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Weekly Encourager - 17 May 2020

SCRIPTURAL ADVICE, HELP AND INSIGHT ON HOW TO TRUST THE LORD JESUS CHRIST TO DEFEAT SCHIZOPHRENIA FROM JAMES STACEY NOW CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF FREEDOM FROM THE DEMONIC BONDAGE AND OVER 32 YEARS OFF ALL ANTI-PSYCHOTIC MEDICATION

DECLARING WITHOUT A SHADOW OF DOUBT WHY A CHRISTIAN IS MORE EQUIPPED THAN A NON-CHRISTIAN IN BEING ABLE TO DEFEAT SCHIZOPHRENIA

“You Will Know The Truth, And The Truth Will Set You Free”. John’s Gospel 8:32

John’s Gospel Chapter 8: verses 30-38. As He was saying these things, many believed in Him. So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, “If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” “We are descendants of Abraham,” they answered Him, and we have never been enslaved to anyone. How can You say, ‘You will become free?’” Jesus responded, “I assure you: Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. A slave does not remain in the household forever, but a son does remain forever. Therefore if the Son sets you free, you really will be free. I know you are descendants of Abraham, but you are trying to kill Me because My word is not welcome among you. I speak what I have seen in the presence of the Father, and therefore you do what you have heard from your father.”



Way back in 1971 in a sermon I was preaching on the real freedom that the Lord Jesus Christ brings – at a time I was fighting the formative years of a 26-year-long bondage of schizophrenia – I opened up with this interesting question. “Is the non-Christian as free as the Christian? Is the man with the happy-go-lucky approach to life less free than the man who follows hard after Christ? Does receiving Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord really make a man absolutely free indeed, as the Bible declares, or was the man right who when asked if he would like to become a Christian, replied: “I’m sorry, I have enough problems already.”

No, I continued to declare, the non-Christian is not as free as the Christian! The reason I was so sure in my statement came from a personal acquaintance of receiving the Lord Jesus Christ by faith 16 years earlier as a boy of 14. Though I began to struggle with the dawning of schizophrenia eight years later, and battled more than a third of a lifetime to get free, this underlining truth never left me from the lips of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself: **“If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”**

Basically, there is only one major consideration to be taken into account when explaining why a Christian is without a shadow of doubt more equipped than a non-Christian in being able to defeat schizophrenia and it is this

A Christian has a living relationship with God through the power of the blood of His Son, Jesus Christ shed to redeem mankind from the power and penalty of sin on the Cross at Calvary outside Jerusalem over 2000 years ago. Through knowing Jesus Christ as a personal Saviour and Lord, he/she have the abiding presence of the power of the Holy Spirit, who is sufficient to defeat the demonic, evil presence of schizophrenia resident in a person’s life. A non-Christian

who is without the presence of the Holy Spirit in their life is powerless to overcome the bondage of schizophrenia in their own strength and has nothing effective to fight with.

We publish below a message from the Weekly Encourager of 6 March 2011 – Boldly Pleading The Blood of Jesus Hastens the Defeat of Schizophrenia – to underline how precious you are to Jesus Christ and how powerful is the working of His shed blood TODAY in shattering into total defeat the hold schizophrenia has over your life.

Remind yourself today that the defeat of schizophrenia will not happen through the following of a drug regime or resting in any confidence put in a psychiatrist, but through the power of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Physician.

Nobody else will ever get as desperate as you are to be set free of this monster of psychotic bondages – so hold fast to the truth that Jesus alone holds the keys for the great deliverance and healing being pursued in your life.

Living hope to defeat the stronghold of schizophrenia will come alive in your spirit this week and in future days through believing in the power of the blood of Jesus.

You may have missed out so far in fully knowing what the shed blood of Jesus Christ accomplished for you on the Cross. Forgiveness from sin and cleansing from the power of sin were procured that day when Jesus Christ poured out his life-blood and died for you, and the whole world.

There is the continuing power of the blood of Jesus at work every day to help you after conversion to Christ. I spent a whole year in a Bible College without receiving teaching about the blood of Jesus and missed learning something very precious. My spiritual eyes were not fully opened up to how much Satan detests the blood of Jesus and how it is the master stroke to defeat him.

Did you know that the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross releases power into your life for daily living to defeat Satan and all the powers of darkness He defeated on the Cross – even the same evil powers behind the condition of schizophrenia?

Not every believer in Jesus who is troubled with schizophrenia finds themselves able to muster spiritual warfare against the invading spirits that have entered their lives. To be able to plead the blood of Jesus as protection and so ward off evil powers when life is full of mental anguish and confusion can be immensely difficult.

