

THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS



MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR OCTOBER 2016

Psalm 145:20; The Lord watches over all who love Him, but all the wicked He will destroy.

A LOVING GOD

By Evangelist Dennis A. Palma

Hello again my brothers and sisters in the Lord Christ Jesus; welcome to the Spiritual Connections monthly Inspired Journal for October 2016. This month's inspired message has to do with **Our Loving God**. My friends, it is written in **John 14:21** that; **“Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him.”**

When we become born again Christians, we receive the Holy Spirit! God's Holy Spirit in our lives is proof that we really belong to Him. He also gives us the power to love. Rely on that power as you reach out to others. As you do so, you will gain confidence. God's love is the source of all human love, and it spreads like fire. In loving His children, God kindles a flame in their hearts. In turn, they love others, who are warmed by God's love through them. It is easy to say that we love God when that love doesn't cost us anything more than weekly attendance at religious services. But the real test of our love for God, is how we treat the people right in front of us-- our family members and fellow believers. We cannot truly love God while neglecting to love those who are created in His image. When we become born again, we become part of God's family, with fellow believers as our brothers and sisters. It is God who determines who the other family members are, not us. We are simply called to accept and love them. Ask yourself this question, how do we treat our fellow family members? Jesus never promised that loving and obeying Him would be easy. But the hard work and self-discipline of serving Christ is no burden to those who love Him. And if our load starts to feel heavy, we can always trust Christ to help us bear it.

God tells us in **Matthew 11:28-30** to; **Come to Me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your soul. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.**

A yoke is a heavy wooden harness that fits over the shoulder of an ox or oxen. It is attached to a piece of equipment the oxen are to pull.

A person maybe carrying heavy burdens of, (1) sin, (2) excessive demands of religious leaders, (3) oppression and persecution, (4) weariness in the search for God. Jesus frees people from all these burdens. The rest that Jesus promises is love, healing, and peace with God. However, it is not the end to all labor. A loving, personal, and sincere relationship with God changes meaningless, wearisome toil into spiritual productivity and purpose.

The yoke emphasizes the challenges, work, and difficulties of partnering with Jesus Christ in life. Responsibilities weigh us down, even the effort of staying true to God. However, because Jesus loves us so much, His yoke remains easy compared to the crushing alternative. Please note that, Jesus doesn't offer us a life of luxurious ease--the yoke is still an oxen's tool for working hard. But it's a shared yoke, with weight falling on bigger shoulders than yours. Someone with more pulling power is up front helping!

Suddenly you are participating with life's burdens and responsibilities with the greatest Power in the Universe. And that Power is Jesus Christ the Savior of the world! This came to be because of God's unbelievable love for us.

The Bible tells us in **John 3:16** that; **"For God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.**

My friends, the entire Gospel comes to a focus in this verse. God's love is not static or self centered; it reaches out and draws others in. Here God sets the pattern of true love, the basis for all love relationships--when you love someone dearly you are willing to give freely to the point of self sacrifice. God paid dearly with the life of His Son, the highest price you could pay. Jesus accepted our punishment, paid the price for our sins, and then offered us the new life that He had bought for us with His Blood. When we share the gospel with others, our love must be like Jesus'—willing to give up our comfort and security so that others might join us in receiving God's love for us. Some people are repulsed by the idea of eternal life because their lives are miserable. But eternal life is not an extension of a person's miserable, moral life; eternal life is God's life embodied in Christ given to all believers now as a guarantee that they will live forever. In eternal life according to God's Word, there will be no more death, sickness, enemy, evil or sin. When we don't know Christ, we make choices as though this life is all we have. In reality, this life is just an introduction to eternity with God. Receive this new life by faith in Christ, and begin to evaluate all that happens from an eternal perspective.

