THE PURITY OF ESTHER

A Ceremony honoring Esther, Grand Esther, or Person Representing the Spirit of Esther

MARSHAL No. 1

Esther was selected from among the virgins of her land because the purity of body and spirit excelled that of all the others. This Purity of Esther, extolled in the lectures of our order, is an attribute which is found in the characters of each of our other heroines also. Each of them exemplified this quality in some phase of its meaning to a very high degree.

ADAH

Adah personified the Purity of Innocence in the ultimate degree. Through the short years of her young life, she had lived in the protective seclusion of her family home. There she was surrounded by love and taught the belief in God and obedience to His Law. At the time of her death, Adah's spirit and mind had not been defiled by the association with any worldly concept or association.

RUTH

Ruth personified the Purity of Purpose. When she had determined that her love and friendship for Ruth made it her duty to accompany Naomi, she did so. Nothing could deter her from her established purpose. Surely, she must have suffered qualms of fear at the prospect of being a stranger in a distant land. Ruth must have had many anxious moments wondering how they would even be able to secure food enough to keep themselves alive for they were both penniless. No personal inconvenience or desires ever became intermixed with Ruth's original determination. Through it all, she maintained the Purity of Purpose.

ESTHER

Another phase of purity that Esther exemplified was the Purity of Obligation. By this we mean that Esther regarded the many obligations in her life without rationalizing her duty to fulfill them. She accepted her obligations, purely and simply, and then concerted her every effort to the fulfilling of them without violating the intent inherent to each.

MARTHA

Martha learned that Purity of Soul demands that we remove the thoughts and ideas that are unpleasing to God from our Souls. At one time, in the relationship between Martha and Jesus, Martha complained of her sister to Christ. Christ told Martha that she was troubled about so many things. Martha understood that Jesus was admonishing her that there was no room for petty grievances or complaints against another in a truly pure soul.

ELECTA

Electa was very concerned with the maintaining of the Purity of her Family. The fact that Electa would not permit her children to grow up
surrounded by polluted ideas, distorted beliefs, and pagan ideologies resulted in a tragic death for them all. However, Electa realized that a purity of Faith was the primary requisite for the Purity of the Family.

**MARSHAL No. 2**

My sisters, we have examined several of the related spheres of the concept of individual purity. Our efforts to achieve purity of body, mind, and spirit not only are rewarding personally, but make us more pleasing in the eyes of our Heavenly Father. When it seems that our results fall far short of our expectations in these respects, we may renew our courage through a re-examination of the lives of our heroines.