

## THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



### MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR FEBUARY 2012

**Luke 12: 35-37:** “Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamp burning, like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when He comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for Him.

## **PREPARING FOR HIS COMING**

*By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma*

All powerful, loving, merciful and gracious Father, may we all give You thanks, praise, and bless You Lord for being our Abba Father. Lord, thank You for always taking care of Your people through the bad times as well as the good. Father, may Your Guiding Light continue to show us Your Way through this world of sin and darkness. Lord, please continue to fill us up with Your Holy Spirit. Father, please continue to bless us with Your Divine Presence. Lord, I ask this prayer in the name of Your Son and our Savior Christ Jesus, *Hallelujah,.....Amen!!*

This month's inspired message is one of extreme and urgent importance!

Why is this inspired message one of extreme and urgent importance?

Reason being, it has to do with where we will spend our eternity.

The problem with God's Eternal plan is that, most people don't really get it? Either people think they know God, or they don't believe in God. Also, they think they have plenty of time to make peace with God. The real truth of the matter is that according to the Bible, as sinners, we do not have the luxury of time on our side. Before it's too late, we need to sincerely ask God to wash our sins away by the shed blood of His Son, Jesus Christ. Once we have sincerely confessed our sins to God, at that point we are no longer

accountable for our sins! The Lord says in **2 Corinthians 5:17**;

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!** In **Romans 6:6-7** God says; **For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should be no longer slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.**

By not being accountable for sin anymore, does not mean that we will not sin again or have the right to sin. It simply means that once we have sincerely repented of our sins, God will graciously forgive and sanctify us! After sanctification, God's Holy Spirit will come and dwell within our soul, to guide us and remind us when we fall short of His Grace.

God says in **1 John 2:1-2**; **But if anyone does sin, we have One who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the entire world.** In **1 Peter 2:24** it is also written; **He Himself bore our sins in His Body on the tree, so we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.**

Again, the key to going from sins darkness to God's Righteous Light, is through true repentance. Repentance means to experience sorrow for and seek to change wrong behavior. Wrong behavior translates into anything that takes the place of God's Will. The Bible tells us that in order to be eligible for " God's Eternal Salvation Plan," we must first have true repentance.

In **Mark 1:15** the Lord says: **"The time has come," He said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news.**

Also God says in **Job 11:14-15** **If you put away the sin that is in your hand and allow no evil to dwell in your tent, then you will lift up your face without shame; you will stand firm without fear.**

What is God's Eternal Salvation Plan, all about? It's all about God the Father's "great love for us." God acted in Christ to save us. This action is an expression of grace, appropriated through faith, and " not from ourselves. It is a gift from God! God's action in Christ, " made us alive," and even seated us..... in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus." As God's workmanship, we are now shaped to " do good works, which God has prepared in advance for us to do." Salvation then is God's work, by which He completely changes the moral condition of the believer, not only releasing him or her from sin and the prospect of facing Divine wrath, but even making the believer able to do truly good works. It is proper to speak of salvation as a present from God, an ongoing experience. Once we are truly saved, the risen Christ is actively at work in us through His Holy Spirit, delivering us from the grip of our sin nature and enabling us to be and do good! In **Corinthians 3:18** it is written: **And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.**

Finally, it is proper to speak of salvation as future hope. When Jesus returns, we will be perfected at last, with every hint of sin removed. The Lord speaks to us all about our future glory in **Romans 8:18-27**: **I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustrations, not by it's own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from it's bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.**

My brothers and sisters, don't make the fatal mistake of thinking that you have plenty of time to repent before the second coming of the Lord, (the end of time) According to the Bible, No one can predict by Scripture or science

the exact day of Jesus' return. Jesus is teaching us preparation, not calculation, is needed! God and His Word provide the only stability in our unstable world. How shortsighted people are who spend their time learning about this temporary world and accumulating its possessions, while neglecting the Bible and its eternal truths! Because the wicked in the world have no fear of God, nothing restrains them from sinning. They plunge ahead as if nothing will happen to them. But God is just and is only delaying their punishment. The truth that heaven and earth will disappear is all that much more believable in our age of nuclear power and terrorism. In the Bible Jesus also tells us, however, that even though the earth will pass away, the truth of His Words will never be changed or abolished! Amen.

Last thought! Please try and always remember that the rich and the poor have one similarity—when they die, they leave all they own here on earth. At that moment of death ( and all of us will face that moment ), both rich and poor are naked and empty-handed in front of God. The only riches that we have at that time are those we have already invested in our eternal heritage. At the time of death, each of us will wish we had invested less on earth, where we must leave it, and more in Heaven, where we will retain it forever and ever says the Lord, Amen!!!!

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## **JESUS CALLING**

*By Sarah Young*

**MAKE ME YOUR FOCAL POINT** as you move through this day. Just as a spinning ballerina must keep returning her eyes to a given point to maintain her balance, so you must keep returning your focus to Me. Circumstances are in flux, and the world seems to be whirling around you. The only way to keep your balance is to fix your eyes on Me, the One who never changes! If you gaze too long on your circumstances, you will become dizzy and confused. Look to Me always, for the proper balance needed in your life!!!

PROVERBIAL WISDOM FOR FEBRUARY 2012

**Proverbs 14:27:** The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death.

**Proverbs 14:31:** He who opposes the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

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**THE MINISTRY'S DAILY PRAYER LIST**

*Please join hands with this ministry for,* Rose Robinson, Jackie Parker, Denise Lathrop, Audrey Urban, Alisha Wade, Janelle Owens, Janine Smeltz, Greg Achinko Sr., Anne Marie Hess and family, Gary Wade and family, Patty Palma, Melissa Fennen, Joy Valerie, Catrina Wilson and family, Margaret Lipani, Ed Messner, Jonathan Baker and family, Joe Lakes, Andrea Arceneaux, Richard Leland, Janet Neil, Greg Achinko, Dorothy Leary Johanna Tyson, Greg Dubrois, Christine Palma and family, Cole Brant, Jimmy Palma and family, Tony Scarengelli, Clememt Listitski Sr.

*Also a daily prayer for all;* the sick, the poor, the homeless, the helpless, the hopeless, the lost souls, the hungry, the lame, the brokenhearted, the persecuted, the weary, the restless, the poor in spirit, the anger, the hatred, the violence, the wars, the selfish, the greed, the corruption, the failing economy, our dysfunctional government, etc.

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Well my brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ, it is my hope that this month's inspired message will help us to better understand the utter importance of repentance. Also, may this inspired message help us realize, that time is not on our sides when it comes to God's redemption. Further more, please try to understand, as the Bible teaches us, that only through God's sanctification from the shed blood of Jesus, can we be saved!!

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