

## THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



## MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR MARCH 2014

**Proverbs 19:17; He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done.**

## **CHARITY UNTO THE LORD!**

*By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma*

Abba Father, Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, may we thank You, praise You, bless You, and love You Lord, for being our A to Z, our Alpha and Omega. Father, please continue to fill us up with Your Holy Spirit.

Lord Jesus, may we continue to thank You, for being our Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Also, Lord Jesus, thank You for Your Gift of Eternal Salvation. Father, please fill us up with Your Joy and Thankfulness. Lord, please give us more strength and endurance, to run the race set before us. Father, please help us to live for You, and You alone. Father I ask this prayer in Jesus Name, Hallelujah.....Amen.

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This month, the Holy Spirit has touched my heart to talk about charity. What does charity mean? Charity in a general sense means the voluntary giving of help, typically in the form of money to those in need. In **Matthew 25: 31-46**, God tells us that He will separate His obedient followers from pretenders and unbelievers. The real evidence of our belief is the way we act, and the fruit on our tree. To have no fruit on our tree when it comes to loving and caring for our less fortunate brothers and sisters, is not Christ like. To treat all people we encounter as if they are Jesus, is no easy task. What we do for others demonstrates what we really think of Jesus' words to us—feed the hungry, give to the homeless a place to stay, look after the sick. How well do your actions separate you from pretenders and unbelievers? Jesus used sheep and goats to picture the division between believers and unbelievers. Sheep and goats often grazed together but were separated when it came time to shear the sheep. **Matthew 25:32** tells us that; **All nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.** This parable describes acts of mercy we all can do everyday. These acts do not depend exclusively on wealth, ability, or intelligence; they are acts of freely given and freely received. We have no excuse for those who have deep needs, for we can't always hand this responsibility to the church or the government! Jesus demands our personal involvement in caring for others needs. The Bible often speaks of God's care for the weak, poor, and the needy. And His blessings for those who share in this concern. God wants our generosity to reflect His own free giving. As He has blessed us, we should bless others.

In **2 Corinthians 9:6** God says; **Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will reap generously.** People in general, may hesitate to give generously to God if they worry about having enough money to meet their own needs. A person who gives only a little, according to God's Will, will receive only a little. This apprehension of not having enough to meet your own need is due to our lack of faith! A giving attitude from the heart is more important than the amount given! The person, who can only give a small gift, shouldn't be embarrassed. God is concerned about how a person gives from his or her resources. Also it is written in **2 Corinthians 9:7** that; **Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.** God Himself is a cheerful giver. Consider all that the Lord has done for all of us sinners. God is well pleased when we who are created in His Image give generously and joyfully. Take a moment out, and ask yourself this question: Do I have a difficult time letting go of my money? I believe that we all have a hard time letting go with our money from time to time! It's funny and sad at the same time, when we actually believe in our selfish minds, that it's really our money, when in fact it belongs to God. Everything that we see, touch, hear, and so on, belongs to the Lord! On the other hand, most people living in a secular world, believe that everything they possess, belongs to them. This kind of thinking is selfish and according to God's Word, it is sinful.

In **Proverbs 11:24-25** God said; **One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.**

The world says to hold on to as much as possible, but God blesses those who give freely of their possessions, time, and energy. When we give, God supplies us with more so that we can give more. In addition, giving helps us gain the right perspective on our possessions. We start to realize, they are really not ours to begin with, but they were given to us by God to be used to help others who are less fortunate than ourselves. What do we gain from giving? We can gain for ourselves, freedom from enslavement from our possessions, the personal joy of helping others, and God's approval for our generous giving and obedience to His Will.

Last but not least; God says in **Proverbs 19:17**; **He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done.**

So my brothers and sisters in the Lord, as our Creator, God values all of us, whether we are poor or rich. When we help the poor, we honor both Creator and His Creation. God accepts our help as if we had offered it directly to Him!!

Let us pray: Heavenly Father, Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, I pray that Your Spirit fills the minds and hearts of Your people, with an renewed sense of giving. Father, may we gladly give to the poor, and the needy with a cheerful heart; and not under compulsion. Lord please help us to see our selfishness for ourselves, but not for others. I ask this in Jesus Name, Amen.

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**JESUS LIVES**

*By Sarah Young*

**THANKFULNESS**

A THANKFUL ATTITUDE OPENS THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN THROUGH WHICH SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS FALL FREELY.

All that is required to rain those blessings on you is your gratitude!

It seems such a simple choice; yet we all stumble over it almost every day of our lives. God says, let Me help you become more grateful so you can receive bountiful blessings through those openings into eternity.

As you go about your day, keep these things in mind: Throughout the Bible I repeatedly command thankfulness because it is vital to your well-being. It is also crucial for a healthful relationship with Me, since I am your Creator, your Savior, your King. When you thank Me, you acknowledge how much I have done for you. This attitude brings Joy both to you and to Me.

Giving thanks is similar to priming a pump with water so that it will produce more water. Since thankfulness is one of the spiritual blessings I bestow on you, it will increase along with the others when you “prime” Me with thanksgiving. Remember that I am the God of all grace. When you fail in your endeavor to be thankful, simply ask Me for forgiveness!

**PROVERBIAL WISDOM FOR MARCH 2014.**

**Proverbs 3:33; The Lord's curse is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the righteous.**

**Proverbs 28:27; He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses.**

**Proverbs 29:7; The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.**

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**THE MINISTRY'S DAILY PRAYER LIST.**

*Please join us in prayer at this time for;* Janet Young, Anne Marie Hess, Janet Smeltz, Jonathan Baker, Brad McNamara, Janelle Owens, Paige Parker Kevin Palma, Joe Lakes, Michael Santarpio, Ira Jones, Warren Wisdom.

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If you have a family member or friend, that are in need of prayer at this time, you can e-mail us at; [ministry8246@comcast.net](mailto:ministry8246@comcast.net) with the name or names of whoever is in need of prayer.

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Also, you can find us on **FACEBOOK** or **PINTEREST @ Dennis Palma**. Furthermore you can find us on **TWITTER @ Minister\_Dennis**

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**Until next month's Spiritual Connections Journal, may God richly bless you and your family, with His unending Love, Grace, and Mercy!**

