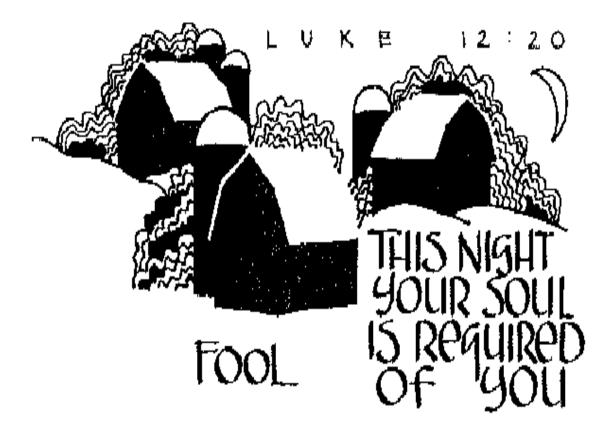
THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR NOVEMBER 2009

Psalm 112:10 The wicked man will see and be vexed, he will gnash his teeth and waste away; the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.

WARNING SIGNS

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

Dear Heavenly Father, I thank You Lord for another opportunity this month, to share this inspired message of caution and hope for tomorrow. Lord may Your inspiring words, touched the hearts and minds of Your people. Father God, teaches us all to be more mindful of Your Divine words of love and everlasting peace. Lord, please help us to heed Your warnings, before it's too late for Your merciful forgiveness. Also, Lord, please soften up our hardened hearts, and minds. Father, please help us to find Your love and peace from within. Lord, I ask all this, in Jesus name......Amen. This months inspired message, has to do with some of God's warning signs to help us avoid spiritual destruction. Without warning signs, how much more dangerous would life be for all of us. There are thousands and thousands of man made warning signs, labels, written laws, etc. They are all spread out across the world. These warning signs and labels, are put in place to help us all avoid possible dangers, and fatalities. Take for instance traveling, the stop sign alone, has saved millions of death's throughout the world. Just think how dangerous it would be, to drive without stop signs. If there were no stop signs alone, there would not be enough medical personnel available, to handle all the fatalities. How about speed limit signs? Take a moment out to imagine how scary it would be, if we did not have any speed limited signs. Also, how about all the warning labels on food, drugs, chemicals etc., the list goes on and on, and on! The number of warning signs and labels in this world we live in, are like the stars in the skies, too many to count. I believe on a broader scale of reality, that without all these signs and labels in place, there would be ongoing massive fatalities throughout the world. It would be so devastating, even worse then a medical pandemic or a plague. I believe, that God has put signs and warning labels where they are needed, to maintain some sort of normal rhythm and balance for the world. These warning signs and labels, are only good for protecting our living flesh and bones, not our eternal souls. Only through knowing and understanding God's will, are we able to see the spiritual warning signs that are on the road ahead of us. These warning signs, will spiritually protect our souls from eternal damnation. God's warning signs, can only be found in His Divine words through the Holy Bible itself, no place else exist! In Luke chapter 12, the Lord gives us some understanding when it comes to spiritual warnings. It is written in Luke 12:1 "Be on guard against the yeast of the **Pharisee**, which is hypocrisy. Who were the Pharisees in general? Also, why does Jesus associate hypocrisy with Pharisees? Pharisees or [Fair-uh-sees; were the " separated ones"]. They were a small but extremely influential lay fellowship of men that were committed to strictly observe all the ordinances of Judaism concerning ritual purity, as defined by tradition. Also, to scrupulously carry out religious duties, such as tithing and the

performance of ceremonial washings. The Gospel portrays the Pharisees as antagonist of Jesus although a number were later converted and joined the Christian movement. When Jesus watched the huge crowds waiting to hear Him, He warned His disciples against-- trying to appear good when ones heart is far from God. The Pharisees could not keep their attitudes hidden forever. Their selfishness would act like yeast, and soon they would expose themselves for what they really were—power hungry imposters, not devoted religious leaders. It is easy to be angry at the blatant hypocrisy of the Pharisees, but each of us must resist the temptation to settle for the appearance of respectability, when our hearts are far from God for one reason or another.

What are the signs of hypocrisy? (1) Hypocrisy is knowing the truth but not obeying it. People can say that they follow Jesus, but not be obedient to His word. (2) Hypocrisy is living a self serving life. People may desire leadership only because they love position and control, not because they want to serve others. (3) Hypocrisy reduces faith to rigid rules. People can end up worshiping their own rules and regulations about what they think God wants instead of worshiping God Himself. (4) Hypocrisy is outward conformity without inner reality. People can obey the details but still be disobedient in general behavior. For example, a person may carefully tithe his income, but be rude and obnoxious to his coworkers or people in general.

