

THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS

**HAVE
FAITH
in GOD**

MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR JULY 2009

1 Peter 1:21 Through Christ you believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and glorified Him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

GOD'S SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

Again Father we give You thanks, praise, and bless You for your ever presence in our lives. Lord we need Your presence more than ever, in this time of spiritual darkness. Father, please keep us all in Your infinite hands. Lord help us all to grow in Your word. Father as the world continues to grow darker and darker, may Your Divine Light, shine upon us and guide through this maze of sin. Lord may we all comfort our brothers and sisters in times of doubts and fears. Father, please give us Your strength to survive in this evil world we live in. Lord please keep us focused on our Eternal Victory in Christ. Father I ask all this in the name of Your Son and our Savior Jesus Christ. . . . Amen This month I would like to talk about some of the steps needed for spiritual growth. Also, about the gift of God's Spiritual Discernment.

As we continue to grow in our faith, the Lord shows us so many different things that we all need to know about His Divine Word. When it comes to growing in the word of the Lord, it first takes a sincere commitment to change the way we think and live. When I speak about a sincere commitment to change, I mean we must stop thinking and acting worldly, and start to think and act Godly.

How can we as worldly living people, change our evil ways? First, we must sincerely want to change our fleshly ways. Second, we must go in prayer to our Abba Father and ask for His forgiveness for all our sins. After we have made the first two steps with a sincere heart, then the third step is to ask Him to teach us, help us and guide us.

How does God teach us, help us, and guide us? He teaches us, helps us, and guides us daily, when our faith and obedience are strictly devoted to Him and Him alone.

Once we understand all the basics of God's principles, then we need to stay focused on these same principles daily. Once we have graduated from spiritual darkness into God's spiritual light, then the Lord implants the Holy Spirit into our souls. From that point on, the Holy Spirit becomes our daily counselor and the gate keeper of our soul.

Once we begin our new journey with the Lord, God unveils to us His spiritual blessing of discernment. This gift from God, is one of the key tools for spiritual survival.

When I say spiritual survival, I mean that before the devil can draw us into his trap of destruction, the Holy Spirit intercedes in our minds and warns us of any impending dangers that may lurk from within our souls. When the devils temptations start to surface in our minds, hearts and souls, at that point, the Holy Spirit's spiritual discernment kicks right in. At that point we will have a choice to make. Do we want to satisfy our worldly flesh? Or, do we want to satisfy the Lord? Without the Lord's gift of spiritual discernment, we are like sheep ready for the slaughter house!

Why are we just like sheep heading to the slaughter house ? The reason being is, without **God's Spiritual Discernment**, we operate on a secular mentality. What is a secular mentality? A secular mentality or carnality, is the standard way the world thinks. This way of thinking, is what gives the devil so many opportunities to destroy our souls. You see secular, has to do with things that are not sacred, and carnality has to do with sensuality, where man is looking to please only his senses, and not God's will. Before God can guide us through this evil and uncertain world, first we need to get connected to the power source, and that power source is the Lord Jesus Christ.

One evening last month, me and my wife were relaxing comfortably in our home, when all of a sudden the power in our neighborhood went out. At that point, we were totally in complete darkness and were in disarray. Neither one of us could see an inch in front of us. All of a sudden, a sense of urgency came over me to find some light quickly. At that point, me and my wife, put our heads together to try and figure out where there was some light to be found? We both came to the conclusion that there was a gas candle lighter and a flashlight that were up in the kitchen draws. From that point on, we both embraced each others hands and then preceded slowly towards the kitchen. My wife found the gas candle lighter first. She then preceded over to other side of the kitchen and help me to find the flashlight and from that point on, everything looked hopeful. Then, we both preceded to light candles in several other rooms in the house to try to make our home look as normal as it could look, under these unforeseen conditions. At that moment a sense of renewed hope was restore from within.

We both then looked at each other and started to laugh a little. But deep inside, we both breathed a sigh of relief, that we finally found some light, in this sudden darkness. The reason why the Spirit put this illustration on my heart to share with this ministry this month, was to remind us all of the spiritual darkness that is all around us in this sinful world that we live in. There really is no real Spiritual Light to be found in this world, but in the Light of the Lord Christ Jesus. Try and always remember, that in the beginning of the creation of the world God is the originator of light.