This is no doubt because your mind is so passive through taking medications and the effects have drained any resistance and fight out of you. But fight you must in order to survive! Don't be discouraged if in your battle with the demon of schizophrenia there are more times of just holding your ground than being engaged in deliverance to be set free. That's how it was for me! I had no strength left on arriving back home each and every day after turning up for work over many years. The issue for me was one of just being able to get to work and last out until the end of the work shift itself.

During 26 years of schizophrenia, I sought to hold on to God in prayer but never possessed a continuous hope of ever coming out of the condition. I was not aware of people really praying for me during a good proportion of that time. When real prayer did begin to rise for me with callings out to God to do something to set me free, then that was the time I began to notice a change in my life. My own prayer life became more alive and with it the hope that this psychotic nightmare could be broken.

I did not win the triumph over schizophrenia myself but, like those mentioned in Revelation 12: verse 11, I “overcame by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.” When Satan tried to squeeze the victory of Jesus out of my life and destroy me, the help given by

Jesus to stand firm meant the final victory over Satan. The troubles I passed through for more than a third of a lifetime were not because Satan was too strong, but because he was a beaten foe.

I could never have experienced what it is to know about the relentless hostility that Satan has towards the human race and those, in particular, who are determined to follow the Lord Jesus Christ without being inside a schizophrenic prison. My continuing desire to help other believers who are held in this stronghold of evil bondage grips my spirit because of having had a taste of hell itself and its power of spiritual darkness.

It may seem something of a misnomer that in your life as a Christian suffering with schizophrenia, you are not living in a victory already achieved but find yourself working towards knowing that victory. Nevertheless, the gates of brass and the bars of iron around your mind will break as the power of God triumphs in your life, just as the bondage of sin yielded when you received Christ as Saviour.

The power of the blood of Jesus will begin to work for you against the demon of schizophrenia as you declare that JESUS CHRIST OWNS YOUR LIFE AND NO DEMON HAS THE LEGAL RIGHT TO ANY PART OF YOUR LIFE. SATAN AND ALL THE POWERS OF DARKNESS LOST EVERY LEGAL RIGHT WHEN THE POWER OF THE BLOOD OF JESUS DEFEATED THEM ON THE CROSS AND CHRIST MADE EVERY PROVISION FOR YOU TO BE FREE!

That is a fact of truth well worth remembering. When disturbed by voices of spirits you are seeking to drive from your life, bind them in the Name of Jesus and declare boldly that your life has been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ. Abandon all fear and speak in faith issuing a command to evil spirits of schizophrenia to leave your life. Centre your command on the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ from whom “all devils fear and fly”.

The blood of Jesus will avail for you.... and will never ever lose its power.

Be encouraged by this meditation by Charles Haddon Spurgeon on “Strong in faith” – Romans 4:20

CHRISTIAN, take good care of thy faith; for recollect faith is the only way whereby you can obtain blessings. If we want blessings from God, nothing can fetch them down but faith. Prayer cannot draw down answers from God's throne except it be the earnest prayer of the man who believes. Faith is the angelic messenger between the soul and the Lord Jesus in glory. Let that angel be withdrawn, we can neither send up prayer, nor receive the answers. Faith is the telegraphic wire which links earth and heaven – on which God's messages of love fly so fast, that before we call He answers, and while we are yet speaking He hears us. But if that telegraphic wire of faith be snapped, how can we receive the promise? Am I in trouble? – I can obtain help for trouble by faith. Am I beaten about by the enemy? – my soul on her dear Refuge leans by faith. But take faith away – in vain I call to God. There is no road betwixt my soul and heaven. In the deepest winter-time faith is a road on which the horses of prayer may travel – ay, and all the better for the biting frost; but blockade the road, and how can we communicate with the Great King? Faith links me with divinity. Faith clothes me with the power of God. Faith engages on my side the omnipotence of Jevovah. Faith ensures every attribute of God in my defence. It helps to defy the hosts of hell. It makes me march triumphant over the necks of my enemies. But without faith how can I receive anything of the Lord? Let not him that wavereth – who is like a wave of the Sea – expect that he will receive anything of God! O then, Christian, watch well thy faith; for with it you can win all things, however poor you are, but without it you can obtain nothing. “If you can believe, all things are possible to him that believes.”