Many non-Christians use the supposed (or real) hypocrisy of Christians, as an excuse to stay away from God and the church. Look carefully at your life. We are not perfect; therefore, at times an action or behavior might provide the ammunition for someone to label you a hypocrite . However you must discern your own heart. Consider the warning signs of hypocrisy noted above and make sure you are not guilty. Then ask God to help you live rightly. Fear of opposition or ridicule can weaken our witness for Christ. Often we cling to peace and comfort, even at the cost of our walk with God. Jesus reminds us that we should fear God, who controls eternal, not merely temporal, consequences. Don't allow fear of a person or group to keep you from standing up for Christ. The Lord says in Isaiah 5:21 <u>Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight.</u> In Proverbs 26:12 it is written, <u>Do you</u> <u>see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for</u> him. Also it is written in Luke 16:15

<u>He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of</u> <u>men, but God knows your heart. What is highly valued among men is</u> <u>detestable in God's sight."</u>

Today people are faced with so many mixed up and confusing emotions with respect to religion. There are so many Pharisees and false prophets today, more than there has ever been in the entire history of the world. It's no wonder why there is so much religious distortion circulating around the world. This dissoluteness in our society, continues to support the devils quest to destroy the world spiritually, causing people to just go with the flow instead of reaching out to the Lord for guidance. According to the word of God, going with Satan's flow, is like going straight down the highway to hell. The only real hope that man has to avoid the highway to hell, is to humbly come to God's throne of unending knowledge and wisdom for eternal life.

In closing: Without coming to the end of our lustful and prideful selves, there really is no real hope for any spiritual survival. You see, the Lord never changes His will for us. It was the same in the beginning as it will be in the end, eternal salvation for the faithful, and eternal damnation for the defiant! Let us pray. Lord we thank you for this inspired message of truth and guidance for our souls. May we all come and learn from You Lord, through Your written word. Father, may we all stay on the narrow path that leads to You. Lord helps us all to survive this dark and evil world. Father, I ask this in Jesus name.....Amen.

JESUS CALLING

By Sarah Young

LINGER IN MY PRESENCE FOR A WHILE

Rein in your impulses to plunge into the day's activities. Beginning your day alone with Me is essential preparation for success. A great athlete takes time to prepare himself mentally for the feat ahead of him before he moves a muscle. Similarly, your time of being still in My Presence equips you for the day ahead of you. Only I know what will happen to you this day. I have arranged the events you will encounter as you go along your way. If you are not adequately equipped for the journey, you will grow weary and loose heart. Relax with Me while I ready you for action. Ephesians 2:10 Hebrews 12:3

DO NOT EXPECT TO BE TREATED FAIRLY

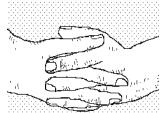
People will say and do hurtful things to you, things that you don't deserve. When someone mistreats you, try to view it as an opportunity to grow in grace. See how quickly you can forgive the one that has wounded you. Don't be concerned about setting the records straight. Instead of obsessing about other people's opinions of you, keep your focus on Me. Ultimately, it is my view of you that counts. As you concentrate on relating to Me, remember that I have clothed you in My righteousness and holiness. I see your attire in these radiant garments, which I bought for you with My blood. This also is not fair; it is pure gift. When others treat you unfairly, remember My ways with you are much better than fair. My ways are Peace and Love, which I have poured out into your heart by My Spirit. Colossians 3:13; Isaiah 6:10; Ephesians 1:7-8; Romans 5:5

PROVERBIAL SCRIPTURES FOR LIVING

Proverbs 16:5 <u>The Lord detest all the proud of heart. Be sure of this :</u> <u>They will not go unpunished.</u>

Proverbs 15:33 The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

Proverbs 15:8 <u>A hot-tempered man stirs up dissention</u>, but a patient man calms a quarrel.



THE MINISTRY'S DAILY PRAYER LIST

<u>Please pray daily with this ministry for,</u> Barbra Teto, Patrick Zinck, Carol Palma,

Anne Palma, George Slawter, Michael Monforto, Keith Ruggerio, Janet Neil, Jonathan Baker, Theresa Wade, Tony Scarengelli, Vince Phillipelli, Robin Weiss, Mike Baker Jr. and Family, Jimmy Palma, Donna De Angelous, Mike Buetner, Jerry Palma, Anthony Lakes, Alexandra Barone, Scott Eckenoff and Family, Joe Lakes, Joe Longo and Family, Helen McKean, Karen Fulginetti.

<u>Also a daily prayer for all the</u>; sick, the poor, the homeless, the weak, the weary, the broken hearted, the poor in spirit, the lost, the lonesome, the lame, the hopeless, the helpless, the restless, the persecuted, the emotionally distraught, etc.

WELL MY BROTHER'S AND SISTER'S IN THE LORD, THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO ENRICH YOUR SPIRITUALITY THROUGH THIS MONTHLY JOURNAL. IT IS MY HOPE THAT YOU HAVE ENJOYED THIS INSPIRED MESSAGE. UNTIL NEXT MONTHS SPIRITUAL MESSAGE WITH GOD'S HELP, <u>KEEP THE FAITH.</u> **TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THIS MINISTRY** e-mail address <u>ministry8246@comcast.net</u> To read more inspired journals from the past; see **www.makethespiritualconnection.com**