

THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



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Obadiah 1:4 Though you soar like an eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down.

DON'T GLOAT

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

Dear Lord, thanks for another opportunity to share your inspired words of spiritual wisdom, with this ministry. Father, may this months divinely inspired message, filled the hearts and minds of your people with knowledge and understanding, of Your Will for us. Lord may we seek to learn more about Your mysterious nature. Father, help us to break away from the devil's bondage to sin. Lord, may Your Divine Words of Wisdom, set us free from this sinful world. Father, I ask all this in Jesus name.... Amen.

This months message has to do with the sin of gloating. You must be thinking to yourself, what is gloating? Gloating is thinking about someone or something with triumphant and often malicious delight. What is malicious delight? Malicious delight is a desire to cause injury or distress to another. In the eyes of the Lord, we don't have to actually do physical harm to someone for it to be a sin. All we have to do is just sit around and think in our evil minds, thoughts of another person or persons destruction or demise.

The problem is that sin runs rampant in society—daily headlines and overflowing prisons, that bear dramatic witness to this fact. With child abuse, pornography, serial killings, terrorism, anarchy and ruthless dictatorships, the world seems to be filled to overflowing with violence, hatred and corruption. Reading and hearing about these tragedies—and perhaps even experiencing them—we begin to understand the need for God's judgment not ours. We may even find ourselves seeking vengeance by any means upon a violent perpetrator, or someone who has caused us pain. We can eventually become like some kind of a vigilante, or predator.

In the book of Obadiah, one of the shortest book in the Bible, the Lord clearly shows His discontent for anyone who sits back and gloats over another mans downfall, devastation and destruction. Even though our thoughts or actions may warrant their downfall, according to God, only His judgment is relevant, not ours. Obadiah, gave God's message of condemnation and destruction to the Edomites. Because of their indifference to and defiance to God, their cowardice and pride, and their treachery towards their relative Judah, they stood condemned and would be destroyed. As descendents of Esau (Genesis 25:19-27:45) the Edomites were blood relatives of Israel through Jacob, and like their father Esau, they were rugged, fierce and proud warriors with a seemingly invincible mountain home. Of all the people, they should have rushed to the aide of their northern

brothers. Instead, however, they gloated over Israel's problems, captured and even delivered fugitives to the enemy, and also looted Israel's country side. Historically, Edom had constantly harassed the Jews. They even participated in attacks against Judah. Obadiah predicted that God would destroy Edom as punishment for standing by when Babylon invaded their neighboring brothers, Judah. Because of their treachery, Edom's land would be given to Judah the day when God rights the wrongs against His people.

The Edomites were full of pride because of their seemingly invincible rock fortress in the mountain regions. They were extremely proud and self confident. But God humbled them and destroyed their nation to a point of no return. It disappeared from the face of the earth!

The Lord said in Obadiah 1:12 You should not look down on your brother in the day of his misfortune, nor rejoice over the people of Judah in the day of their destruction, nor boast so much in the day of their trouble. Then the Lord goes on to say in verse 15: The day of the Lord is near for all nations. As you have done, it will be done to you; your deeds will return upon your head.

In this world that we live in today, gloating according to God whether it is physical or emotional, is a sin. Gloating left unchecked, can manifest itself in to actual physical vengeance against another. Without God interceding for us through His word, unbridled vengeance will eventually have it's ugly vengeful way. I believe that the root of all gloating comes from either jealousy or hatred, or a combination of both. An example of jealousy would be, something like someone having a lot of money and flaunting it, while you are struggling to pay your bills. An example of someone having a lot of money and flaunting it, would be someone like a Donald Trump. I am not saying that everyone is jealous of Donald Trump. Donald Trump is just one of many examples of someone who flaunts himself, which is a sin in itself.

We could be jealous of a neighbor, a family member, a movie star, rock star, sports star etc, the list goes on. As for hatred, a good example of hatred could be hating someone like an Osama Bin Laden. He has got to be one of the most hated men in America. I don't know about you, but for all the destruction, pain and sorrow he has inflicted on people throughout the world, I have sat back on many occasions and thought to myself, God forgive me for what I would like to do to that SOB. Again, this is just one of thousands of examples, that could make a man sit back and gloat over another man's destruction. The Lord ask us all, to love our brothers and sisters. On the other hand, the devil inside our heads, tells us to hate one another.

Reason being, it is so easy to hate our brothers and sisters than to love them. At this time, I will leave you with some scriptures to make us all think a little more before gloating. **In 1 John 4:11 it is written, Dear friends, since God so loved us, we ought to love one another. In Romans 12:9-10 the Lord said, Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourself.** There are a lot of scriptures in the Bible where the Lord alludes to the fact that we must love our brothers and sister, not hate them. So my brother's and sister's, try and let this months inspired message be a great reminder for all of us, that the Lord does not want us to Gloat, regardless of the circumstance! Let us all ask God to help us not to gloat. Let us pray, Lord again we thank You for this month's inspired message. Father, please help us through Your Holy Spirit, to love our neighbor as it is truly written in Your Holy Bible. Lord, may we all be an example of Your love. Father when the devil's hatred is knocking at our doors, Lord please give us the strength not to open it. Lord, I ask this in Jesus name...Amen.

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JESUS CALLING

By Sarah Young

TRUST ME AND DON'T BE AFRAID, for I am your Strength and Song. Think what it means to have Me as your Strength I spoke the universe into existence; My Power is absolutely unlimited! Human weakness, consecrated to Me, is like a magnet, drawing My power into your neediness. However, fear can block the flow of My Strength into you. Instead of trying to fight your fears, concentrate on trusting Me. When you relate to Me in confident trust, there is no limit to how much I can strengthen you. Remember that I am also your song I want you to share My Joy, living in conscious awareness of My Presence. Rejoice as we journey together toward heaven; join Me in singing My Song.

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PROVERBIAL SCRIPTURES FOR LIVING

Proverbs 21:6 **A fortune made by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor and a deadly snare.**

Proverbs 20:13 **Do not love sleep or you will grow poor; stay awake and you will have food to spare.**

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THE MINISTRY DAILY PRAYER LIST

PLEASE PRAY DAILY WITH THIS MINISTRY FOR: Joe Longo, Mary Kay Shanaman, Jay Simmons, Natilie Wilson, Donna DeAngelous Jimmy & Anne Palma, Alexandra Barone, John Aquilino, Pat Sculi, Elena Ratkevitch, Irina Ratkevitch, Cindy Hogman, Jennie D'Ippolito, Vanessa Sedalis-Marino & Family, Patrick Zinck, Helen McKean, Janet Neil, Mike Buettner, Jonathan Baker, Theresa Wade, Barbra Teto, Keith Reggerio, Jerry & Carol Palma, Rose Robinson.

ALSO A PRAYER FOR: The sick, the poor, the homeless, the helpless, the weary, the lost souls, the hungry, the broken hearted, the poor in spirit, the persecuted, the hatred, the violence, the wars, the corruption, the world economy, for the people in Haiti and in Chile, etc.

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It is my hope at this time that you enjoyed this months journal. Until next months inspired message, MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS YOU.

EASTER MESSAGE BELOW

1 Corinthians 15:55 “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”



Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces.

So my brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ, now that Easter is upon us and Lent is just about over, let's not forget what our Lord Christ Jesus did for us. His death has paved the way for Eternal Salvation. Also, His death was the final atonement, a much needed reconciliation of God and mankind. Furthermore, it was the missing link, needed to bridged together the Old Testament with the New Testament. Yes without a doubt in my mind as the Bible tells us, Jesus Christ, is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!

HAPPY EASTER.

