

## THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR NOVEMBER 2011

**Isaiah 55:12:** [You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and the trees of the field will clap their hands.](#)

## **THE JOY OF THE LORD**

*By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma*

Heavenly Father, Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, may we all take this moment to thank You, praise You and bless you Lord, for Your love, grace, and mercy. Father, again may we all thank You for this inspired message and for blessing this ministry with Your Divine Presence. Lord, please teach us how to be joyful in all circumstances. Father, may our hearts stay strong and not grow weary during these trying times. Lord, please give us Your strength and fortitude to stay focused on Your promise of eternal life.

Father, I ask this prayer in Jesus name.....Amen.

In this month's message, I like to talk about the Joy of the Lord. When I say the Joy of the Lord, I am talking about a feeling that whatever pain and suffering that we experience in this life, God has it all under His control.

When God dwells within us through His Holy Spirit, all the pain and suffering that we experience are all part of His Divine Plan.

You see, Jesus, overcame all of the pain that the world had to offer, when He suffered and died on the cross for the sins of the world! By His Infinite and Infallible Nature, He rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven. Then on Pentecost Sunday, He appeared to His Apostles and filled them up with His Holy Spirit. This Spiritual Indwelling of God's Holy Spirit, was only a down payment until Jesus returns as our King of all kings and Lord of all lords.

The Apostle Paul was a great example of experiencing the Joy of the Lord. Although, he suffered more than any other of the Apostles, Paul was content because he could see life from God's point of view. His joy for the Lord, helped him focused on what he was supposed to do, not on what he felt he should have. Paul had his priorities straight and he was grateful for everything God had given him. He detached himself from all the nonessentials so he could concentrate on the eternal. Paul tells us that what we put into our minds determines what comes out in our words and actions. He also tells us to program our minds with thoughts that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy. How can we find true contentment? The answer lies in our perspectives, priorities and our source of power. And that source of power is the Lord Christ Jesus. Can we really do everything? Paul again tells us, that the power that we receive in union with Christ, is sufficient to do His Will and face the challenges that arise from our commitment to doing it.

When Paul was locked up in prison at Philippi, it seemed strange that he would be telling the church to rejoice. But Paul's attitude teaches us an important lesson: Our inner attitudes do not have to reflect our outward circumstances. Paul was full of joy because he knew that no matter what happened to him, Jesus Christ was with him.

Several times in his letter to the Philippians, Paul urged the Philippians to be joyful, probably because they needed to hear this.

It's easy to get discouraged about unpleasant circumstances or take unimportant events too seriously. If you have not been joyful lately, you may not be looking at life from the right perspective.

Ultimate joy comes from Christ indwelling in us. Christ is near, and His second coming we will fully realize this ultimate joy. He who lives within us will fulfill His final purpose to all believers.

We are to be gentle (reasonable, fair minded, and charitable) to those outside the church, and not just fellow believers. This means we are not to seek revenge against those who treat us unfairly or should we be overly vocal about our personal rights. Imagine never being "anxious about anything". As we contend for the faith, we will face troubles, pressures and trials. As they come, ask Christ to strengthen you, to feel God's Joy from within.

Here are some scripture to reflect upon when you feel joyless and alone.

In **Psalms 97:11-12** it is written: Light is shed upon the righteous and joy on the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord, you who are righteous, and praise His Holy Name. In Hebrews 1:9 the Lord said, You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy. Also it is written in **1 Peter 1:8**: Though you have not seen Him, you love Him and even though you do not see him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy. Furthermore God says in **Job 8-21**; God will fill your mouth with laughter and your lips with shouts of joy.

So my brothers and sisters in the Lord Christ Jesus, when times are joyless and uncertain, let us all try and reflect upon the life of Paul. Paul reminds us through the scriptures, that he was a prisoner for the Lord. Not only was he a prisoner for Christ, he was also a bondservant for the Lord. But through all of his trials and tribulations, he did not allow his life of persecution for Christ, diminish his personal joy. Paul reminds us through his letters to the churches, that in order to find and maintain God's joy and peace,

we must be completely humble and gentle; being patient and bearing with one another in love. Also, we must make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit, through the bond of peace!

Let us pray: Heavenly Father, Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, again we thank You, praise You and bless You for this month's inspired message. Lord, may this message, help us better understand Your indwelling joy. Lord, please help us to maintain the hope and joy that lies within us, until Your return. Lord, may this message touch the hearts and minds of Your people, throughout the world! Father, I ask this prayer in the name of Your Son and our Savior, Christ Jesus.....Amen.

---



### **JESUS CALLING**

*By Sarah Young*

**TRUST ME AND REFUSE TO WORRY**, for *I am your strength and song*. You are feeling wobbly this morning, looking at difficult times looming ahead, measuring them against your own strength. However, they are not today's task—or even tomorrow's. So leave them in the future and come home to the present, where you will find me waiting for you. Since *I am your Strength*, I can empower you for each task as it comes. Because *I am your Song*, I can give you joy as you walk along side of Me. Keep bringing your mind back to the present moment. Among all of my creatures, only humans can anticipate future events. This ability is a blessing, but it becomes a curse whenever it is misused. If you use your magnificent mind to worry about tomorrow, you cloak yourself in dark unbelief. However when the hope of heaven fills your thoughts, the Light of My Presence envelops you. Though heaven is future, it is also present tense. As you walk in the Light with Me, you have 1 foot on earth and 1 in heaven.

**Exodus 15:2; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Hebrews 10:23**

## PROVERBIAL WISDOM FOR NOVEMBER

**Proverbs 21:30:** There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord.

**Proverbs 20:24:** A man's steps are directed by the Lord. How can anyone understand his own way.

---

---



### THE MINISTRY'S DAILY PRAYER LIST.

***Please pray daily with this ministry for:*** Margaret Lipani, Ed Messner, Joe Lakes, Ernie Carbone, the Stein family, the DeAngelo family, Richard Leland, Jonathan Baker, Andrea Arceneaux, Janet Neil, Cole Brant, Christine Palma, John Turk, Dorothy Leary, Gary Wade, Bob McCormick, Greg Achinko Sr, Joy Valeri, Terry Wade, Jimmy Palma, Joe Longo, Johanna Tyson, Greg Dubrois, Catrina Wilson, Marianne Wilson, Al Wilson, and Greg Achinko.

***Also a daily prayer for all the;*** sick, the poor, the homeless, the helpless, The hopeless, the lost souls, the persecuted, the hungry, the weary, the restless, the lame, the brokenhearted, the poor in spirit, the angry, the hatred, the violence, the wars, the selfishness, the greed, the corruption, etc.

---

---



**Happy Thanksgiving:** May the Lord richly bless you and your family this Thanksgiving. May we all open our minds and hearts to the less fortunate, with a spirit of kindness, love and generosity!! Well I would just like to say thank you and God bless all of you who read these inspired journals each month. May the Lord continue to shine His Divine Light on this ministry...Amen. If you are getting spiritually fed with these monthly journals, please email them to your family and friends. To contact this ministry go to [www.makethespiritualconnection.com](http://www.makethespiritualconnection.com)

