

**THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS**



**MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR JUNE 2009**

**1Peter 2:11 *Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.***

## **LUSTFUL DESIRES**

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

Heavenly Father above, again we give You thanks and praise for you unending love that you so gracefully share with Your people. Thank You Lord, for blessing this ministry with Your Infinite presence. Also Lord, thank You for this monthly message of hope and salvation in Jesus Christ. Father, please never leave us, because our ways are wicked. Lord, please be patient with our sinfulness, and help us to learn from You. Lord help us all grow closer to Your will. Father thank You for being our Abba Father. Lord we thank you always in Jesus name Hallelujah ..... Amen.

This month's inspired message has to do with one of man's greatest downfalls, lust. Lust comes in many forms. One would think that it has exclusively to do with sexual fornication, but let me tell you my friends, it comes in many other shapes and sizes. Lust is anything that is in direct opposite to God's will. Lust is a fleshly desire that burns from within our souls, if left unchecked, it will bring us down and destroy our living souls. Lust always starts out slow and innocent, until it gets into our soul. From that point on, it starts growing with unbridled passion until there is no stopping it. Having a desire or a need for something, is not the same as having a lust for something. In order to get a better perspective on this subject, let's break it into these main subjects. Lust for money. Lust for power. Lust for materialism. Lust for pornography or sexual pleasures. Lust for drugs, etc. Which one do you lust for? Is it money? Is it power? Is it materialism? Is it pornography, or sexual pleasures? Is it drugs, etc? For the majority of all of us living in this dark world, we all have been guilty in some way, of **lustful desires**. The million dollar question at this time is, where does lust come from???

According to the Bible, it is the seduction from spiritual demons that we can not see or touch, that seductively lure us into their destructive path. Paul warns us all in Ephesians 6:12 that **For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms**. Some people might say, I can't help myself, God made us this way. That statement is only a cop out, reason being, it's just an excuse to justify our perverse minds and sinful natures. Another good line is, it's okay because these **lustful desires** make me feel good inside and whatever feels good inside, has got to be good. There are numerous excuses used by all of us from time to time, to justify our sinful nature. These secular ways of thinking, are only stumbling blocks that can blind us from God's plan for us. You see, God did not create any of us to think that it is okay, to do whatever we feel like doing. It doesn't work that way under God's eternal plan. It only works that way, under the world's plan. There is a heavy price to pay, for our

defiant ways. Throughout the Holy Bible, there are numerous stories about people who thought it was okay to do what their hearts lustfully desired. But eventually when their sins caught up with them, they all had to pay the price for their rebellion against God's will. That price, was death and eternal destruction.

We always have a choice with whatever sin we commit. God clearly explains to us in the Bible, that we all are sinners and that we all fall short of the grace of God. None of us are truly worthy of the free gift that God gave to all of us, in His Son Christ Jesus. Because, through Him, in Him, and with His, are the hidden keys to Eternal Salvation. In my walk with the Lord each day as a minister of His word, I run across so many lost souls that have a look of emptiness and despair in their eyes. I see it in the rich as well as the poor. I can feel a sort of sadness and emptiness in their souls. It seems like there is, a continual longing and searching for someone or something to really believe in. The reason why I can relate to these feelings, is the fact that I was the same way before the Lord came into my life. I know, because those same sad looks and feelings of emptiness and hopefulness, were a big part of my life before Jesus. As I look back at the real reasons why I was this way for most of my life, it all had to do with lust. These lustful desires had such a grip on me, that if God didn't come to my rescue in time, I really don't think that I would be around today writing this letter.

Back in the old days, I was running ramped with sin, spinning like a top.

Before Jesus, I had no purpose in my life at that time, but to satisfy my lustful desires. After Jesus, instead of wanting to satisfy my **lustful desires**, I now have a compelling desire to satisfy the Lord, first and foremost. When you pass through darkness into God's light, at that point, there is a compelling desire to refrain from lustful desires?

Because once we start living in the light of God's peace, there is no turning back. Once we taste and see the goodness of the Lord, it can be very addicting. Why does it become so addicting? Because once you can see and feel God's loving peace all around you, after that point, your only desire will be to follow daily, the word of the Lord. I will leave you with a couple of good scriptures, that should help shed some light on what I am trying to relate to you, on this subject.