FOR FURTHER READING: See Archive Files

2019 23 June – How Fasting Added To Prayer Aids The Breakthrough To Freedom From Schizophrenia

2018 12 August – Meeting God Early Will Keep Advancing Your Fight To Become Free Of Schizophrenia

2017 5 & 12 February – Allow No Place Where Satan Can Say He Was Too Much For You

Celebrating the publishing of the Weekly Encourager over the past 10 years on our website, www.schizophreniadefeated.com I wish to record my grateful appreciation to website director, Stewart Hills (right) who has faithfully employed his skills and work over that period in promoting the good news about our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.



Stewart, who is self-employed in web site, computer work and project management, has also given tremendous support in carrying out the design of the website in all respects and fulfils his business motto of offering "Precise solutions creatively delivered."

"We have enjoyed good Christian fellowship over the years ever since we first got to know each other when Stewart worked in the office at the World Prayer Centre in Birmingham. It has been such a great encouragement over the years to have his expertise and support on hand in the ministry of reaching schizophrenics with the message that the Lord Jesus Christ is the way out of this mental stronghold," says James.

WEEKLY ENCOURAGER 24 MAY 2020:

PRAYER POWER BREAKING THROUGH SCHIZOPHRENIA'S "GATES OF BRASS AND BARS OF IRON"

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS ACTS CHAPTER 12: Key Verses 4-19:

Peter's Miraculous Escape From Prison: After arresting him, he (Herod) put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover. So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up, "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists. Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him. Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I know without a doubt that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were anticipating." When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer the door. When she recognised Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!" "You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel." But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. "Tell James and the brothers about this," he said, and then he left for another place. In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.

Read the above Scripture passage with faith in your heart and the words will have power to infuse hope into your life that schizophrenia can most certainly be defeated.

Peter's deliverance from prison, or any other well-known Bible incident showing divine intervention in impossible situations, imparts a holy confidence that with "God all things are possible".

Just think of it for a moment – God shut up the mouths of the lions when Daniel was in the den with them (Daniel 6); Jesus Christ healed "all that came to Him" (Luke 6: 17-19) - and He said "all things are possible to him that believes" (Mark 9:23). Surely, that is enough to inspire confidence that there is way out of schizophrenia!

I take great delight in believing that God has always known what is best for my life. To have suffered in schizophrenia's isolation and bondage for 26 years may be considered by some to be too long a period to endure to wait for God to turn up to do something. Nevertheless, I believe that I came out and was delivered and healed just at the time God wanted it to happen. God is always on time, never early and never late! He knows what is best for your life, too.

I still believe the Scripture that was entrusted to me on the night I received Jesus as Lord and Saviour at the age of 14, namely that "ALL (not some) things work together for good to them that love God who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

How God protected with His faithfulness and love for more than a third of a lifetime, and then smashed the gates of brass and the bars of iron around my mind. Achieving freedom for me was no less a miracle as wonderful as Peter walking out of prison! I believe His purpose in allowing me to endure such a long prison sentence of schizophrenia was to impart "His treasures in darkness and to show forth His glory." After all, you can only help others with schizophrenia, and give them hope, if you have lived on the "inside" and come through it all with Jesus!

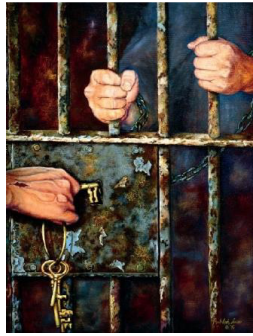
A PRAYER OF HOPE FOR THOSE SUFFERING WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: "Lord God Almighty, will you hear my prayer and make the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ real to me. Wipe away my sins that were atoned for on the Cross of Calvary by Jesus in order that I might not have to die eternally. I believe that Jesus took all my sins and my sorrows and made them His very own and after three days He rose again from the dead and now makes intercession for me. By the power of His shed blood, I believe I am now set free and opened up to all the resources of His grace and power. I am looking forward to the day – why not today – when the evil bondage of schizophrenia surrounding my mind is totally defeated. I ask You, Heavenly Father, to help me drive out the dark, spiritual presence by the light and power of your conquering Holy Spirit's presence. I want to know the reality of the promise Jesus made that whoever follows him will not walk in darkness but will have the Light of Life. Make it happen for me, as I pray in the Mighty Name of Jesus, Amen.

See below in the pictures **BEFORE AND AFTER** deliverance and healing, the visible difference made by the power of the Holy Spirit on my great day of freedom in May 1990.



BEFORE DELIVERANCE AND HEALING

showing the "gates of brass and bars of iron" around my mind requiring the power of Jesus to shatter once and for all.



THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL

by Rebekah Laue of Pagosa Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.



