

THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR APRIL 2008

**DEDICATED TO ENRICHING YOUR MIND SPIRITUALLY
THROUGH GOD'S INSPIRED WORDS OF THE HOLY BIBLE**

Philippians 4:13 **I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.**

THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

Dear Heavenly Father, You are the Lord of lords, the King of kings, our A to Z, and also, our Alfa and our Omega. We give You always, our thanks and praise because You are our everything. Father You are our light in the night, and our calm in the storm. Please continue to care for all Your people with Your unending love, grace and mercy. Lord, please help us all grow in Your ways, and Father, thank You again, for another inspired message this month. May this message give us all, hope, strength, and joy for today, tomorrow, and eternity! I ask this in the name of Jesus. . . . Amen.

*When I am talking about the Lord's Strength, what would be the first thing that comes to mind? For me, it is like having the most powerful ally in the entire universe, watching and looking out for little old me, 24-7. On the cover page, there is an opening scripture from Philippians 4:13 that seems to say it all **I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.** What is the Lord really trying to tell us? Is he trying to tell us that we can fly? Is He trying to tell us we can walk on water? What is He really trying to say to us. In Matthew 7:7-8 the Lord says: **"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives: he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks the door will be open."** The only thing that I can testify to, is the unbelievable strength and miracles that he has done for me and my life. When I say miracles, you can say or think whatever you want. For when you have been part of this world as many years as I have been, you kind of understand the difference when the miracles come. When they come in times of need or trouble, you sort of think to yourself, wow that was unbelievable! But after experiencing time after time the same miraculous results, you kind of get a sense about where it all comes from! You then start to know down deep in your soul, that it sure did not come from anything that you personally did.*

When we believe and start to read the Holy Bible, God unveils so many miracles for us to see. Throughout the Old Testament into the New Testament, there are thousands of stories in the Bible, where the Lord demonstrates His Almighty power to perform miracles of unexplainable proportions. The first thing that most secularist would say is, most things in the Bible are written by man and we all know how man can be. That is so true, we all do know how man can be! The only thing that they are not telling you, is the fact that the Bible is the inspired word of God and not just mans word. There is a total difference between the two. As born again Christians come to know the Lord, God starts to instill His will in all of us. His word has been undeniably true from the beginning and will be true at the end of this world. The reason why the Lord's word seems so unreal to most people, is the fact that the Lord has not touched their hearts yet. That does not mean that He won't touch hearts in the near future. I believe the old saying, "never say never." The reason why I say never say never, is the fact that I said never, but the Lord over ruled my never, and said forever !

When I say forever, I mean once the Lord gets a hold of you, there is no turning back. The reason why there is no turning back, is the fact that once you taste and see the goodness of the Lord, there is no reason in the world to ever come back. Even though we resolve ourselves to stay in God's peace, from time to time, our flesh will try everything it can do, to make a come back, At that point you have to say to yourself, do I really want to go back to a life of torture from sins venom, or do I want to stay with God's peace? The decision should not be hard to make at all, once we receive the taste of Lord! When our flesh gets weary and starts to prey on our weaknesses, the Holy Spirit will remind us to draw upon the strength of the Lord. Instead of falling prey to the devil trap, the Holy Spirit that dwells within us, directs us in prayer and repentance, rendering the devil helpless. At that point, the Lord restores us back into His endless forgiving grace. Satan will always try and trick us in to coming

back to our sin nature again. But the only way the devil can succeed, is when God is not present in our life. This daily struggle with our flesh will be ongoing, until Jesus comes back to pickup His people. I have a picture of Jesus in my office, that sort of sums up our struggle with our sinful flesh. It says in a bold and direct tenor, **"I never said that following Me would be easy, I only said it would be worth it."** Every time when things get a little trying, and I am feeling down, I try to remember that picture of Jesus, and what He says. It helps me to snap out of whatever is bothering me at that time.

It's sort of like taking a couple of Tylenol extra strength, for a bad headache.

As I grow in the Lord, God is helping me to find more ways of picking myself up, when the flesh try's to make another comeback. The most powerful way I find to restore myself spiritually, is through sincere prayer. You see, the Lord loves sincere prayer from our hearts. I believe that the Lord cries deeply when we sin, and rejoices when we are spiritually restored in Him. You might say to yourself at this time, how do I know what God feels? Well all I can tell you is that, the more you seek, the more you will find out, the nature of God. He clearly reveals Himself more and more as we grow in Him. For me, I feel a sense of His presence, whenever I come to Him with a sincere heart.

Another great way to keep our self on the right path from falling prey to our flesh is, reading the Bible every day. The Holy Bible is without a doubt, the inspired Divine word of the Lord.