In Genesis 1:3 the Lord said, **And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.**

With respect to God's light in Proverbs 4:18 it is written **The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.**

According to that scripture, once we start to walk in God's Righteousness, there is no darkness. It starts out slowly with a slight glimmer of light meaning the morning dawn, and when we are finally in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, at that point according to God's promise, all who remain faithful, will be in **the full light of day.**

Another great scripture that comes to mind with respect to God's light is in,

John 1;4 it is written referring to Jesus that; **In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.** Meaning that Jesus is and always will be the only, and "I mean only," spiritual light that exists, in this world of sin. About darkness, God said in

John 1:5 that; *The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.*

What is God trying to tell us about that last scripture? Well since I was a man of darkness for most of my life, I would like to briefly sum it up by saying, because of my pride, my lust, and my ignorance about the word of God, all I ever knew was darkness. But once God brought me out of my personal darkness by understanding His word, God's light began to overshadowed the darkness of my sinful ways!

In summing up this month's inspired message, there are some points of spiritual interest that I would like to share with you. What's important for all us to try and remember, is the fact that we don't have to settle for what the world's darkness has to offer us. Yes if I might say, the world's temptations can be sinfully attractive at times. But in the end, the final results always will be the same, spiritual destruction of our souls. According to the word of God written in the Bible, we all fall short of His Divine Grace. But through the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we all have another chance to share in God's Eternal Light. So my friends in the Lord, as the devil and this sinful world continually try to keep us all in sin and spiritual darkness, may our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, be our shining light.....Amen.

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JULY'S EDITION OF HOPE FOR LIVING

A Victorious Christian By Billy Graham

Romans 8:26 *The Spirit also helps in our weakness*

We need to rely constantly on the Holy Spirit. We need to remember that Christ dwells in us through the Holy Spirit. Our bodies are the dwelling place of the third person of the Trinity. Why don't we rely on Him as we should? We don't realize how weak we are. We don't realize how strong our enemy is. We may even doubt if God is really going to help us. Or we think we can do it all ourselves---or that we must.

But we should ask Him to do it all and take over in our lives. We should tell Him how weak, helpless, unstable, and unreliable we are. It is important that we stand aside and let Him take over in all our choices and decisions. We know that the Holy Spirit prays for us. (Romans 8:26), and what a comfort that should be to the weakest of us.

A victorious Christian is one who, in spite of worries, inner conflicts, and tensions, is confident that God is in control and will be victorious in the end. Whatever our difficulties, whatever our circumstances, we must remember, as Corrie ten Boom used to say, "Jesus is victor!"

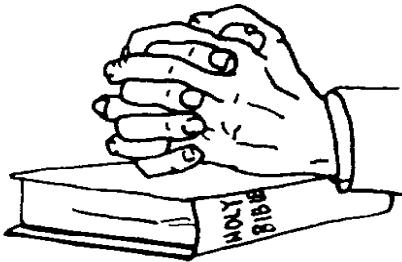
PROVERBIAL SCRIPTURES FOR LIVING

Proverbs 10:29 The way of the Lord is a refuge for the righteous, but it is ruin of those who do evil.

Proverbs 12:7 Wick men are overthrown and are no more, but the house of the righteous stands firm.

Proverbs 14:2 He whose walk is upright fears the Lord, but he whose ways are devious despises Him.

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THE MINSISTRY PRAYER LIST

Please pray daily with this ministry for, Diane Moore, Karen Fulginetti and family,

Scott Echenoff and family, Mike and Mindy Baker, Chris Kline, Anthony Palma, Donna McCormick, Bob Sperber, Tawanna Linder, Chuck Lakes, Ron Forczek, Shirley Tussey, Mark Davies, Joe Brancato, Jerry Palma, Helen McKeen ' Anna Hansen, Marian Wilson, Joe Lakes, Robin Weiss, Joe Longo, Donna DeAngelous, Jimmy Palma, Mike Buettner, George Ollis, Janet Neil, Anthony Lakes, Keith Ruggiero, Johathan Baker, Arlene Santarpio, Rene DeMatteo, Vince Phillipelli, Sherry Arzillo, Tony Scarengelli.

Also a special prayer for all, The sick, the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the lame, the broken hearted, the poor in spirit, the weary, the restless, the persecuted, the lost souls, the emotionally distraught, etc.

Furthermore a special prayer for, the hatred, violence and unrest around the world.

For all the evil governments around the world. For our new President to follow the will of the Lord, and not the evil ways of this world. Also, for all our troops stationed around the world. And Lord, a special prayer for peace around the world. Father I Ask all these prayers in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.....Amen.

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To contact the Spiritual Connection for any spiritual questions or needs, you can contact us at ministry8246@comcast.net Or you can catch us on the

World wide web at: www.makethespiritualconnection.com
Until next months journal, may God continue to bless us always.