For more of Gods love for all those who believe in Him, it is written in **John 15:12** that, **My command is this: love each other as I have loved you.**

We are to love each other as Jesus loved us and He loved us enough to give His life for us. We may not have to die for someone, but there are other ways to practice sacrificial love: listening, helping, encouraging, and giving. Think of someone in particular who needs this kind of love today. Give all the love you have, and then try and give a little more!! So my brothers and sisters in the Lord, because Jesus Christ is Lord and Master, He should call us servants; instead He calls us friends. How comforting and reassuring to be chosen as Christ friend. Because He is Lord and Master, we owe Him our

unqualified obedience, but most of all, Jesus ask us to obey Him because we love Him. Amen!! Let us pray: Heavenly Father, Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, Father we thank You, praise You, and love you for all You have done for those who love You. May Your Holy Spirit's Indwelling help us stay in Your Holy Presence. Lord, when our faith starts to falter from living in this falling world, may Your Grace see us through the darkness. Father God, may Your Holy Spirit cover us and protect us with Your full Armor of Righteousness from Satan, and his demons. Lord, please never leave us or forsake us. Father, please never give us more than we can handle. May Your Love, Grace, and Mercy always be with Your people. I ask this prayer in the name of our King and Savior of the world, **Christ Jesus**, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.....Amen!!!!!!

HEAVEN

By Sarah Young

MY KINGDOM CANNOT BE SHAKEN! This present world seems to be shaking more and more, leaving us unbalanced much of the time. As you worship Me however, your perspective changes and you regain your balance. To worship Me acceptably, with reverence and awe, thankfulness is essential. I designed you to be thankful on a daily, day by day basis. You need to resist the temptation to grumble when things don't go the way you like. Remember that I, Your God, am a consuming fire. If you see Me in all My Glory, you would be much too awestruck to venture even the tiniest complaint. My unshakable kingdom is for all people who love Me, who know Me as Savior. This everlasting kingdom, consist of things that no eye has ever seen, no ear has never heard, no mind has ever conceived. I have prepared infinite, wonderful delights for those who love Me. Moreover, at the end of this age I will come back and take you with Me so that you will be where I am. Let these precious promises ignite your thankfulness, till you are aglow with My living Presence-----shining brightly in this dark and fallen world! For further study see: **Hebrews 12:28-29; 1 Corinthians 2:9; John 14:3.**

A SPIRITUAL THOUGHT: Proverbs 13:24 tells us; **[[He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.]]** It is not easy for a loving parent to discipline a child, but it is necessary. The greatest responsibility that God gives parents is the nurture and guidance of their children. Lack of discipline puts parents love

in question because it shows a lack of concern for the character development of their children. Disciplining children can avert long range disasters. Without correction, children grow up with no clear understanding of right and wrong and with little direction in their lives. Don't be afraid to discipline your children, it is an act of true love! When in doubt: (Pray to the Holy Spirit for parental guidance.)

PROVERBIAL WISDOM

Proverbs 3:11; My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline and do not resist His rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those He loves, as a father the son He delights in.

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

Proverbs 11:5; The righteousness of the blameless makes a straight way for them, but the wicked are brought down by their own wickedness.

THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTION'S DAILY PRAYER LIST

Please pray with this ministry for: Diana Mattia, Greg Achinko Sr, Maggio, Elena Logan, Jeff Ron, Rob Lynn, Michael Santarpio Theresa Wade, Zach, Warren Wisdom, Janet Young, Joe Lakes, Janelle Owens, Anne Marie Hess, Natalie Lott, Marianne Wilson, Jonathan Baker, Paige Parker and Family, Russ Holman. Kevin Palma. Larry Tautman, Cindy Heinz Kickligther, Vera, Bill Lang, Joyce Villa Maggio, Mary Ann Fernandez, George Duetch. If you have someone that is in need of prayer at this time go to the Spiritual Connection's website at: **makethespiritualconnection.com**

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Well my friends, it is my hope that this month's inspired message will help you to better understand what God's Will is all about. If you like this month's message, please pass it on to your family and friends!! Until next month's inspired message with God's help, may the good Lord, richly bless you and your family...Hallelujah...Amen!!

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