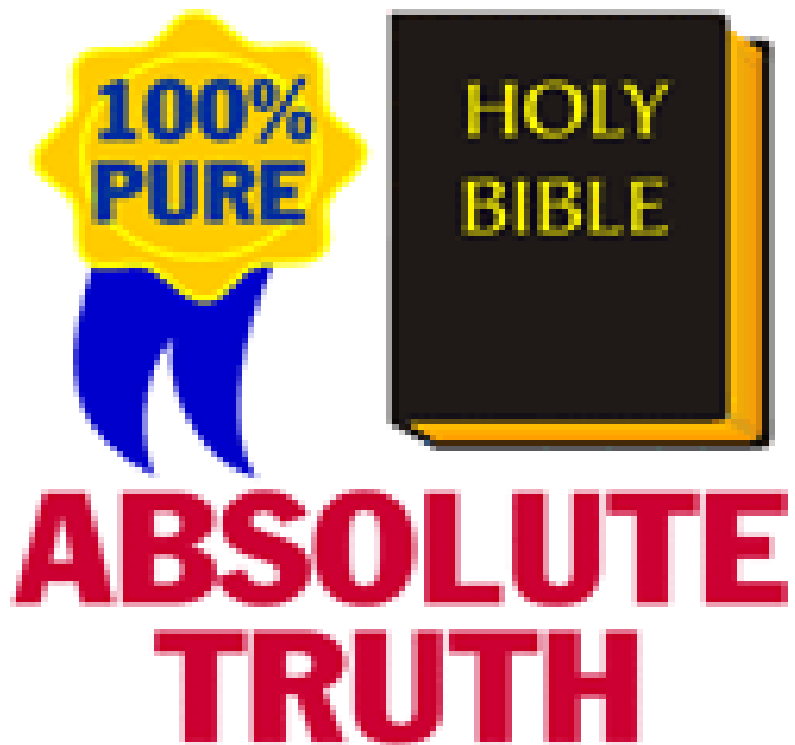


## THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTION



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR JUNE 2015

**Proverbs 3:5-6; Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.**

## **ETERNAL SALVATION**

*By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma*

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Hello again my brothers and sisters in the Lord, welcome to the Spiritual Connection's monthly inspired Journal for June 2015. This month's inspired message has to do with Eternal Salvation, according to the Word of the Lord. This absolute truth can only be found in one place, and that place is God's Holy Bible! According to the Bible, there are 5 things that must happen before God's Gift of Eternal Salvation can be completed.

( 1 ) We must be **Born Again!** Born again literally means, to be born from above! It refers to God's giving of eternal life to all who truly believes in Christ Jesus. God tells us in **Titus 3:5-7** that; **He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and the renewal of the Holy Spirit, who He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having being justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.** When we are born again in Christ, we move from a life full of sin, to one where we are led by God's Holy Spirit. All our sins, not merely some, are washed away! Washing refers to the water of baptism, which is a sign of salvation. In becoming a Christian, the believer acknowledges Christ as Lord and recognizing Christ's saving work. We then gain eternal life with all its treasures. We have renewal by the Holy Spirit, and He continually renews our hearts daily. None of this occurs because we earned or deserve it; it is all God's free Gift!

( 2 ) We must be **Justified!** The Lord tells us in **Romans 3:23-24** that: **for all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God, and are justified freely by His Grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.** God declares righteous all those who believe in Jesus. He acquits us and pronounces a verdict of not guilty! When a Judge in a court of law declares the defendant not guilty, all the charges are removed from his record! When God forgives our sins, our record is also wiped clean. However, from God's perspective, it's as though we had never sinned!

( 3 ) We must be **Reconciled!** For the one who believes in Jesus, the alienation, and estrangement that formally existed between oneself and God is eradicated! The Lord tells us in **2 Corinthians 5:17-19** that; **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ**

**and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation.**

Once we are reconciled with God, we become brand-new people from the inside out! The Holy Spirit gives us a new life, from that point on. We are not the same anymore! We are not reformed, rehabilitated, or reeducated, we are recreated (new creations), living in vital union with Christ (**Colossians 2:6,7**).

