



www.schizophreniadefeated.com

Weekly Encourager – 12 July 2009

**“The Lord IS my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear”**

*Psalm 27 verse 1*

**“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb (Jesus Christ), and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death”**

*Revelation 12:11*

In recent days and weeks there have been Christians requesting prayer for members of their family who have been in bondage to schizophrenia for an extraordinary length of time.

Set free myself by Jesus Christ after a 26-years-long mental enslavement , I can well empathise and understand the heartache and desperation of loved ones longing to see their born-again Christian relatives burst out from this life-robbing demonic bondage.

Today, I want to encourage those whose bondage has lasted 30, 40 or more years (or even less) to know that Jesus Christ is “still the same yesterday, today and for ever” (Hebrews 13:8) and to Him belongs the power to bring your day of deliverance.

I've often wondered how long the Gadarene demoniac was in bondage. The story in Mark 5 doesn't say. Inside this man's life was a legion of evil spirits. He didn't live a normal life. He was demon possessed, not demonised. His life was entirely taken over by demons. We would label him a madman, a paranoid schizophrenia of the most serious kind. Demons were constantly talking to him, owning and controlling him and were progressively destroying his life.

He didn't live in a normal home but in the tombs or caves far away from people. Nobody could hold a conversation with him. He caused so much trouble to the community that people used to bind him with chains. But he (rather the power of the demons within him) was able to break the chains. Anytime he would appear, fear and havoc was stirred up.

His life wasn't his own. (Just like mine wasn't for 26 years as I battled with God's help to keep alive through prayer and ward off a strong evil presence bent on destroying me). He never enjoyed a single day in his life in this condition. He was tormented, confused and existed in a living hell.

But all that was to change the moment the Son of God stepped out of the boat and drove the legion of demon-spirits from his life. Yes, with power He commanded the spirits to leave and leave they did. We read that the man was both completely delivered and healed, was soon dressed and seen to be in his “right mind”. His day of deliverance occurred the moment Jesus arrived on the scene. And so it will be for anyone TODAY.

Jesus will be breaking through the bars of iron and gates of brass around many lives TODAY in various parts of the world!! He will do it as many schizophrenics (at least one is found in every 100 people throughout the world) and other mentally ill victims simply cry out to God: “Please help me” and God will answer with lightning, delivering speed and power.

You may be a person at wit's end corner TODAY who is struggling with a schizophrenic bondage that has gripped your life for far too long. Hang on with your faith in Jesus!! As you take authority over the evil, God may well give you your promised break-through as you assert and declare all you are as a child of God in Jesus Christ through His death on the Cross.

TODAY as you read the Bible, the living word of God, it may well speak within the depths of your being in such a powerful way as to be sufficient to shed enough spiritual light that will fling wide open your prison door for good. Or it could be as your hear the word of God preached, as one well-known

preacher relates of an incident which happened in a church service where a group of inmates from a mental hospital were set completely free. Days later their freedom was still intact and they didn't need to remain in their institution any longer.

It could well be in a time of worship TODAY that God sets you free with a special invasion of His presence and leads you out into your much-sought freedom.

Keep the words of Jesus before you: "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 verse 31.

*Prayer: Dear Lord and Heavenly Father, as I approach you in and through the Name of your Son Jesus Christ and my Saviour, invade my life with the same power that raised Jesus from the dead. I now believe in faith to receive my day of deliverance TODAY declaring that nothing is impossible with you. Thank you Lord for hearing my prayer. Amen"*

*James Stacey*

[www.schizophreniadefeated.com](http://www.schizophreniadefeated.com)