Declaration of Principles.

Pythian Knighthood has its conceptiou in the exemplification of the life test of true friendship existing between Damon and Pythias.

Friendship, or mutual confidence, being the strongest bond of union between man and man, and only existing where honor has an abiding place, is adopted as a foundation principle.

As the ideal knight of olden time was the personification of all the higher and nobler attributes of man's nature, the candidate for knighthood had to prove himself worthy of acceptance by those who valued friendship, bravery, honor, justice and loyalty.

The Order of Knights of Pythias—founded in Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, which it proclaims as its cardinal principles—strives to gather into one mighty fraternity worthy men who appreciate the true meaning of friendship; who are cautious in word and in act; who love truth; who are brave in defending right; whose honor is untarnished; whose sense of justice will prevent, to the best of their ability, a personal act or word injurious to the worthy; whose loyalty to principle, to family, to friends, to their country and to the constituted authority under which they enjoy citizenship is undoubted; and who, at all times, are prepared to do unto others as they would that others should do unto them.