

## THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



### MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR OCTOBER 2010

**Ephesians 6:11: Put on the full armor of God so that you can take a stand against the devil's schemes.**

## **GOD VS THE DEVIL**

*By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma*

Dear Heavenly Father, we come before You to give you thanks and praise for all the blessings that you have for those who trust in You. Father we bless Your Holy Name, we thank You for Your free gift of Eternal Salvation in Your Son, Christ Jesus. Father, help us all stay close to Your Words of Divine Wisdom. Lord, please continue to help us all put on Your Armor of Righteousness against the attacks of the devil's lies and deceptions. Father we ask this in Jesus name.....Amen. This month the Holy Spirit has inspired me to talk about spiritual protection. What is spiritual protection? Spiritual protection is, God's Armor of Righteousness. In **Ephesians 6:10-17** it is written: Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

In the Christian life we battle against rulers and authorities. They are the powerful evil forces of fallen angels headed by Satan, who is a vicious fighter. To withstand their attacks, we must depend on God's strength and every piece of His armor. **1Peter 5:8** tells us; Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. These who are not "flesh and blood" are demons over whom Satan has control. They are not mere fantasies—they are very real. We face a powerful army whose goal is to defeat Christ church. When we believe in Christ Jesus, these beings become our enemies, they try every device to turn us away from Him and back to sin. Although we are assured of victory, we must engage in the struggle until Christ returns, because Satan is constantly battling on all who are on the Lord's side. We need supernatural power to defeat Satan, and God has provided this by giving us His Holy Spirit within us

and His Armor surrounding us. Satan fights with lies, and sometimes his lies sound like truths; but only believers have God's truth, which can defeat Satan's lies.

The devil often attacks our heart—the seat of our emotions, self worth and trust. God's righteousness is the breastplate that protects our heart and ensures His approval. He approves of us because He loves us and sent His Son to die for us.

Satan wants us to think that telling others the Good News is a worthless and hopeless task—the size of the task is too big and the negative responses are too much to handle. But the footgear God gives us is the motivation to continue to proclaim the true peace that is available in God—news that everyone needs to hear.

What we see are Satin's attacks in the form of insults, setbacks and temptations. But the shield of faith protects us from Satan's flaming arrows. With God's perspective, we can see beyond our circumstances and know that ultimate victory is ours.

Satan wants us to doubt God, Jesus and our salvation. The helmet protects our mind from God's saving work for us.

The sword of armor is a weapon of offense. There are times when we need to take the offensive against Satan. When we are tempted, we need to trust in the truth of God's word. Prayer is one of the most effective ways to show our trust in the word of the Lord. By praying for the strength to overcome the devil's temptations, lies and deceptions, we let God know that we believe in His power to overcome the forces of evil. At that time the Lord unleashes our protective armor rendering Satan's plan of spiritual destruction powerless and ineffective.

Try and never forget the fact that Satan ( "the tempter" ) is the most powerful of all the evil spirits. His power can affect both the spiritual world ( **Ephesians 2:1-3; 6:10-12** ) and the physical world.

( **2 Corinthians 12:7-12** ) Satan even tempted Jesus. ( **Matthew 4:1-11** )

But Jesus defeated Satan when He died on the cross for our sins and rose again to give us a new life. At the proper time God will overthrow Satan forever. **Revelation 20:1-3** it is written: An I saw the angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil , or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. He threw him into the abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. In **Revelation 20:7-10** the Lord goes on to explain Satan's final doom: When the thousand years are over,

Satin will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog – to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sands on the seashore. They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city He loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. And the devil who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

So my brothers and sisters in the Lord Christ Jesus, always try and remember that beneath the surface of routine daily life, a fierce struggle among invisible spiritual powers is being waged. Our main defense is prayer that God will protect us from the evil one and that He will strengthen us. Concerning our armor of spiritual warfare, the following guidelines can help us prepare for and survive satanic attacks:

- (1) Take the threat of spiritual attack seriously.
- (2) Pray for strength and help from God.
- (3) Study the Bible to recognize Satan’s style and tactics.
- (4) Memorize Scripture so it will be a source of help no matter where you are.
- (5) Associate yourself with those who speak the truth.
- (6) Practice what you are taught by sound spiritual leaders.

In closing, it is my hope that these teachings will help us all to be more aware and alert to the evil one’s lies and deceptions. May we all pray and ask God to help us with theses daily struggles. Also, may we ask Him for His forgiveness of our daily sins in Jesus name.....Amen.

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### JESUS CALLING

*By Sarah Young*

**LIVE FIRST AND FORMOST** in my presence. Gradually you will become more aware of Me than of people and places around you. This awareness will not detract from your relationship with others. Instead, it will increase your ability to give love and encouragement to them. My peace will permeate your words and demeanor. You will be active in the world, yet one step removed from it. You will not be easily shaken, because My enveloping Presence buffers the blow of problems.

**This is the path I have set before you. As you follow it wholeheartedly,  
you experience abundant Life and Peace.**

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**THE MINISTRIES DAILY PRAYER LIST**

***Please pray daily with this ministry for:*** Al Wilson and family, David Stein and Family, Anne Palma and Family, Johanna Tyson and Family, Greg Dubrois and Family, Joe Longo and Family, Dorthy Leary, Donna D'Angelous and Family, Mom De Matteo and Family, Joy Valeri and Family, Mike Buettner, Andria Arceneaux, Keith Regerio, Jonathan Baker, Alexandria Barone, Joe Lakes, Janet Neil, Dennis E. Palma.

***Also a prayer for all:*** The sick, the poor, the homeless, the helpless, the weary, the lost, the troubled, the hopeless, the godless, the persecuted, the lame, the broken hearted, etc. Also, let us pray for all the hatred, corruption, violence, greed, fornications, wars, etc. around the world.

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May we also take a moment of prayer for our troubled country. Dear Lord, we come to You at this time with a special prayer for a spiritual revival for America. Father ,we ask for Your forgiveness for our sinfulness and pray for Your Divine mercy, grace, and guidance Lord, to move our country forward. Father, help us to be humble and Lord help us with our prideful ways. Father, we ask this in Jesus name...Amen.

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If you have enjoyed this month's inspired message, please pass it on to all your family and friends. If you have any spiritual questions, we can be reached at [www.makethespiritualconnection.com](http://www.makethespiritualconnection.com)

