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The Weekly Encourager - 24 August 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.

THE FAITH STRATEGY GOD GAVE ME TO DEFEAT THE VOICES OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS LUKE CHAPTER 11

Verses 14-28 Jesus and Beelzebub: Jesus was driving out a demon that was mute. When the demon left, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowd was amazed. But some of them said, "By Beelzebub, the prince of demons, he is driving out demons." Others tested him by asking for a sign from heaven.

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them: "Any kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and a house divided against itself will fall. If Satan is divided against himself, how can his kingdom stand? I say this because you claim that I drive out demons by Beelzebub. Now if I drive out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your followers drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.



"When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armour in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils.

"He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me, scatters.

"When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first."

As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, "Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you."

He replied: "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

The Holy Spirit, who is the living Presence of Jesus Christ, revealed to me the full truth about schizophrenia. He said it was a spiritual stronghold of Satanic darkness needing to be driven out in order to restore freedom and joy to my life.

I knew for many years that I had been fighting a spiritually dark foe and only survived because of God's power, grace and truth – but the inspired guidance urging me to exorcise the demons lit up my spirit with fresh faith.

When Jesus is "guiding you into all truth", as stated in John's Gospel 16:13, you know it's time to obey what He reveals in your heart and mind. The personal ministry of the Holy Spirit is so vital to every Christian suffering with schizophrenia both in setting you free and keeping you free.

I believed the Scriptures and the words of Jesus – and armed with this revelation proceeded to obey the Holy Spirit. This resulted in a glorious victory over Satan by Jesus Christ in my life nearly 25 years ago.

It didn't matter to me in the slightest that my psychiatrist, or the medical world, would agree with what God was saying about the condition they were treating me for. It was high time for the living power of Jesus to come to my aid, fight for me and bring much-needed freedom.

The specific revelation about schizophrenia was a long time in coming – about 26 years in fact. Throughout that period I was a survivor leaning hard on the words of Jesus Christ and other scriptures while praying at every opportunity. Often I was too tired to pray effectively and can testify how God kept me, held me and protected me over so many years.

I stand amazed just thinking about how long it took for the full revelation of schizophrenia to dawn on my life. My mind was held in such a strong vice with delusions and voices playing a constant part that nothing penetrated to the depth I needed – UNTIL through the power of prayer from many friends, God revealed the magnitude of the demonic bondage, stirred my spirit and began to help me stage a valiant fight to be free.

Between the months of February and May in 1990, after attending “The Battle Belongs To The Lord” conference in Brighton held by Ellel Ministries, a mighty change began to take place in my life. I resolved at all costs to drive out the intruding forces from my life for good, saying to God one day in the toilets at work: “I am going to come here to pray and fast until you break the power of this bondage over my life.” It became a daily assignment involving rising at 5 a.m. to have two hours of waiting on God before going to work. I used my tea breaks and dinner breaks at the office to pray and fast hiding myself away in the toilets on three floors. The demons in my life were beginning to fear as Satan's hold over my life was coming to an end.

The prayers of committed friends resulted in more light and truth coming from the Holy Spirit. I knew that in order for the demons to be ousted, I must know a faith within that conquers through the power of the Holy Spirit. Above all, I needed to possess the authority given by Jesus Christ which He always wanting to bestow on His followers. The life of prayer I sort to live even during my normal working day released the fresh power of the Holy Spirit and a growing confidence of heading for a freedom within the grasp of believing faith.

THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST IS STRONGER THAN A SCHIZOPHRENIC DEMONIC SPIRIT: Although you are a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ and know that He is “stronger than Satan and sin”, this truth may not be “powerfully alive” in your spirit. Being on medication can so numb the truth you know about God as feelings can make your mind passive. But truth about the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ NEVER changes. He is eternally the One and Only True God. Whether you or I feel in a dejected mood does not alter the truth about God. As stated above, it took me many years before the Holy Spirit began to quicken my faith in Him to a degree that I was in a position to fight for my freedom and win it. You may feel that you are always facing an uphill battle and missing out on knowing the power of the Holy Spirit - but never give in. Keep reading the Bible in faith and praying as much as you can; remember you need the help of Christians to support you in prayer, so don't be slow in asking for their help. Christians with any compassion and insight into your condition should be drawing near to you to give their help; ask the Lord to lead you to those who can assist you in prayer. Where living faith is quickening believers in Jesus, you are more likely to get the support you need. Do hold on to the Lord Jesus Christ no matter how little faith you have - as your persistence in seeing that faith grow will astound you! Jesus can so bring a mighty change in your life that you will be amazed at the power of God fighting with you. When faith is increased by Jesus you are no longer in a position to tolerate a demonic presence in your life. You are ready and equipped to burst the prison gates around you mind with the help of Jesus. Keep conquering faith in Him intact at all costs.

