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The Weekly Encourager: 9 November 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.

HOW TO SURVIVE WHEN SCHIZOPHRENIA THREATENS TO STEAL YOUR MIND

**THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS JOHN
CHAPTER 14: Key Verses 12-26:**

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit: "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. If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me any more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. 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." Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world? Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you."



The eruption of schizophrenia in a person's mind heralds the appearance of an uninvited evil spirit whose final goal is one of bringing destruction.

This truth is revealed by the Holy Spirit to a discerning Christian who senses their life is in real danger through the ensuing battle and turmoil raging in the mind.

It is this factual and intense warfare going on in the life of a Christian that the body of Jesus Christ, His Church, needs to see and know. Real help and support for Christian schizophrenics is virtually non-existence at church level because of the lack of awareness of the struggle existing daily in the lives of thousands held in strong bondage.

When the pressure of demonic thoughts and lies is bombarding your mind, you are helpless to cope EXCEPT as you lean with all your heart and mind on God and His word. Praying into your life words which are spirit and life and pleading the protection of the blood of Jesus Christ are ways of maintaining your sanity.

If you were not able to raise up from within your heart such a godly defence mechanism, there would be nothing to resist the onslaught attacking your mind. "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any two-edged sword ..." and provides you with a trusty weapon to ward off the enemy (see Hebrews 4:12).

You may feel – as I did on many occasions – that you are losing the fight for your freedom and have no more strength to continue. But during every day, and in every hour of the day, remember that you have a Saviour, Jesus Christ the Lord, who is a Mighty Deliverer and, as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, HE HAS PREVAILED for you. He will bring you through – be confident about that. Expect Him to quicken your faith at those times when only feelings are present.

I remember particularly in the first few years of the 26 that I battled schizophrenia of rejoicing that the freedom Jesus had given me in my spirit could not be reached by Satan or demonic forces. Whenever the attacks on my mind increased, I would endeavour to lean on Jesus and His word for security - and He always brought me through. He will do the same for you, too.

You could be tired out because of always being aware that your life is under siege and of constantly having to be in a position of defending yourself. But remember, that you have to hold your ground if you are to come through, even when the pressure is unrelenting.

Some of your Christian friends will not have a clue what you are going through and therefore will not be around to help you. Those who are genuinely concerned about your welfare and what has overtaken your life need the revelation from God concerning the spiritual fight you are now engaged in and the kinds of prayer necessary to bring the deliverance and healing required to restore you freedom.

Always remember that God is standing with you for He is aware of this difficult trial of your faith and in the battle He is fighting for you and with you. He is able to send you new friends who can support you in prayer, moving your progress to freedom forward – so pray for them to appear and allow them to help!!

If ever you reach what may be described as a crunch-time of formidable opposition from the Satanic world, Jesus will be there right in the thick of it with you. You will have to call on all the resources of heaven to come to your aid in what could be a life or death struggle BUT Jesus will be fighting with you and cause you to triumph. “And surely I am with you always, ...” is the firm and enduring promise of Jesus Himself who possesses all authority in heaven and on earth. (Matthew 28:20).

Jesus knows all what you are facing. In fact, when you read John 10, verse 10 He describes the activity of Satan by saying that he is a thief bent on stealing, killing and destroying. Because Jesus has come “that they (we) may have life, and have it to the full”, He stands with us to make sure that the powers of darkness DO NOT rob us of the preciousness of life created by God Himself. But you need to take hold of His indwelling life to become strong.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUIRED TO SURVIVE WHEN SATAN THREATENS TO STEAL YOUR MIND:

1. BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN HIS MIGHTY POWER. PUT ON THE FULL ARMOUR OF GOD SO THAT YOU CAN TAKE YOUR STAND AGAINST THE DEVIL'S SCHEMES (verses 10-11) I do not know of any other condition which evidences such a sudden internal onslaught on the mind as the emergence of schizophrenia. What could be more disturbing than to be living your life normally one moment and the next thrown into such a great confusion just trying to work out what has taken place in your life through the invasion of a Satanic spirit of darkness. You are so devastated by a sudden change which has occurred. Your normal freedom in thinking has been replaced by a spiritual heaviness of a real demonic nature. What is actually happening is that Satan is now working to steal your mind. **WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT IT TAKING PLACE?**

As a believer in the Lord Jesus, put on the whole armour of God so that you can stand against the devil's schemes. This attack is a unique kind from Satan. You are suddenly in a war situation. You may not fully appreciate what is happening because the new situation is so strange, even stripping you of natural choices. Your first instinct is to cling to the Lord Jesus in the confusion. He knows what has happened to you though this thought may not even occur to you. God is holding you at this time, though it may seem that you are on your own. He will not allow Satan to overwhelm you. But you must lean hard on Jesus however difficult it is.