AFTER DELIVERANCE AND HEALING

picture taken at 6.15 a.m. at Derby Railway Station five days after Jesus set me free, on my way to show Tina "her new man"

IF YOU HAVE NEVER INVITED JESUS CHRIST INTO YOUR LIFE, AND WISH TO, DO PRAY THE FOLLOWING PRAYER WITH ALL YOUR HEART: "Lord God Almighty, I approach you in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. I know I have sinned in my thoughts, words and actions. There are so many good things I have not done. There are so many sinful things I have done. I am truly sorry for the sinfulness in my life, but most of all I acknowledge the sin that separates me from you. I accept the death of Jesus on the Cross to redeem me and extend the gift of eternal life. Gratefully, I give my life back to you as I now ask you to come into my life. Come in as my Saviour and Lord and cleanse me. Come in as my Lord to control me. Come with the strength of your grace and the power of your Spirit to defeat the evil spirit of schizophrenia that troubles me. Now you have set my spirit free, pour your delivering and healing power into my life as I take authority in the name of Jesus through the power of his blood over the intruding force. I assert your ownership of my life and resist any legal right that the devil seeks to hold over my life and bind up and expel any evil presence. I believe that my mind can be completely set free and my whole life enjoy the total freedom of Jesus. Amen.

PROCLAMATION FOR GOD'S PROTECTION by Derek Prince

NO WEAPON that is formed against me shall prosper and every tongue which rises against me in judgement I do condemn. This is my heritage as a servant of the Lord and my righteousness is from You, O Lord of Hosts. If there are those who have been speaking or praying against me, or seeking harm or evil to me, or who have rejected me, I forgive them. Having forgiven them, I bless them in the name of the Lord." *

NOW I DECLARE, O Lord, that You and You alone are my God, and besides You there is no other – a just God and a Saviour, the Father, the Son and the Spirit – and I worship You!

I SUBMIT myself afresh to You in unreserved obedience. Having submitted to You, Lord, I do as Your Word directs. I resist the devil: all his pressures, his attacks, his deceptions, every instrument or agent he would seek to use against me. I do not submit! I resist him, drive him from me and exclude him from me in the Name of Jesus. Specifically I reject and repel: infirmity, pain, infection, inflammation, malignancies, allergies, viruses, and every form of witchcraft.

FINALLY, LORD, I thank You that through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, I have passed out from under the curse and entered into the blessing of Abraham whom You blessed in all things:** exaltation, health, reproductiveness, prosperity, victory and God's favour. AMEN

*see Matthew 5: 43-45; Romans 12:14

**see Galatians 3:13-14; Genesis 24:1

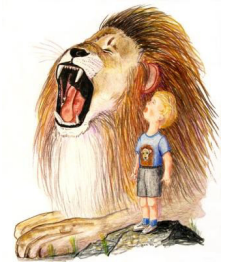
We are continuing to insert in the Weekly Encourager some powerful Scriptures to read, memorise and meditate on for USE in your prayer battle to drive out the demon of schizophrenia. By so doing your confidence in the LORD JESUS CHRIST will grow because the words will impart "spirit and life" into your spirit, and so equip you in your fight for freedom to know the deliverance and healing of JESUS CHRIST.

" 'If you can'?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes." Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the evil spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." Mark 9:23-25

But we have his treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. 2 Corinthians 4:7-10

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. Psalm 103:7

You may be reading the Weekly Encourager for the first time and have stumbled across our website in a desperate search to break free of schizophrenia. Or every week you visit W.E. for encouragement and help to overcome this "monster" of mental illnesses and have been given REAL HOPE that the Lord Jesus is the only One to open the prison door to freedom in your life once and for all time. We encourage you to keep logging into the site as often as you can for scriptural advice as we continue to point to Jesus who is well-trying and tested in the area of setting captives free from a bondage that no-one else can conquer. Our website www.schizophreniadefeated.com seeks to magnify the dear Son of God who left the courts of heaven to come to our world and die for you and me on the Cross at a place called Calvary just outside Jerusalem over 2,000 years ago. In that sacrifice, he paid the punishment and penalty of your sin and mine and on the third day rose again as "The Resurrection and the Life". He releases TODAY into your life and to anyone accepting his sacrifice, the same victorious life that brought him back from the dead, in the person of the Holy Spirit. Why not invite him into your life right now? It's a life-transforming experience that you CAN REALLY KNOW – which is well able to defeat and conquer the hell of schizophrenia you struggle with, for good!



"I will proclaim your mighty acts, O sovereign Lord" Psalm 71: 16

James Stacey, Pray Until Schizophrenia Heals