When I am feeling down,, the Holy Spirit reminds me again of the unending peace that can be found in word of the Lord Christ Jesus. There are endless scriptures in the Bible that can give us all strength, hope and fortitude, to deal with this world. When we need strength, when we get a little weak, in Isaiah 41:10 the Lord says: **"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."**

In Psalm 73:26 God says: **"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."** In 2 Samuel 22: 33-34 the Lord says again: **"It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; He enables me to stand on the heights."** In Ezekiel 34:16 God also says: **"I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice," declares the Lord.** Psalm 29: 11 also says: **"The Lord gives strength to His people: the Lord blesses His people with peace."** And in Exodus 15:2 it is written that: **"The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise Him, my father's God, and I will exalt Him."**

These are just a few of God's many scriptures that He shares with all His people, to help us all stay strong in times of trouble. Without God equipping us with the right tools to stay on course, we would all be doom. It would be like going through the jungle with no guide to help us find our way, no food for the strength to survive, no tent to shelter us from the elements, and no weapons to protect ourselves from predators. God desires to be our strength in any circumstance that may develop.

He don't care where we come from or the state of mind we are in, the Lord longs to be our Shepherd.

In times of trouble and need the Lord says in Matthew 11:28-30 **"Come to Me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."**

To sum up this months message, it's kind of real simple to understand. Without God's love, grace, and mercy in our life, there is not one soul on this planet, that would have a chance to escape the wrath of our evil nature. You see, we all can keep on fooling ourselves with we don't need God. But that's just the flesh's way of keeping us all in bondage to sin. The Bible clearly states that the wages of sin is death. Sin will always keep us from the glory of God's gift of Eternal Salvation. Try and remember my friends, we can't have the best of both world's. We all have to make a choice as long as we are still alive. We can either go on trusting our flesh and it's destructive consequences, or we can repent of our sins and surrender ourselves to the Lord and reap the blessings that await us all ! Amen.

April's Edition of Hope for Living
The Secret of Purity By Billy Graham

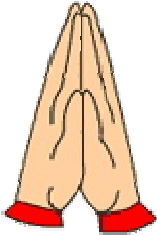
Psalm 24:3-4 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.

We live in the most permissive society since pagan times. Movie marquees, the cover of magazines, the Internet, billboards, television—all scream sensual messages at us. “ If it feels good, do it” has become a national motto.

Yet if you talk to people who have come to Christ out of deep sin, they will tell you they wish they had never fallen into such sin, and that they had come to Christ sooner.

Many Christian books tell of men and women who committed terrible crimes or who were entangled in immorality or sensuality. We rejoice with them that Christ has redeemed and forgiven them. But how, : “ You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy” (Lev. 19:2)

The secret to purity is God. When we are committed to Christ, we will shrink back from all that is impure. Instead, we will seek a pure heart--- a heart that is cleansed by the Holy Spirit and the word of God.



Let us pray : Dear Heavenly Father, at this time and each day, may we all take a moment to pray: May we all continue to pray for, the sick, the poor and needy, the homeless, the persecuted, the hungry, the helpless, the broken hearted, the lost souls, the deceased, etc Also, may we all pray for world peace and for all our soldiers who are in harms way at this time.

Also O graceful Lord, a special prayer for Vince Moschello, Anne Marie Kalogridis, Al Wilson, Denise Lathrop, Jeff Rafter, Mike Baker Sr. Jeff Haines, Janet Litiski, Miriam Johnson, Vince Bovoso, Gary Wade, Jonathan Baker, Tim Height, Keith Ruggerio, Rene DeMatteo Carly Napolliello, Robin Weiss, Joe Hinley, Tony Scarengelli, Candice Kiana, Janet Neil, Jennifer Smit, Vince Phillipelli, Jerry Owens, Sherry Arzillo, Felicia Rumbow, Dianne Cabanna, Penny Howe, Alice Mesmer, Nancy Flecker, Peg Ballerino, Ryan Donnelly, Lucy Cartogena, Olivia Achinko, Marian Ortez, Anne Granata, Robert Lambert, John Longo, Debbie Longo. Rose Robinson, Greg McGlade, Robert Sommers, and John McGibbon.

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Any prayer request, spiritual needs, or spiritual questions, you can fax us at (609) 704-9408 or you can e-mail us at ministry8246@comcast.net
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A special thanks at this time, for all the people who gave a gift to help clothe the needy and give hope to the poor souls at the Atlantic City Rescue Mission. May God bless you always, for your generosity!
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Until next months inspired message. May the Lord Jesus Christ watch over all of us, and lead us and protect us all, from the devils snares. May we all keep on growing and learning Your ways Father. May we always give thanks and praise to You Lord, for Your unending love and devotion You have towards Your people. Also Father, thank You again for this ministry and it's inspired messages.