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Weekly Encourager – 16 August 2009

## **HOLD ON IN FAITH UNTIL JESUS CHRIST VISITS YOU WITH HIS LONG-SOUGHT AFTER DELIVERANCE AND HEALING - YOUR DAY OF LASTING FREEDOM**

**"He (Moses) persevered (or endured) because he saw him who is invisible." Hebrews 11 part 27 "Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him," said Jesus in John 7 verse 38**

It should be the desired goal of every born-again Christian schizophrenic to have Jesus visit their lives with his powerful deliverance and healing. The fight to become free has probably been so difficult and long that you are wearying of the daily prayer battle. But while the God of hope keeps hope of freedom ALIVE in you, endurance and encouragement will be poured into your life. Countless others, just like you, are tenaciously hanging on in faith to Jesus still daring to believe that their promised day of jubilee is near at hand. Fight on for you will have your reward!!

Jesus opens up the prison door in various ways but His power has to be present to drive out the evil. Where his ministers are "a flaming fire" the power of the preached word is enough to set the mental captives free. A madman in chains attending a Reinhard Bonkke crusade in Africa is restored to sanity in a spirit-charged atmosphere. Another preacher living in the authority of Jesus witnesses mentally-ill patients set free as he delivers the Word of God. Satanic bondages cannot hang around where the power of Jesus is present to heal - they have to recognise the superior power of the One who has defeated them.

You may be so intent on becoming free as to enlist the help of a deliverance minister(s) and engage their services until Jesus "turns up" and imparts his much sought-after freedom. Not everyone has the staying power for such sessions but one admires such a desperate spirit wherever it is found. You may be among the many schizophrenics who press in to Jesus day after day with their spiritual campaign for freedom. Know this you are moving towards your precious goal as power is amassed in the heavenly realms to get the job done. Such faith declares - "Jesus IS going to set me free and I fully expect him to do it anytime".

There's one sterling quality that you as a Christian born-again schizophrenic must have undergirding your faith....that is the ability to endure. Knowing you are in a spiritual fight and can't settle for anything less than owning the precious blood-bought freedom Jesus secured through His death on Calvary over 2,000 years ago, you maintain the fight at any cost. And the ability to endure is found each day and every moment in the victory of being able to walk with Jesus in your life, or as the Scripture so fittingly puts it about Moses - you endure as seeing Him who is invisible.

The fight to become free of schizophrenia gets off on the right footing through "seeing Him who is invisible". Armed with the Holy Spirit, you know you have a warrior-companion in the person of the Holy Spirit who helps you contest any evil voices you hear from the demon of schizophrenia. You see him who is invisible through the eye of believing faith; or in other words you abide in Jesus your Saviour. His word dwells within you and therefore you hear his voice speaking to you, - directing, controlling, and suggesting. All this comes about as you are "filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18) The day I found the secret of abiding in Jesus and living in His Word was the day the schizophrenic demon - and the religious spirit and spirit of suicide aiding and abetting - knew they had a fight on their hands! This was no passive filling, neither a once-for-all filling. But the powerful revelation in which I saw my need to allow the Spirit of God to continue to fill me.

I remember the day when I walked into the toilet at my place of employment and covenanted to meet God there in my tea breaks and dinner breaks day after day until I knew God had broken the evil power in my life. (You too can feel the strength of the Holy Spirit in your life in such a way). This was no low-key battle. No pussy-footing around. The stakes were high, they couldn't have

been any higher. Either I conquer this nest of spirits within my life or I give in and let them destroy me. It meant getting out of bed to meet God at 5 a.m. all year round. Not that I was super-spiritual. It was just the normal routine which if not carried out would have left me lacking the spiritual power to win the day. Standing fast in the liberty of Jesus was the only thing that mattered. God enabled me to stand fast each and every hour. The whole day was punctuated with times of meeting God for a fresh infilling. I said: "Lord, if I can but see your face every so often it will get me to the next tea break or dinner break." The word of God flowed out of my heart all the time. I never lost sight of the word of God. It was my lifeline of prayer and the powerhouse for living. The real intensity of desire to be free never left my heart, and it was strengthened as others prayed regularly for me.

How important it is for you to really hear the voice of the Holy Spirit who is the invisible God within you. Allow Jesus Christ to break you, to melt you, to mould you and to fill you (see John 12 verse 24) - a dying-to-self process - and you will come out of that well able to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit. You will then refuse every suggestion coming from the evil presence contending for the supremacy in your life. Made for God and his enjoyment you will rightly oppose the foreign, evil intruder who has somehow his way manoeuvred into your life. You see Jesus through living, conscious and active faith and this keeps you in charge of your life; bit by bit you are getting the mastery over each and every intruder who recognise and fear as you are taking command of your life.

Let me say that as you continue to see Him who is invisible, you will never lose the desire to be free in Jesus but you will gradually go on gaining ground from the Satanic kingdom of darkness. The enemy's plans will be thrown into confusion as he has to relinquish the hold on your life as the power of the blood of Jesus works for you. You will know that you are getting the upper hand through asserting your authority in Jesus. Seeing God -the invisible God - is the whole battle. Israel won their battles when they kept their eyes on the invisible God, and lost them when they didn't. You can't afford to crawl out of bed in the morning and move out into the day without having brightened up your spiritual armour. Arise and put on the armour of light and the day will be won in the power and strength of Jesus. Be ready and alert to stand fast in the liberty of the Lord Jesus Christ until the day finishes. You can't afford to be lazy and passive - you are fighting a spiritual foe who wants to squeeze every bit of light and life from Jesus out of your life - you have to increase the presence of His life and light in you if ever you are going to come out on the victory side.

People will not understand what you are going through. The spiritually discerning will. Those who know about being healed through deliverance will be for you. In a very real sense the fight of the born-again schizophrenic is a very lonely path. If you have family and Christian friends around you who are showing compassion and desire to support you with prayers in order that you become free then that is just wonderful. But many of you are on your own and in need of supporters, and it is urgently imperative that you secure them to advance your fight to become free. The Gadarene demoniac in Mark 5 would never have left his existence among the caves and been restored to his rightful mind if Jesus had not have appeared on the seashore to set him free. In the same manner, you need a small army of compassionate prayer warriors around you to prop you up, pray you through, and carry you through your tough times on your walk to freedom.

My particular encouragement to you TODAY is to seek the fullness of the Holy Spirit's indwelling. In so doing, you will possess God in your Spirit and have the power to endure as seeing Him who is invisible. THE LIFE THAT LIVES IN YOU (see Luke 24 verse 49) WILL EMPOWER YOU to defeat any evil schizophrenic spirit lurking within you. Press on in Jesus and see it happen!!

***Prayer: My loving Heavenly Father, I want to thank you that even in my present battle with schizophrenia I can persevere in faith and see you. Grant to me the interior eye of faith each day that I always see you. In all my struggles to know your freedom, please help me to drive out through the power of your precious blood shed for me, this evil spirit of darkness that is causing bondage in my life. I ask this in and through the Mighty Name of your Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen***