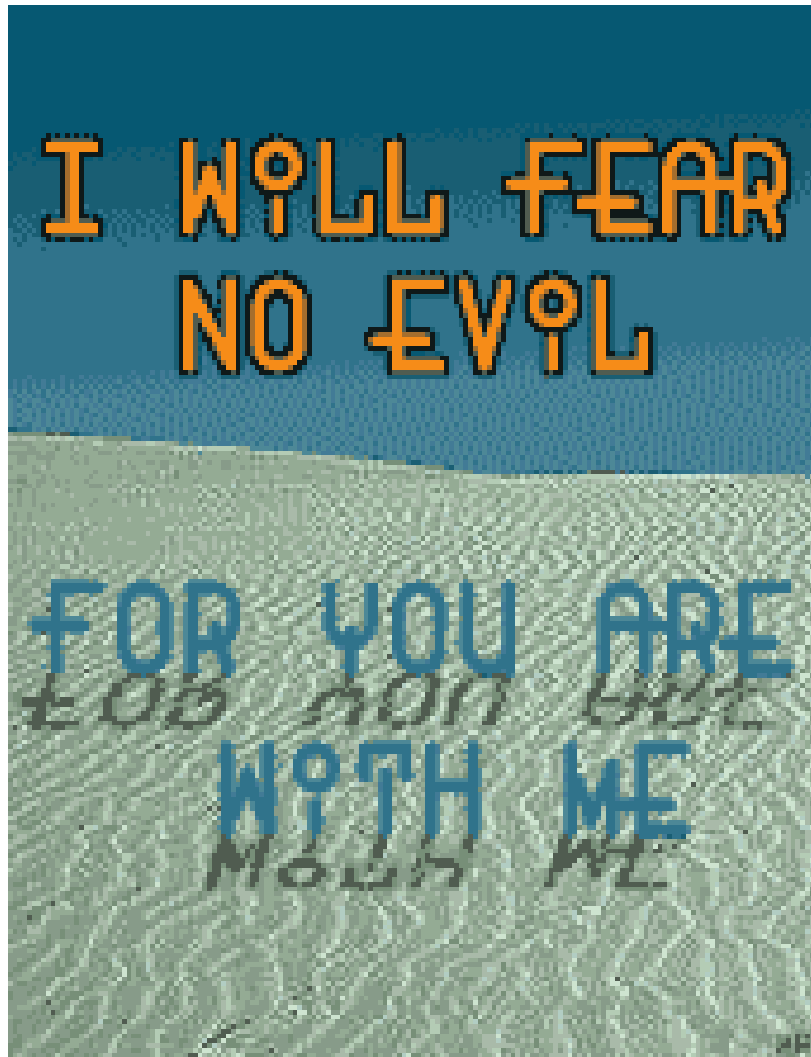


THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2005

Matthew 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Blessed are those who are filled with the Holy Spirit, may they always walk with the full armor of God's righteousness! May the Lord's insulation always protect all His children, from the evil ones fiery arrows.

BATTLING OUR INTERNAL DEMONS

By Evangelist Dennis Palma

From various biblical texts, we can piece together the ancient Hebrews view of the devil and the demons associated with him. Isaiah 14:12-15 seems to tell the story of Satan's fall. Jesus Himself referred to fallen angels, who followed Satan in his primeval rebellion (Matthew 25:41) Says: "Then He will say to those on His left, depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels." According to Jude 1: 6, these angels " did not keep their positions of authority, but abandoned their own home". The Gospels give us the clearest portrait of demonic beings, in reporting their confrontations with Jesus. Here we see demons function as living beings with the ability to speak, hear, think, feel, and act. Matthew 8:31; 17:18; Mark 1:34;5:12; Luke 8:32; 10:17

The demons of the Bible are unhesitatingly hostile to human beings. They oppress men and women, causing disease Matthew 4:24;12:22;15:22; Luke 4:35 and madness Mark 5:2-20; Luke 8:27-39.

Whenever Jesus found demon possession, He drove the demons out and delivered the person from his or her suffering.

