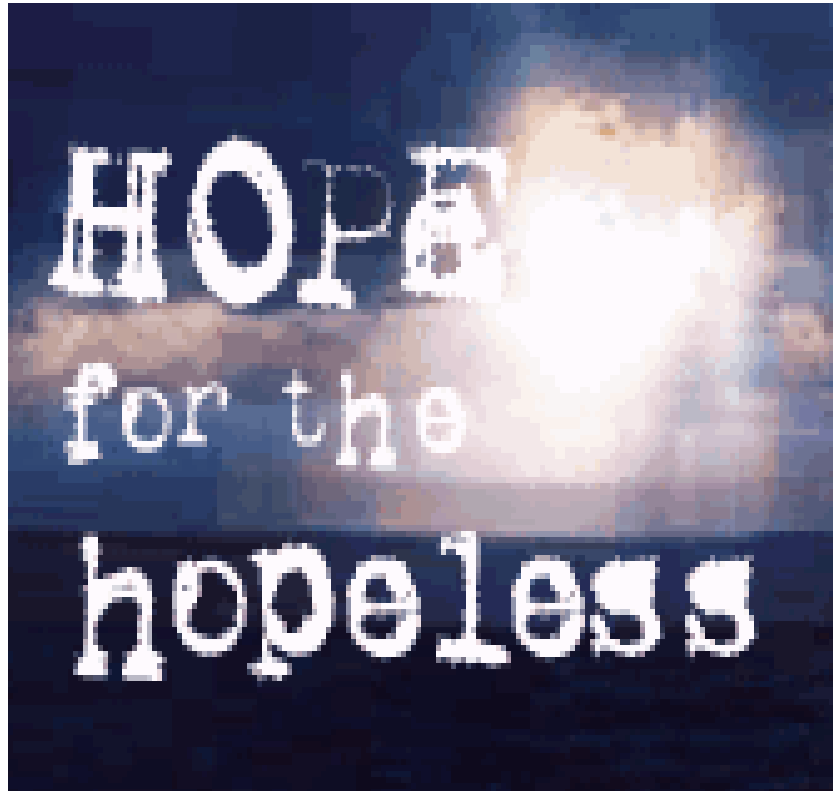


THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR MAY 2015

Psalm 31:24; [Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.](#)

HOPEFUL IN A HOPELESS WORLD

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

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Hello again my brothers and sister, welcome to the Spiritual Connection's monthly inspired journal for May 2015. This month's inspired message has to do with feeling hopeful, in a hopeless world. Why is the world so dark and hopeless? The reason why we live in a dark and hopeless world is because of sin! Sin is the reason why we all live in a fallen world! It's fallen and broken because of our original parents, Adam and Eve! The story about Adam and Eve's fall from grace, in the Garden of Eden, has been a topic for debate, throughout history. Most Christians know and believe that original sin was first introduced to man through Adam and Eve's rebellion against the will of God. The serpent first tempted Eve who in turn tempted Adam to eat the forbidden fruit. At that moment, they both became naked, stripped of all the blessings God had in store for them. **(See Genesis Chapter 3, for more information about the fall of man!)** However, because we are descendents of Adam and Eve, the Bible tells us that we all inherited original sin and are subject to death. Adam and Eve, our first ancestors, were the highlight of God's creation---- the very reason why God made the world! Sin can sometimes lead to hopelessness and despair. There is only a fine line that separates hope from hopelessness! True hope can only be found and sustained, by renewing our minds daily and by putting our faith in God!! In **1 Peter 1:21** the Lord said; **Through Him you believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and glorified Him, and so your faith and hope are in God.** Also in **1 Peter 1:3** God says; **Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.** We should all give God thanks that Christ's sacrifice for our sins was not an afterthought; not something God decided to do when the world spun out of control. This plan was set in motion by the all-knowing eternal God, long before the world was created! Jesus Christ is our only eternal hope for tomorrow! He prepares our minds, for His return to Glory through His Holy Spirit. The Lord says in **1 Peter 1:13**; **Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self controlled; set your hope fully to the grace to be given when Jesus Christ is revealed.** The imminent return of Christ Jesus should bring us hope and peace from within; knowing that His return for His people was predestined. This should be our real hope in this hopeless world!

