## Weeds Along the Path of Virtue **Exarch Masoodite Pelax**

The Holy One said to the People:

"Long is the path toward salvation, and fraught with danger. Stray but a little, and the Gates of Heaven will be shut from you, the ears of the Ever-All made closed to you. Stones shall assail your feet, and the crows shall stab at your head. Your hands will find naught but briars, and your lungs will breathe nothing but smoke and ash. But in the light of the Ever-All shall all hurts be soothed, and your path shall remain smooth and your footing sure."

We have heard the words of the Prophet, but have yet to understand them. This sector, it is dying. We see around us the corporate fascist, the demon of Babylon made glittering flesh, sucking and gnawing at the bones of our once great Empire. This demon landed troops, **armed troops**, on the home planet of their betters. And how did we reward them? Our brothers in House Eridanus welcomed them with open arms, as a son or daughter long away. No my friends, a thousand times no! Eridanus should have done their duty and ground the traitorous dogs into dust! They should have been the first to sound the charge, and with the glorious spear of light found in Holy Mother Church they should have burned Demnoph to ashes!

We were once great, my friends. Our Empire was loved, to be sure, but more importantly it was feared. We drove the alien and the rebel to the farthest reaches of the sector. We took their lands and their resources and with the help of Almighty God turned them to our holy purposes. But as in the stories of old, the serpent was already in our midst. The traitorous Velans and their corporate masters have planned long and hard, plotting and scheming the overthrow of the Empire. Lest we forget in the glory of victory, there were times when the foaming jaws of defeat were around our necks. That they should come so close to their evil ends is proof enough, brothers and sisters, that the time when Noble meant Good is over! Over and buried!

Now you might say, "Brother Pelax. I understand the Velan Treachery, I understand the iniquity of the Corporates. But surely, the stability of our great Empire comes first? The Corporates are wealthy, and we need their resources to rebuild." This is true, to some degree. Our brothers and sisters on Diomikato fought bravely, many giving their lives in service to House and Empire, and they desperately need the Charity of

their brothers and sisters to rebuild their planet. For their sacrifice I applaud them. The whole Empire applauds them. But more of our noble brethren should heed their example. When the shadow of war was at its darkest, even this old priest could hear the bleating of capitulation and surrender from the Lyrans and the Pyxis. When their brothers and sisters and cousins were fighting bravely and dying on the streets of Diomikato, those traitorous worms went bowing and scraping to their true masters in ACRE and The PRISM Network to save themselves! But God is Just, and they paid the price for their sins on Orpheus. Even now these sheep yoke themselves to the Corporate, forgetting that they are the masters of the sector. Look only at the recent example of House Triangulum, who joined this so-called Symposium, composed of nothing but traitors of God and Empire. They ask themselves in ever-tightening circles "What rights do the alien and the synth have?", forgetting that God and Church have already answered that question with a resounding "None!". Ever weedier does the path of Virtue get, dear brothers and sisters.

But lest we forget, the Empire did win. The Empire, not the Corporates, led by our glorious Church. We weathered this particular storm, yet now we are called to moderation? Now in our glory, we are called to contemplation and capitulation? I say no, brothers and sisters, no to all of it! Now is the time for the Church and Empire to take their rightful places in the workings of this sector! Now is not the time for the unrepentant and the traitorous! Now is the time of God and of Holy Empire!

## STATEMENT OF INTENT

This sermon represents the farthest extremes of HC theology. Pelax is the leader of an extremist HC Branch, the Masoodites, more information in this link, and none of the above is or should be considered "canon" or in keeping with mainstream HC thought/belief. He's a spicy boi.