At conversion we are not merely turning over a new leaf; we are beginning a new life under a new Master! Not only are we as believers changed from within, but a whole new order of created energy began with Christ. There is a new covenant, a new perspective, a new body, a new church. All of creation is being renewed. So take notice! This is not some superficial change that will be quickly superseded by another novelty. This is an entirely new order of all creation under Christ authority. It requires a new way of looking at all people and all creation!

( 4 ) We must be **Forgiven!** The Lord said in (**Hebrews 10:17**) that;

**“Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.”** This is forgiveness. God says that He will never again remember our sins again! Christ Jesus forgives completely, so there is no need to confess our past sins repeatedly! Once we are Born Again in the Holy Spirit, as believers, we can be confident that the sins we confess and renounce are truly forgiven, and forgotten! This does not mean from time to time if we sin, that our sins will not be forgiven or forgotten. It simply means that we live in a fallen world, and we are going to sin from time to time! The difference when we sin now, instead of asking God for forgiveness, we ask God's Holy Spirit to help us to resist whatever sin we may be struggling with at that time. Last but not least!

( 5 ) We must be **Adopted!** After believers are spiritually converted from the darkness of sin, to God's Eternal Light, at that point we are adopted into God's forever family. God tells us in **Romans 8:13-14** that; **For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.** As broken Christians, we may not always feel as though we belong to God, however, the Holy Spirit is our witness that we do belong to Christ and Christ alone! His inward presence reminds us of who we are and encourages us with God's love. We are no longer cringing and fearful slaves; instead we are the Master's children, sharing in great treasures as coheirs. God has already given us His best gifts: His Son, His Holy Spirit, forgiveness and eternal life; and He encourages us, to ask Him for whatever we need, whenever we need it!

In closing, there is one last point I would like to make! Because this subject is so important, again my friends I will repeat. According to God's Word, not mans, if we ever want to look forward to sharing eternal salvation with the Lord, we **must be born again!** Going to church every day or once a week, receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion regular, taking care of the poor and the sick, professing your faith to non believers, helping with the duties of the church, donating money to the church or organized charitable organizations, and so on, are meaningless unless we are born again of the Holy Spirit first.

According to God's Holy Bible, it is written in the book of **John 3:1-7** that; Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know You are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing, if God were not with Him. In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is born again. How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus ask. "Surely he can not enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no man can enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of the water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to the spirit. You should not be surprised at Me saying, 'You must be born again.'

Let us pray! Father God, may we give You thanks, praise, and bless You Lord, for this month's message of hope for eternal salvation. Lord Jesus, thank you always for Your Death on the Cross for our sins and Your free Gift of Eternal Salvation. Lord, may Your Holy Spirit continue to guide us, direct us, and protect us, till You return Lord Jesus. Lord Jesus, thank You for Your Holy Spirit's Indwelling and full Armor of Righteousness. Father, may we continue to thank You, praise You and bless You in Jesus name!!

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### **A SPIRITUAL THOUGHT**

The Holy Bible tells us in **Psalms 18:30** that; As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in Him. My brothers and sisters in the Lord, some people think that belief in God is a crutch for weak people who cannot make it on their own. God indeed is a shield to protect us when we are too weak to face trials by ourselves, but He does not want us to remain weak.

He strengthens, protects, and guides in order to send us back into an evil world to fight for Him. Then He continues to work with us because the strongest person on earth is infinitely weaker than God and needs His help!

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### SPIRITUAL WISDOM

**Proverbs 5:22-23:** The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnares him; the cords of his sin hold him fast. He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly.

**Proverbs 6:16-19:** There are six things the Lord hates, seven of them are detestable to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.

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### SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH

**John 15:18-19:** “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

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### THE MINISTRY PRAYER LIST

**Please pray for:** Elena Logan, Michael Santarpio, Seth Lutz, Patricia Palma Anna Marie Croce, Warren Wisdom, Janet Young, Isaac Strong, Joe Lakes, Russ Holman, Janelle Owens, Anne Marie Hess, Natalie Lott, Mariane Wilson and Family, Jonathan Baker and Family, Marie Barros, Taylor Hydman, Tom Messick, Page Parker, Yolanda Corso.

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Web site: [makethespiritualconnection.com](http://makethespiritualconnection.com) [[ For direct access to the web-site, go to Bing Search! Please note, monthly Journals are updated each month! Well my friends, it is my hope that this month's inspired message is helpful in better understanding what Eternal Salvations is all about! If you like it, please pass in on to family and friends.

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