

THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR APRIL 2013

John 15:18; If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first.

LOVE VERSES HATE
By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

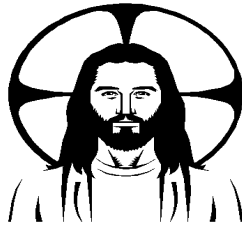
Almighty Father, Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit, I thank You, praise You and bless You Lord, for another inspired message this month. Father, You are always there for us in good times as well as bad. Lord, may we continue to grow in Your Wisdom to help us better understand Your Will. Father, please help us to stay in Your Infinite Presence. Lord, please keep us safe in Your Loving Arms. Father, may we all rejoice in Your unending Love, Grace and Mercy. Lord, please continue to guide and direct us through Your Holy Spirit. Lord may Your Everlasting Light continue to shine through the darkness of this sinful world. Father, I ask this prayer in Jesus name...Amen.

The Holy Spirit has touched my heart this month, to talk about love verses hate. Why do you think the Holy Spirit wants me to talk about love verses hate this month? I believe God is trying to make us more aware of the devastating impact that hate has on our world. Hate is to reject decisively or to have a strong negative emotional response or antagonism toward a person or thing. In our culture, hatred is perceived primarily as an emotion. However, in Scripture, the emphasis is often volition, the power of the will. As it's been said, one who hates decisively rejects something. Hate originated back in the beginning, in the Garden of Eden. The serpent hated God so much that he tricked Adam and Eve to eat the forbidden fruit. At that moment, sin had entered into our world and God's perfect creation had now become corrupted and subject to death. For just about every fatal crime committed, you will find it stems from some kind of hate. It seems that hate is everywhere we turn. It's in our homes, at our work places, our schools, our churches, our government, you name it and it is there. So, beings that hate appears to be everywhere, what, can we do as Christians to better cope with this fatal and infectious disease? First of all, let me make it clear, there is no silver bullet for this cure except for love. Love is fruitless without forgiveness and the only place to find forgiveness, is through the Lord Christ Jesus. The reason for the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, was to bring His Love and Peace into the world. You see, we all live in darkness from sin, and Jesus is the light of the world. Also, He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of

the world. Without the Light of God's Love in the world, this world would be in complete darkness! There would be no place to find God's Peace. So what does God say about love in the Bible? Jesus said in **John 13:34-35**; **"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have Loved you, so must you Love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.** In this Scripture Jesus does not ask us to love one another, but **commands us to love one another!** When God commands us to do something, it is the best thing for us to do period. God always knows what is best for us because He is infallible. In **Romans 12:9-10** Jesus 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.** In this Scripture Jesus tells us we must be sincere. The reason God asked us to be sincere, is because the world is hurting for sincerity. Instead of sincerity, it is filled with lies and deceptions. These same deceptions and lies, are the devil's greatest weapons! As I spoke about in the beginning, hatred originally came from the king of darkness, Satan! This Scripture also tells us to be devoted to one another in brotherly love. When we display sincere brotherly love for one another, we insulate ourselves from hatred. When we insulate ourselves from hate, we will find God's Peace. Jesus said in **1 John 2:10**; **Whoever loves his brother lives in the Light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble.** When God talks about whoever loves his brother lives in the Light. The Light represents what is good, pure, true, holy and reliable. On the other side, darkness represents what is sinful and evil. When we follow God's Will, we are living in God's Light. God's Light means that God is perfectly Holy and true, and that God alone can guide us out of the darkness of sin. Also, the Lord says in **1 John 4:7-8**; **Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.** Try to remember that real love is an action, not a feeling. It produces selfless, sacrificial giving. The greatest act of love is giving oneself for others. Christianity is a religion of the heart; outward compliance alone is not enough. Hatred, against someone who has wrong us at one time or another, is like a cancer living within us that will eventually destroy us. Try not to let any bitter roots of hate, grow within your heart. Also, in order to help alleviate a bitter root of hatred in our heart, Jesus tells us in **Hebrews 12:14** **Make every effort to live in peace with all men and be holy; without holiness no one will see God.** God tells us in this scripture, that we must make every effort to maintain peace with all of His people. Peace can only be found through love and without love there is no holiness!!

So my brothers and sisters in the Lord Christ Jesus, it is my hope that this inspired message this month, will help us to be more aware of any hatred in our hearts for one another. As the Bible teaches us to be more loving to our brothers, God commands us to love! When God commands us to love one another, we are without excuse for our actions. When we lack love for one another, we are rebelling against God's Will. All who knowingly rebel against God's Will, will eventually self destruct!!!

Let us pray; Almighty Father, may we all have more awareness through Your Holy Spirit, of the sin a hate. Lord God, teach us to be more loving to one another. Father, help us to be a part of the solution and not part of the problem. Lord, may Your Holy Spirit remind us when we are not loving and kind to our brothers. Father, when the devil comes knocking at our doors with his hateful ways, may Your Armor of Righteousness be wrapped tightly around us. Father, I ask this prayer in Jesus name.....Amen.



Jesus Calling
By Sarah Young

YOU ARE FEELING WEIGHED DOWN by a plethora of problems, both big and small. They seem to require more and more of your attention, but you must not give in to those demands. When the difficulties in your life feel as if they are closing in on you, break free by spending quality time with Me. You need to remember who I Am in all My Power and Glory. Then, humbly bring Me your prayers and petitions. Your problems will pale when you view them in the Light of My Presence. You can learn to be joyful in Me, your Savior, even in the midst of adverse circumstances. Rely on Me your Strength; I make your feet like the feet of a deer, enabling you to go on.

Exodus 3:14 Habakkuk 3:17-19

PROVERBAL WISDOM FOR APRIL 2013

Proverbs 17:4; A wicked man listens to evil lips; a liar pays attention to a malicious tongue.

Proverbs 17:5; He who mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished.



THE MINISTRY'S DAILY PRAYER LIST

Please join hands with this ministry and pray for; Mary Pierantozzi, Jonathan Baker and family, Christine Palma, Sal Talama, Edward Young, Anne Marie Hess, Bill Schlupp, Janelle Owens, Denise Lathrop, Anne Palma and Family, Al Wilson and Family, Joy Valerie, Patty Palma, Dennis Wilkinson, Ira Jones, Joe Lakes, John Aquilino, Scott Saline.

Also a prayer for; the sick, the poor, the homeless, the helpless, the hopeless, the lost souls, the poor in spirit, the persecuted, the hungry, the broken hearted, the lame, the godless, the weary, the anger, the hatred, the violence, the wars, the unrest, the greed, the corruption, the prideful, the fornications, the selfishness, etc.

24 hour prayer encouragement line. Call 1800 939-5825

For additional journals from the past, inspirational videos, study tools, prayer request and more, go to: www.makethespiritualconnection.com
