coming months and cast our net wider.

Finally, I seek prosperous individuals who would see the Symposium fed and watered – and entertained when our work is done – for there should always be reward for hard work. These individuals too, shall be rewarded – if you have friends within the good people of Anvil who might be interested in such trade, send them to Samson or I.

I look forward to meeting with you all in the coming months and hearing the Lessons that you have to teach us.

*Aim high; pursue your dreams; nothing is beyond your grasp.*

Yours, In Faith,

Magister Ishmael Tideborn.

