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The Weekly Encourager: 19 October 2014

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia, from James Stacey NOW IN HIS 25TH YEAR OF FREEDOM AND 26 YEARS OFF ALL MEDICATION - thanks to Jesus.

“FORGIVENESS IS THE PRIMARY WEAPON FOR BREAKING BONDAGES OF DARKNESS”

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS JOHN'S GOSPEL CHAPTER 1

The Word Became Flesh (verses 1-18)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’” From the fulness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No-one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

I have a question for every born-again believer suffering with schizophrenia who is reading this Encourager. Ever thought how the lack of real forgiveness in your heart can hinder the defeat of schizophrenia and the dawning of a new-found freedom and life in Jesus?

Consider a couple of discerning quotes from two Christians. Firstly, Peter Wagner, says: “Forgiveness is the primary weapon for breaking bondages of darkness,” and words of a Christian psychiatrist: “If I were to obtain forgiveness for all the patients in my clinic, I would be able to discharge half of them tomorrow.”

Powerful words indeed! Satan is so adept at screwing up our thinking that he will seek to justify us not being involved in acts of forgiveness. But all such unforgiveness is sin. Jesus said: “For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.” Matthew 6: verses 14-15.



Staying in unforgiveness is sin and sin hardens your heart. If your heart remains hardened how can the revelation of God's Holy Spirit penetrate your life? You have cut yourself off through being unwilling to adopt a heart attitude of forgiveness. The only way back is to humble yourself and allow the grace of God to deal with you and restore you back into fellowship with him.

Having suffered confusion in my thoughts and decisions many times during a 26-year-long struggle with schizophrenia, I can underline the menacing strategy of Satan and demons to deceive a born-again Christian. He would seek to deceive you by saying that it's quite in order to adopt an attitude of unforgiveness, suggesting, something like: "After all you have your rights to consider and can even blame those who could be responsible for the presence of schizophrenia in your life".

But don't you realise that the longer you persist in your decision not to forgive, you are robbing yourself of God's power and strength in your fight to become free. You are also giving Satan a legal right to continue his domination and rule in your life! After casting his net of deception over your life, the prince of the power of the air will next seek to bring you into a state of total passivity where faith in Jesus is inactivated and possession of the Word of God in your life is difficult to get hold of to such a degree as to prevent any change of behaviour.

You have got to rise up in faith and shake off every ounce of indolence and grab hold of life-imparting scriptures in your heart that become ammunition to break the gates of brass and bars of iron shackling your mind. When you begin to see the need to deal with issues of unforgiveness, it is at that point you know full restoration with the life of God, and God's word begins to penetrate your mind where you see "light in His light."

Let me just alert you to these two contrasting thought-patterns you are facing. Whenever Satan has the upper hand in your life and the presence of the schizophrenia demon has mastery, unless you are able to fight back in the power of the grace of God using the Scriptures, your thoughts will never alter. **FOR HOPE TO BE PRESENT IN YOUR LIFE, YOU MUST MAKE THE WAY CLEAR FOR GOD TO FILL YOUR LIFE THROUGH BEING FREE OF UNFORGIVENESS.**

When faith has the ascendancy in your thoughts, you will contest and question and refuse every previous thought you had coming from demonic sources. The subsequent confusion may at first be quite baffling until you are aware concerning what is taking place. You are saying something like this to yourself: "Yesterday, I believed this about a certain thing, but today my thoughts are spiritual and are completely opposite. What is going on?"

If you have set your heart on becoming free in Jesus, let me tell you that these bouts of confusion are bound to occur – it's all part of the light coming from the Spirit of God dispersing the darkness.

Now to get back to forgiveness. Hear what Jesus is saying to you. If you want to obtain your freedom in Jesus sooner than later **YOU MUST FORGIVE ANYONE IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU KNOW NEEDS FORGIVENESS AT THIS PRESENT MOMENT.** In the quietness, write down a list of all those you need to forgive. It is such a vitally important act that if you find it impossible to accept or can't obey, cry out to God to show you how "to see it."

The words of Jesus: "Unless you forgive men their trespasses, then your Heavenly Father will not forgive you your trespasses," **ARE TRUE** even though you may be in a schizophrenic prison and think that you are absolved from this applying to you.

You may not **FEEL** like forgiving. Now here lies the problem. You have got to get beyond whether or not you feel like forgiving or not – it is **RIGHT AND PROPER TO FORGIVE – AND A MUST –** because God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ says it is so. And seeing that his words will never pass away, then you will never be able to escape them and the need to **FORGIVE.**

Finally, what does forgiveness do for us. Battling with schizophrenia, it qualifies you to go on receiving more of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ whose power has won a mighty victory in your life.

Spiritual darkness will begin to recede as you take the stance on forgiveness. Satan does not like it when Christians perform acts of forgiveness. He can't stand it – just as he can't stand Christians worshipping God. There is real power from Jesus in forgiveness, and it is that power which is strong enough to equip you to go on and take authority over the demon of schizophrenia in your life and drive it out once and for all.

If you need to forgive, then resolve to do it right now. If you are unable to forgive because you have never received Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, then pray the SECOND PRAYER below, and so receive the power to forgive from Jesus himself who has forgiven you of all your sins.

FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:

2012: 13 May – Jesus Christ Gives Both Encouragement And Endurance As You Fight Schizophrenia

2011: 25 September – God's Guiding Hand Is Mighty As You Fight Schizophrenia's Untried Way

2010: 23 & 30 May – Knowing God's Grace Enables You To Battle Through To Freedom In Jesus

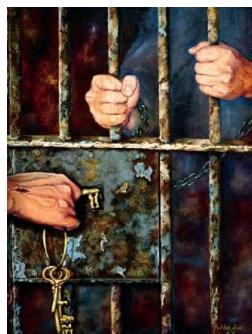
A PRAYER OF HOPE FOR THOSE SUFFERING WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: "Lord God Almighty, will you hear my prayer and make the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ real to me. Wipe away my sins that were atoned for on the Cross of Calvary by Jesus in order that I might not have to die eternally. I believe that Jesus 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 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.

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." John 4:13-14

(Paul said): I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service. Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 1:12-14

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thought. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Psalm 139:23-24

You maybe 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-tried 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

