

THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



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Matthew 6:1 “Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.”

GIVING GOD HIS SHARE OF YOUR FRUITS

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

Father, thank You again, for this time of spiritual refreshment from Your words of inspiration and hope. May we all take some time to reflect on our sins, using this time wisely to better understand Your Divine will. May your eternal words of wisdom, help us all to see Your light. Lord, please touch all the hearts of the spiritually blind, and help them to come to know the true knowledge of our Savior Jesus Christ.

May Your wisdom, continue to flow through this ministry. I ask in Jesus Name, Amen.

What I would like to talk about this month, is sharing the fruits of our labor.

When I speak about sharing the fruits of our labor, I am speaking about the money that God entrusts us with to live. Some have just about nothing to live with, while others have an over abundance of wealth. There are even some people that have absolutely no means to support themselves or their family. It is so sad to see so many people that are dying unnecessarily everyday, from starvation. Why are there so many starving people in the world today? The main reason is simply one word, and that is **MAN'S GREED.**

In this fast paced Godless world we live in, the majority of every living human being, is selfish and blinded by the worlds ways. The world keeps promoting this selfish one sided way of thinking. In this society we live in, there is this arrogant attitude when it come to money and materialism. If you don't have money, you are looked down upon as if you have the plague, and it is getting worse day by day. Again, the real reason why there is so many poor people in the world, is from the soulless selfishness of this world.

Now the other way of looking at it is through the eye's of the Lord.

The Lords ways are just the opposite, He teaches us to give with a cheerful heart to the less fortunate and the deprived. Where the worldly minded store up so much money, and treasures for themselves on earth, the Lord says just the opposite. In Matthew 6:19-21 the Lord says. "**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 moths 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.**

I would like to tell you a little story about holding on too much with God's fruits.

For most of my life, I have always had insecurities about money in general. I have seen myself get anxious and even depressed sometimes thinking about what will happen if I can't pay the bills. The devil would put in my mind, all kinds of what if thoughts.

What if I get sick? What if there is no work? What if my vehicle breaks down, and I can't get to work? When I get old, how am I going to make it financially? These are just some of the many negative thoughts that I have lived with for years. There was never a time that I can remember in the last twenty years, where I never gave money regularly, to the church or for some kind of charity. The problem was, I was only giving whatever I thought I should give and not what God expects us to give. The reason

being, I was always insecure and selfish. Some time ago, I was feeling spiritually low because work was real slow. I was starting to get a little nervous about everything, I ask God to help me with some work so I could pay my bills. The Lord did not answer me for a little while, He sort of gave me some time to really think about it. I believe the reason was, the selfish way I was using God's money. One day when I was driving in my car, all of a sudden I got the urge to turned on my radio. For some strange reason at that exact time, a Christian preacher was talking about giving 10% of your wages weekly to the Lord. At first I said to myself I have heard this time after time, after time. What started to get to my heart, was when the preacher said to try it for 90 days, then wait and see all the blessings the Lord will shower you with. Then the preacher also said, that the blessings the Lord will give you, doesn't have to always be monetary gains. There are so many other blessings that far out weigh money! The greatest of all of God's blessing is peace of mind. I thought to myself, if you are blessed with the Lord's peace of mind, you can handle anything that this world has to give.

At that time, I thought to myself, what do I have to lose! So I immediately went home to my favorite place to pray and confessed my sins and made a promise to the Lord that I would start giving Him the full tithe from the fruits of my labor. The Lord says in Malachi 3:10 **Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.** The food the Lord is referring to, is the means/money to help support the less fortunate, the hungry, the naked, the starving, and the homeless people of this world. He goes on to say, **Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.** Try and remember again, that the blessings are not always monetary as one would assume, and greatest blessing God can give to any of us, is peace of mind. **Without God's peace of mind, there can never be any real peace at all!!** Since then, I have committed to the 10% weekly tithe, things have been happening. Every since I confessed my sin of selfishness and made a full commitment to the Lord's plan, not only has the business become more steady, but my spiritually is running in high gear. Also, I don't feel as nervous as I use to get, when business is a little slow for a few days or so, because the Lord makes sure that there is enough business before the month is over, to make up for the slow weeks! Furthermore, I also realize, that the Lord now is a 10% partner in my business and that He has a personnel interest in the business now. Before I was always trying to make the business work on my own, but now, I give it up to the Lord to take care of it. When you really think about it, who could really manage a business as well as the Lord can, after all, He created it!!!

So, my brothers and sisters in the Lord, what do you really have to loose except money. If you really believe that God is the creator of all things, then how hard is it to understand that God created money also. If you believe that the Lord created money, then it really belongs to Him in the first place!! I believe, that the Lord uses money to test us all whether we have little or plenty. Remember, He is always watching us!!! So in closing, I pray that the Lord opens the hearts of the greedy, to give to the needy.

SEPTEMBER'S EDITION OF HOPE FOR LIVING

Pure in Heart By Billy Graham

*Matthew 5:8 **Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God***

Why does Jesus say we should be "pure in heart"? The reason is because our heart—our inner being—is the root of all our actions. From our hearts comes our motives, our desires, our goals, our emotions. If our hearts aren't right, neither will be our actions. Jesus put it this way: "From within, out of the heart of men, proceeds evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murder, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness," (Mark 7:21-22) not a very pretty picture! But God wants to give us a pure heart—and He will. He does this first of all when we turn to Christ in repentance and faith, for "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1:7) But He does it day by day, as we submit to the Holy Spirit and—with His help—flee from evil and seek what is good. "Blessed are the pure in heart."

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SPECIAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE SICK AND THE LOST SOULS

*Bruno Ambrose---Penny Howe---Alice Mesmer--- Nancy Flecker---- Felicia Rumboe
Sherry Arzilla----Robin Weiss----John Aquilino---Jennifer Smits----Janet Litiski
Jerry Owens-----Vince Philipelli----Tony Scarengelli-----Candice Kiana---Joe Hinley
Janet Neil-----Carly Napolliello----Rene De Matteo---Keith Rugerrio---Ed hillmam
Also, special prayers always for the all the suffering and lost souls throughout the world. For all the sick, the hungry, the homeless, the helpless, the hopeless, the persecuted, the broken hearted, and the lost and misguided souls of this world. A special prayer for our country and all the countries in this world, that they all learn to get along with each other and stop all their evil ways and persecutions of God's people. A special prayer also for all the terrorist of this world, to refrain from their evil ways and that they learn to replace their hatred with love for one another!! I ask all this in the name of our Healer and Savior, Jesus Christ. 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, it is my hope that everyone had a God blessed summer, and that we all prepare our souls for the days ahead of us. May we all learn to be more generous to the needy and the less fortunate people of this world. Try and remember that this month's inspired message, is to try and be less selfish and self centered with ourselves, and try to focus on asking God to help us all to be better stewards for the advancement of God's Kingdom. I asked this in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