His imminent return should motivate us to live for Him and Him alone! This means, be mentally alert (“prepare your minds for action”), disciplined (“self--controlled”), and focused (“set your hope fully”) on the Lord. As Christians living in a hopeless world, without the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, it is real easy to fall prey to the darkness of this broken world. We only need one or two things to go wrong, and the mind starts to spin. If we don’t immediately call on God’s Holy Spirit to put these idle thoughts to rest quickly, they can start to snowball out of control! Once these thoughts start to snowball out of control, there is no telling what or where these evil thoughts can lead too. However, God tells us to find **rest** in Him alone! Also, any **hope** we might have, comes from His Holy Spirit! **Rest** and **hope** make a wonderful combination. If we have faith, we will be able to find plenty of both in the Lord. Some people search for the best bed and pillow—or even sleeping pills—in their quest for deep sleep, but only God can supply what we really need. When we rest trustingly in His Holy Presence, not only will He refresh us, but He will fill us up with His Hope. God’s Hope, can make the difference between choosing life, or choosing death! Prisoners of war who stop hoping are much less likely to survive. The same is true of people who are battling life-threatening illnesses. So it is very important, to continually nurture well God’s precious Hope each day for our lives. In order to survive, we must put our hope ultimately in Christ Jesus! Circumstances change all the time, but God tells us in **Psalm 62:5-6** to; **Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will not be shaken.** My friends, if you ever feel hopeless, and want to feel hopeful again, you must pray and express your true feelings to God! When we sincerely pray, this releases hopelessness, worry, and tension, in times of emotional stress! Trust God to be your rock, salvation, and fortress; this will change your entire outlook on life. No longer will you be held captive to the devils lies. You see, Satan, is the evil voice in our heads that continues his lies and attacks our weaknesses! He uses the 5 D system, distractions, deception, discouragement, despair, and depression! If we don’t put the devils distractions, deception, discouragement, despair and depression quickly in check, they will blind us of God’s eternal truths! Furthermore, God is always waiting patiently for us to call upon His saving Grace. If we do not call upon the Lord’s Grace when adversity strikes, the devil can and will, keep the pressure on us, causing our minds to spin out of control! Once the big 5 D’s take control of our minds, darkness and hopelessness is our only option! So my brothers and sisters, if you ever feel yourself overwhelmed with life, and feel you have no relief in sight, there is always hope in the Lord!

When we are resting in God's Strength, nothing can shake us. Always try and remember, if there is hope in the Lord, there can never be hopelessness!! Let us pray: Heavenly Father, Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, we come to you with thanks and praise for this inspired message of our Hope in You. Lord Jesus may Your Holy Spirit guides us, direct us, and protect us from all the evil in this dark and fallen world. Father, please help us to stay vigilant from the snares of the evil forces of this fallen world. Father God, please give us the grace to maintain the strength and fortitude needed to survive each day. Lord, please never leave us or forsake us, or give us more than we can handle. Father I ask all this in the name of our Savior and Lord, Christ Jesus....Hallelujah.....Amen!!

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HOPE
By Sarah Young

THOUGH DIFFICULTIES ABOUND IN THIS WORLD, REJOICE THAT I AM ALWAYS PRESENT WITH YOU! I can enable you to cope with any and all circumstances, strengthening as you look trustingly to Me. No matter how hopeless your situation may seem, I assure you that all things are possible with Me. I am the Truth, and therefore I am true to all My promises. They will provide a rock solid foundation on which you can live and move and have your being. Since I am the living Word, affirming your trust in My promises, is an excellent way to draw near Me. As you bask in the beauty of My Holy Presence, you might find yourself wanting to praise Me! Do not restrain that holy impulse; instead give it voice. While you are worshiping Me, new hope will grow within you!! See **Psalm 42:5**

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A SPIRITUAL THOUGHT

The Holy Bible tells us in **Psalm 42:5; Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God.** Depression is one of the most common emotional ailments. One antidote for depression is to meditate on the record of God's goodness to His people. This will take your mind off of the present situation, and give you God's Hope that it will improve! It will help focus your thoughts on God's ability to help you in time of need, rather than your inability to help yourself! When you feel depressed and hopeless, pray and ask God to help you to deal with your moment of depression!!

SPIRITUAL WISDOM

Proverbs 24:28: Do not testify against your neighbor without cause, or use your lips to deceive.

Proverbs 22:22: Do not exploit the poor because they are poor and do not crush the needy in court, for the Lord will take up their case and will plunder those who plunder them.

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SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

John 15:5-7: “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, and thrown in the fire and burned. If you remain in Me and My Words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given to you.

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THE MINISTRY PRAYER LIST

Please pray for: Tony Fennen, Yolanda Corso, Gene Ruggiero, Joe Lake, Natalie Lott, Paige Parker, Tom Mesick, Taylor Hydman, Marie Barros, Jonathan Baker and Family, Mariane Wilson and Family, Anne Marie Hess, Russ Holman, Janelle Owens, Isaac Strong, Janet Young, Warren Wisdom, Anna Marie Croce, Seth Lutz, Patricia Palma, Michael Santarpio.

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Well my brothers and sisters in the Lord Christ Jesus, it is my hope that you have enjoyed this month’s inspired message. I thank You Lord Jesus, for the privilege and blessing you have bestowed upon this ministry, to share this month’s inspired message, **Hopeful in a Hopeless World!!**

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Website is: www.makethespiritualconnection.com [[USE BING SEARCH ENGINE FOR DIRECT ACCESS TO THE SITE!!]]

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