It is common when schizophrenia dawns for such a strong evil presence to dominate that suggestions of suicide enter the mind. The demon of suicide works alongside the key demon of schizophrenia. Unless you anchor the whole of your thought life on Jesus and lean on Him you will find it difficult to stop yourself doing destructive behaviour. Realise that these strange thoughts

which have entered your mind are designed to get you to act to harm yourself. The intention of Satan is to so overpower you that you will act in such a way as to destroy yourself. **THIS MUST NOT HAPPEN.** You must fight will “all your heart and soul and mind and strength” to RESIST the demonic suggestions no matter how fierce the fight becomes. Call out to God, seek support from another Christian or Christians. Let them know just how desperate you are!!

The way through and out is not to yield to the voices that storm into your mind with unceasing pressure. Because schizophrenia brings isolation into your life, it is not an instant solution that springs to mind to run to another Christian for help. The onslaught can be so intense that you have to run to God alone for help.

2. STAND YOUR GROUND, AND AFTER YOU HAVE DONE EVERYTHING, TO STAND. God the Holy Spirit eventually taught me the precious lesson that in every day I was to stand in the liberty wherewith Christ had made me free. Standing fast became the issue of the day. That was why in the days and months before deliverance I was up at 5 a.m. to have a living encounter with God before I caught the bus to travel 13 miles to work. The morning meeting with God was a MUST. I could not live without it. There was no other way of keeping up the momentum of pursuing freedom in Jesus without engaging His help. I left my home knowing that I would return 10 hours later with everything in my life WITH JESUS STILL INTACT. Getting into the presence of God and putting on the whole armour of God in those precious moments at home before meeting anyone else at the start of the day was a strict discipline that paved the way for deliverance and healing. The living, active word of God became so powerful that I resisted every strange voice that would seek to break through the barricade of words which were spirit and life in my thoughts.

Through the prayers of others, and those made by myself, the Lord strengthened me to pursue my freedom and seek Him in my tea-breaks and lunch-breaks at work. Satan knew I was serious in my pursuit. I was not going to give up the fixed routine of earnestly seeking God and His strength every day until the bondage around my mind had been defeated. The fact that Satan had threatened my life for 26 years was something I resented. I was a child of God. Jesus died for me to enjoy life and have it more abundantly. Every demonic hindrance had to go and leave my life for good. You can read all the details about how God both delivered and healed me in *Chapter 9 – Delivered and Healed Within Minutes of Schizophrenia Defeated* (just click the link on the Homepage).

3. LET YOUR CONFIDENCE GROW THAT YOU BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST AND BELIEVE HIS POWER IS ENOUGH TO SET YOU FREE: In all the struggles you have with schizophrenia, remember that Jesus Christ is YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. When you received Him as your Saviour, He made you his very own and clothed you with His righteousness. Satan trembles when he sees that you are standing in the righteousness of Jesus - something he can never penetrate. God has sealed you in Jesus Christ and His protection is over your life even though the powerful evil spirit of schizophrenia seeks to toss you around and fight for your life to destroy it. Awake to the fact that the righteousness you stand in is not your own but is Christ's. Take a lesson from Paul who writes in Philippians 3:7-11 **“of being found in Him not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain the resurrection from the dead.”**

FINAL WORD: Remember as you trust in Christ – YOU ARE ON THE VICTORY SIDE, ON THE VICTORY SIDE AND WITH CHRIST WITHIN THE FIGHT YOU'LL WIN **BECAUSE** YOU ARE ON THE VICTORY SIDE. **“This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.”** John 1:5 verses 4-5.

FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:

2012: 21 October – Allow No Place Where Satan Can Say He Was Too Much For You

2011: 11 September – Assert The Ownership Of Jesus Christ Over Your Life
To Every Demonic Voice

2010: 21 March – How To Resist And Defeat The Destructive Voices Of Schizophrenia

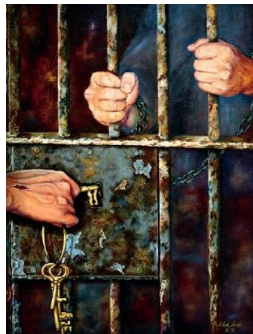
A PRAYER OF HOPE FOR THOSE SUFFERING WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: "Lord God Almighty, will you hear my prayer and make the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ real to me. Wipe away my sins that were atoned for on the Cross of Calvary by Jesus in order that I might not have to die eternally. I believe that Jesus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

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32

The mind of the sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. Romans 8:6-8

The LORD will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; he will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing. Isaiah 51:3

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-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