

THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR OCTOBER 2007

2 Thessalonians 3:3 The Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

THE EVIL HEART

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

Heavenly Father, we thank You, we Praise You, and Bless You for being our Abba Father. In You, all the truths of the world exist, through Your Divine Wisdom. May we all seize the opportunity, to learn from Your Son Christ Jesus. May this time of study be one of learning and spiritual fulfillment. May your Divine inspiration, continue to fill this ministry. I ask this, in Jesus name.....Amen.

This month's message, is about the evil heart. When I say the evil heart, I am talking about the evil that lurks within all of us. It is a never ending desire that we all have in some way that causes us to sin. It does not just happen once in a while, it is an ongoing process that is going on inside our souls. In short, it is the battle of good and evil that is waging from within. I guess you are wondering what I am talking about? I am talking about a sin process that we all inherited, from our original parents Adam and Eve. We can believe that there is no such thing as an evil heart or there was never an Adam and Eve, or I don't have any problem with sin in my life, but that's exactly what the devil wants you to believe. The destruction of our eternal souls can be in jeopardy, when we don't see the warning signs. These warning signs, can only be seen if you believe in the word of the Lord Jesus Christ. There will never be any warning signs, when you are out of the Lord's unending care. For when we are in tune to His word, all the red lights will be flashing and all the caution signs posted, to help us avoid sin's deadly trap.

The put it into a perspective, through years of walking in God's way and not my own, I have finally come to the conclusion that I cannot stop myself from sinning without being aware of the presence of the Lord's indwelling. You see, Satan is trying to destroy our souls 24-7. He is relentless with his unending pursues. Every time I take my eyes off of Jesus, the devil immediately starts his relentless attack. You see my brothers and sisters, when our eyes are not fixed on Jesus, we are all easy prey for the devil. Satan and this world have a way of making sin look so attractive when we see it through the eyes of this world. The devil's sin package, always looks so good, until you look at it with God's eyes and not yours. When you start to look at it with God's eyes, you can clearly see the deceptive ways that the devil tries to lure us all, into his web. The Lord says in 1 Peter 5:8-9 **Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.**

Let's take a minute to look clearly at this scripture. What was the Lord trying to tell us when He said be self-controlled and alert. Well self-controlled means that we take control of our actions. How do we take control of our actions? Through drawing near to the word of God. The next word, is to be alert. To be alert is to be aware of the

present danger that is around us, and that danger is sin. Then he goes on to say that the devil is like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. I am sure that you have seen what a lion can do to his prey when the prey has no defense against his attack. That's exactly what the devil will do to you with respect to our sin nature. If we leave ourselves open for his attack without God's insulation around us, he will destroy our souls. Then the Lord goes on to say **resist him**. To resist him means, to avoid whatever scheme the devil's has planned for us, by staying close to the Lord. This is one of the many scriptures that the Lord equips us with, to avoid the pitfalls of our **Evil Hearts**.

As I have said in numerous journal issues before, we all have good and evil in us. No God created human being is exempt from this fact. There are millions and millions of people in this world, that truly believe that they all have it under control without the help of the Lord. I believe that way of thinking, is one of life's saddest misconception. For without the word of the Lord Jesus Christ indwelling in our hearts daily, we are no match from the power of the evil one. There are some more scriptures in 1 John chapter 5 that may shed some light on the point that I am trying to make. In 1 John 5 :18 the Lord says **We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him**. This scripture is very important to understand the fact that we all are born of God from the start when He created us, but in order to be protected from the evil one, we need to be reborn in Christ. The reason why the evil one cannot harm all who are in Christ, is the fact that Satan was defeated when Jesus died on the cross for all our sins, and victoriously rose from the dead. All who are born again of the Spirit, are now dead to their sin nature. Dead to your sin nature does not mean you will no longer sin. According to the Bible, while living in these fleshly bodies, we are still prone to sin. The difference being, when we sin now, our new conscious spiritual nature, will not let our sins go without sincere repenting. Early in 1 Peter 5:8-9 the Lord spoke about having self control. Self control, is the only antidote we have as Christians, to combat sin. In Matthew 26:41 **Jesus said, "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."** How true is that scripture, when it comes to our sin nature! Another good scripture to draw on for strength in controlling our **Evil Hearts** is in Titus 2;11-12 the Lord says, **The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.**

Well my friends in the Lord Jesus Christ, it is now time to summarize this month's inspired message. Try to remember, we are all born with some kind of evil in our hearts. Also please try and remember, that in order to save ourselves from the devil and this evil world, we must be self controlled against sin's deadly traps. Furthermore, in order for this to happen, we must die of our flesh and be reborn of the Spirit of the Lord Jesus. So it is my prayer at this time, that this inspired message will touch the hearts of God's people. I ask this in the name of our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus.....Amen.

OCTOBER'S EDITION OF HOPE FOR LIVING

Strangers in the World

By Billy Graham

1Peter 2:11 I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires

Aliens from other countries are rarely shown the "welcome mat" They are often accepted reluctantly or with a tongue-in-cheek attitude. They may even find themselves victims of discrimination, rejection, or intolerance.

The Bible says that we are "aliens and strangers in the world." Our citizenship is in Heaven and there is our real home. As long as we live on this earth, we don't quite fit in. Our customs are different, our goals are different, our way of living is different, our concerns are different.

And as Christ followers (instead of followers of this world), we may find ourselves scorned, rejected, or even persecuted. If so, we shouldn't be surprised. Jesus warned, "If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you" (John 15:20).

But never forget: You are a citizen of the Kingdom of God. And some day you will be Home!

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SPECIAL PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE SICK AND THE LOST SOULS

Peg Ballerina---Robert Lambert--Ryan Donnelly--Carmen Le Boy-- Lucy Cartojena
Marian Ortez---Diane Cabana----Bruno Ambrose----Penny Howe----Alice Mesmer
Nancy Flecker---Felicia Rumbow---Sherry Arzillo---Robin Weiss---John Aquilino
Jennifer Smit---Janet Litiski----Jerry Owens---Vince Philipelli---Tony Scaragelli
Candice Kiana----Joe Hinley----Janet Neil---Carly Napolliello---- Rene DeMatteo
Keith Rugerrio-----Ed Hillman. Also special prayers always for the suffering and lost souls throughout the world. For the sick, the hungry, the homeless, the persecuted, the broken hearted, the helpless, the hopeless, etc., people of this world.

A special prayer for all the violence and hatred throughout the world. A special prayer for peace in the world, and an end to all the corruption in all the governments of this world. A special prayer for all the terrorist of this world to find everlasting peace in the word of the Lord Jesus Christ. I ask all this in the name of Christ Jesus.....Amen.

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To get in touch with the Spiritual Connection for all prayer requests, spiritual questions, spiritual needs, or a free copy of the monthly journal, you can call the ministry office at (609) 704-8547 or e-mail us at ministry8246@comcast.net

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In closing, thank You Lord, for another inspired message this month for your people. May You continue to touch the hearts of the spiritual lost. I ask this in Jesus Name!!!

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