In Titus 3:3-5 God says; At one time we were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passion and pleasures. We lived in malice, and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we have done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

In Ephesians 2:3-6 the Lord said; All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-it

is by grace you have been saved. And God raises us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus (next page for summation)

So my brothers and sisters, lets always try to remember that we as finite humans do not have the power on our own, to stop our lustful desires. You see that only through God's Infinite Power, can we avoid falling prey to the devils schemes. When we stay close and obedient to God's will, nothing can penetrate our souls. But when we don't believe in God's word or we are too busy for the Lord, we will never be able to avoid falling prey to our sinful, wicked, and lustful ways!

Let us pray; Lord helps us all to be strong in Your word and avoid the snares of the evil one. Father, help us to put on Your full armor of righteousness against our lustful ways May we all come to further understand the power that we all can posses in You Lord. Father please cleanse, sanctify and refresh this sinful world before it's too late. Lord, I ask these things in Jesus name.....Amen.

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## **JUNE'S EDITION OF HOPE FOR LIVING** **Power For Problems** By Billy Graham

*Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

A friend told me of a non-believer who came to him in the midst of a troubled day. Knowing my friend was a Christian, the man asked, "If I get born again, will all of my problems go away?"

"No," said my friend, "but you will have the power to deal with them.

God will give us wisdom and courage. He will surround us with brothers and sisters in Christ to help carry our burdens, and even provide us with insight and practical assistance.

Satin will always try to discourage those who belong to Christ. When problems persist, he may even whisper, "See, God doesn't care about you." But with the Holy Spirits help, we can combat the evil one and contradict his lies.

If god dismissed all our problems with a single stroke, we would be left defenseless, unequipped to meet the inevitable attacks of the enemy of our souls. But in the midst of life's problems God supplies everything we need to see us through.

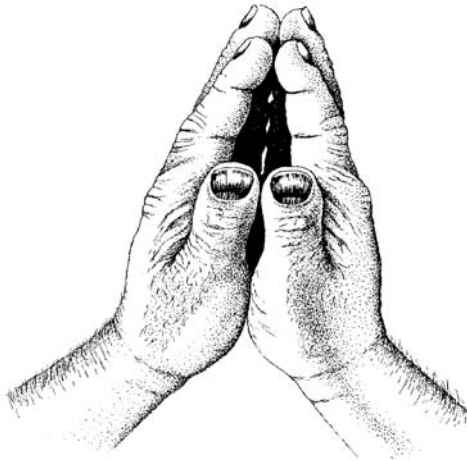
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## **PROVERBIAL SCRIPTURES FOR LIVING**

*Proverbs 1:19 Such is the end of all who go after ill-gotten gains.*

*Proverbs 10:23 A fool finds pleasure in evil conduct, but a man of understanding delights in wisdom.*

*Proverbs 17:13 If a man pays back evil for good, evil will never leave his house.*



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## THE MINISTRY PRAYER LIST

*Please pray daily with this ministry for, Anna Hansen, Sandy Wisdom, Janet Neil*

*Keith Ruggiero, Rene DeMatteo, Arlene Santarpio, Marian Wilson, Jonathan Baker, Tony Scarengelli, Vince Phillipelli, George Ollis, Mike Buettner, Donna DiAngelous, Joe Longo, Robin Weiss, Anthony Lakes, Joe Lakes, Jimmy Palma, Helen McKean, Jerry Palma, Joe Brancato, Mark Davies, Shirley Tussey, Ron Forczek, Chuck Lakes, Tawanna Linder, Bob Sperber, Donna McCormick, Anthony Palma, Chris Kline.*

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

*Furthermore a prayer for, all our troops in harms way all around the world.*

*Also, a prayer for peace in this dark and sinful world that we live in.*

*I ask this in Christ Jesus name..... Amen.*

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**Web Site Updates:** *The Spiritual Connections online web site, has had some minor updates, if you would like to take a look at it, be my guest. We will be always trying to update the web site, but please try and understand that it is only been up and running for approx, 6 months now. So please try and bear with the changes as time goes on. The goal here at the Spiritual Connection, is to have a web site that can meet all your needs*

*in due time. So my friends in the Lord Jesus Christ, try and remember as God teaches all of us that, 'Patience is a Virtue.'*

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**TO CONTACT THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTION FOR WHATEVER YOUR SPIRITUAL NEEDS MAY BE, YOU CAN CONTACT US AT [ministry8246@comcast.net](mailto:ministry8246@comcast.net) OR YOU CAN CATCH US ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB AT: [www.makethespiritualconnection.com](http://www.makethespiritualconnection.com)**

**Until next months journal, May God richly bless you and your family always.**