JESUS STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF BINDING THE STRONGMAN BEFORE CASTING HIM OUT: The presence of a schizophrenic demon in your life falls under the category described by Jesus as a strongman. There are often other demons present as part of a “nest” of spirits with

the ruling spirit being the schizophrenic one. My fight was so long and hard because a religious spirit and a spirit of suicide were part of the “nest”. All three worked together to bring about my downfall and destruction, but praise God the power of Jesus Christ was well able to prevent their combined power succeeding. He gave such a mighty deliverance to me on May Day 1990 that all three demons received their marching orders and fled at once. But we need to heed the words and instruction of Jesus. I was only in a position to bind the strongmen in my life after finding fresh power in God and knowing my authority in Jesus to go ahead and do it, knowing that the subsequent action was to cast them out. When your faith is active in Jesus Christ and the confidence of the Holy Spirit is upon you, power is present to resist Satan, bind up and evict any evil presence in your life. Invite the light and truth of the Holy Spirit into every area of your life to reveal and expose spiritual darkness. It will not be able to hide because the searchlight of God will put His finger on everything. Casting demons out in self-deliverance is encouraged when you know there is a dark presence that has made a surreptitious intrusion into your life. Rely on the Holy Spirit to guide you and remain faith-filled and confident in Jesus as you proceed to welcome His authority and power into your life confirmed by the Scriptures. God wants us free and living in his victory purchased at Calvary and has made every provision for us to conquer the powers of darkness – so seek the power of the Holy Spirit to see that wonderful change brought about in your life.

KEEP YOUR FREEDOM ONCE THE DEMON OF SCHIZOPHRENIA HAS BEEN CAST OUT!

From His words contained in verses 24-26, Jesus highlights the importance of keeping free once a demonic intruder has been cast out. The warning He gives is for all who have struggled to get free of demonic strongholds. If you have been exercising faith and prayer in Jesus to set you free then when it happens, continue living in the power of the Holy Spirit. He will remind you of the need to walk in the light of God and to value His precious gift of freedom. I remember that after the Lord brought healing and deliverance in a matter of minutes, I was gloriously free. All the striving and internal fighting to get there was now over and I enjoyed a precious new rest in Christ. But I knew too that I had to abide in Jesus and continue walking in His light through the Scriptures. This is doubly important if you start on the road to help others who are in the position you were once in. Early on after deliverance, a friend asked me this question: “How can you be so confident that having been set free by Jesus, you will remain free”. I replied: “The power of the Holy Spirit can perform both. I am not going to let go of the power of Jesus every day now that He has set me free.” Praise God for such a mighty victory Jesus Christ obtained for all who are battling mental harassment and demonic oppression. I trust you will know His triumph in your life in all its fullness.

FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:

2013: 23 June – Anchor Your Faith In Jesus Christ And You Will Never Lose Hope

2012: 4 & 11 March – God Specialises In Things Thought Impossible

2011: 28 August – The Bible Inspires Faith To Keep Hope Alive To Defeat Schizophrenia

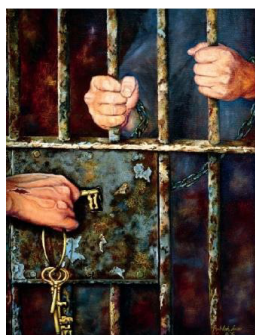
A PRAYER OF HOPE FOR THOSE SUFFERING WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: “Lord God Almighty, will you hear my prayer and make the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ real to me. Wipe away my sins that were atoned for on the Cross of Calvary by Jesus in order that I might not have to die eternally. I believe that Jesus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

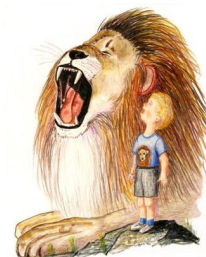
We are continuing to insert in the Weekly Encourager some powerful Scriptures to read, memorise and meditate on for USE in your prayer battle to drive out the demon of schizophrenia. By so doing your confidence in the Lord will grow because the words will impart “spirit and life” into your spirit, and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

(Jesus said): “I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.” John 14:12-14

“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.” In that day you will say: “Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.” Isaiah 12:2-6

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

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-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