The book of Acts also describes exorcisms. Demons were cast out of afflicted persons in the name of Jesus, but only by those who had a personal relationship with the Lord Acts 19: 13-16

The New Testament Epistles also refer to spiritual powers that war against God and His people. Paul says, " Our struggles is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in heavenly realms"(Eph. 6:12) These titles refer to orders of evil spirits, not impersonal evil influences.

Certainly Paul and other New Testament writers, affirm the reality of demons. (1Cor. 10:20,21; James 2:19) Paul and John both indicate that false teaching will be introduced into Christianity.

How right on the money, were those two apostles of the New Testament with respect to those prophecies!

When I take a good look around today with religion in general, it almost makes me want to cry, to see all the deceptions and false teachings that are out there today, with respect to the Church of Christ.

There are so many false teachers today, spinning the word of God, for their own personal agendas.

They are now even trying to say today, it is okay, to be a homosexual minister in different kinds of denominational religions.

I say to myself, what type of Bible, are they getting this false teaching from? If anything, the Bible teaches that ministers, preachers, evangelist,

pastors, deacons etc. are all held to a higher standard when it comes to setting good example for people to follow. What kind of example can people get from a minister of God's word, who is a homosexual, and is living in direct defiance of the word of the Lord. This is just one example of false teachings being introduced into Christianity by the devil.

Another bad example, is any religion that does not believe that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. If He is not the Savior of the world, and He did not come down to earth in human form, and did not die for all the sins of this evil world, then we are all living in a hopeless abyss.

I believe that the Bible is crystal clear, when it comes to identifying Jesus Christ as the way, the truth, and the life. Also that only through complete surrender of our complete self to Him, is there any hope for our Eternal Salvation. In today's society, it is so evident the evil forces that are against the Lord and His people. The devil's influences, are just about every where you turn, in our government, in our schools, in our media, in our churches, and in our homes. Satan seems to have just about every base covered except one, and that exception is Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us, that the devil boldly tried to tempt Jesus, when He was fasting in the desert for forty days and nights and failed.

He is and always will be powerless in the presence of the Lord. The problem that most people face today is that they do not believe in the insulation we all have from the devil, when the Holy Spirit dwells from within us.

I believe with the population at an all time high today, and the different electronically ways in which the devil can pollute and destroy God's people, that we as Christians must stand up and be more vigilant, to the Devils advances. Remember the Bible tells us in 1 Peter 5:8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. And he goes on to say in 5:9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Let us pray: Father we thank You, we praise You, and bless You always, for always giving Your people insulation from Your indwelling spirit, to resist the devils temptations. May You always continue to bless and protect all Your people, from Satins ongoing advances. May the time come sooner than later, when the devil will be bound by Your hand, for all eternity in hell where he truly belongs.

I ask this prayer in Jesus name.....Amen

APRIL'S EDITION OF HOPE FOR LIVING
The Message of Easter By Billy Graham

He has risen! He is not here. Mark 16:6 NIV

The message of Easter, is the central focus of Christianity.

The apostle Paul said, “ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins” (1 Cor. 15:17 NIV).It is as simple as that.

If Christ is still dead, then He cannot be our Savior, for He was not the Son of God, and He died like all men. More than that, Heavens doors are still locked. But if Christ is risen, as the Scriptures teach and as hundreds of witnesses testified (none of whom ever recanted that testimony despite threats and death for many of them), then we have the ultimate hope of humanity---eternal life with the God who made us and the certainty of life beyond the grave.

What does Easter mean to you? It should mean everything, because Christ has conquered death! And that makes all the difference---now and forever.

SPIRITUAL CLICHÉ’S FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

Proverbs 17:5 He who mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished. NIV

Proverbs 18:2 A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions.NIV

SPECIAL PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE SICK

Pope John Paul , Roland Faries, Anne Palma, Harry Neil, Janet Neil, Anthony Palma Jr. Robert Baruffi

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Until next months journal, may our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, always bless you and your entire family.

May we all dwell on the fact that this and everyEaster Season, marks the rebirth of our Savior. Also,through Him,Eternal Salvation is available now for all who believe in Him!
