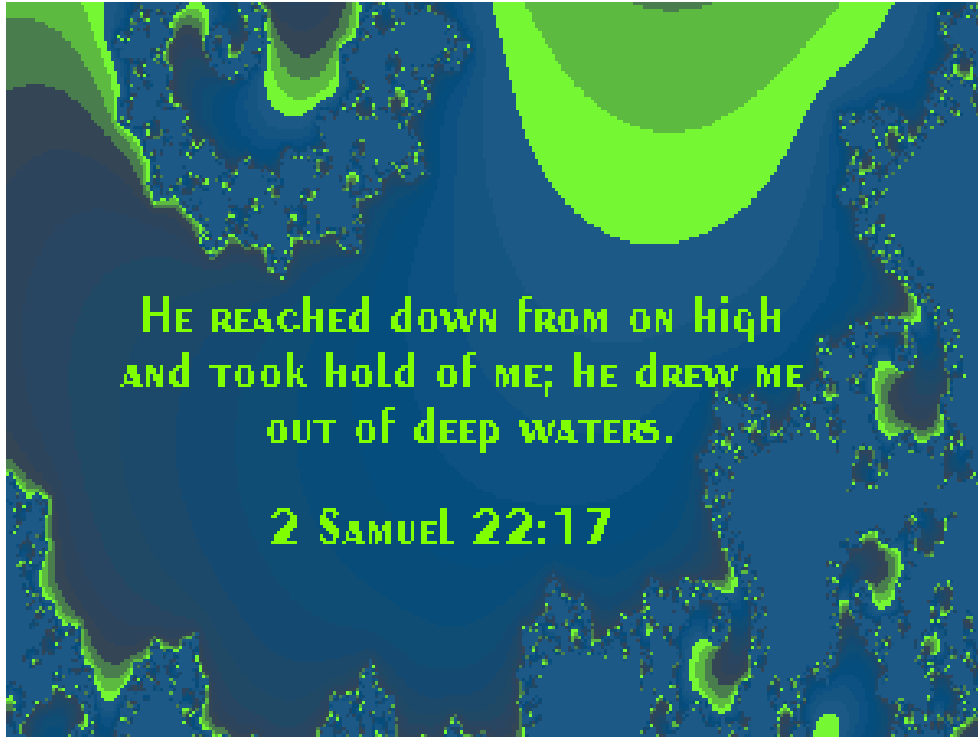


## THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



### MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR THE MONTH JULY 2005

John 3:17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.( NIV)

*Blessed are the ones who are drowning in the sea of sin, and are rescued by the Lord. May they forever be indebted to serve the Lord. May they always be a great testimony, to the unending power of the Lord. Father may Your love grace and mercy be with us always. I ask this in Jesus name ....Amen*

### SPIRITUAL AFFIRMATIONS

*By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma*

Last months journal had to do with trials and tribulations, this months message has to do with ways of affirming ourselves spiritually, to help us deal with our trials. The word affirm means to state firmly, positively, or assuredly in what we believe. This is the source of our confidence, strength, and our ability to function day by day.

Everything we do on this earth has something to do affirming ourselves to it. Without some kinds of positive affirmation in our life, we would be hopeless and helpless to do anything. The Lord gave us all the ability to affirm ourselves to whatever we have to do in life. It is up to us to choose by the free will given to all of us, in what areas of our life we affirm ourselves.

Some of us put the majority of our beliefs in our work, some in government, some in family, some in music, some in the environment, some in religion, some in science, some in the arts, some in technology, etc.

At this time you must be saying to yourself, what is a spiritual affirmation? An example of spiritual affirmation would be the person who believes in there heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God the Father, and that He came down to earth in human form, to die for all our sins, and that who ever puts there trust and faith in Him, will have Eternal Salvation.

The only problem with spiritual affirmations, is that they are very hard to maintain on a daily basic, in this busy secular world. Reason being, the devil is so busy filling you up with all his lies and his deceptions. He is so great at what he does with respect to us taking our eyes of Jesus. The devil does use all his worldly schemes, and tricks to bring us down. He will play games with our emotions any chance he gets. We are most open and available for his attacks, when we take our eyes off of Jesus.

If you are looking for a good place to find daily spiritual affirmations, the Bible is best place to start looking. It contains thousands upon thousands of God's inspired affirmations. For example, last month I talked about **trials and tribulations**, one of many that comes to mind is James 1 :2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kind, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. Psalm 112:4 Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness. Hebrews 12:3 Consider Him who endured such hostility.....,lest you become weary and discouraged in your soul. **When I talk about fear** Isaiah 12:2 God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid Judges 6:23 The Lord said to Gideon, "Peace be with you; do not fear. Proverbs 3:25-26 Do not be

afraid of sudden terror, nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes; for the Lord will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being caught.

**When I talk about giving testimony to others,** Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

**When I talk about the Spirit,** John 3:5 Unless one is born of... the Spirit, He cannot enter the kingdom of God.

**When I talk about wisdom,** 1 Corinthians 1 :20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe?..... Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world.

**When I talk about love for others,** Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love.

**When I talk about the Bible,** 2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable.

**When I speak about the devil,** John 8:44 When [the devil] speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

**When I talk about forgiveness,** Jeremiah 33:6 I will heal them and reveal to them the abundance of peace and truth.

These are just a few of the thousands of solid spiritual affirmations found in the greatest book ever written, “ The Bible”

This inspired book of knowledge, wisdom and wealth, is God’s gift for all mankind to learn about Him. The Bible has something to do with every aspect of our life. There is nothing our awesome God has left out.

He covered from the beginning of creation, to the end of life on earth as we know it. That’s why the Lord said that He is our Alfa and are Omega, our A to Z. There is nothing left for us to want, if we really believe and learn of Him. As many times as I have been lost and bewildered, there was only one place I could really turn to for real help, and that was the Lord. When we look for answers on our own, we are only putting a bandage on our problems. Every time my pride gets in my way, and I decide to fix a problem on my own, it ends in failure. As I grow in the Lord, He is teaching me through personal trials and tribulations, to let Him take control of my life, instead of me trying to do it.

So my friends in the Lord, in this busy and uncertain world we live in, the only thing that is really certain is there is always going to be troubles. But in the midst of all the troubles, try and affirm yourself to the healing words of the Lord. For in His words flows the living waters of peace and Salvation. Let us pray: Father thank You for the inspiration for this months message. May it touch the hearts of Your people , wherever it goes. Father also, thank You for loving and caring for all Your people always. I ask this and thank You in Jesus name.....Amen.

**JULY'S EDITION OF HOPE FOR LIVING**  
**Simple Trust      By Billy Graham**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

There will always be secrets and motives of God that lie beyond our grasp. God knows everything; we do not. Only in Heaven will we understand God's ways more fully. As Paul said, "Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known" ( 1 Cor.13:12)

But based upon what we do know about God's character, demonstrated supremely in the Cross, we can trust that God is doing what is best for us. God says in His word, "I know the plans I have for you.... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" ( Jer. 29:11) As Corrie ten Boom once explained, "Picture a piece of embroidery placed between you and God, with the right side up toward God. Man sees the loose, frayed ends; God see the pattern."

God is in control. Whatever comes into our lives, we can confidently say, "We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, To those who are called according to His purpose" ( Rom. 8:28)

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Treasures in Heaven

If you would like to start a real bank account today in Heaven, the place to start is with the poor and less fortune. The Bible says in Matthew 6:19-21 **Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.** Enclosed you will find a brochure of an organization I check out to be totally on the up and up. According to my findings, 96% of all the donations goes directly to the needs of the poor. The other 4% goes to the transportation of these much needed supplies. So my friends in the Lord., my prayer is that the Spirit moves your heart towards the treasures in Heaven, and not of this dying world!

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