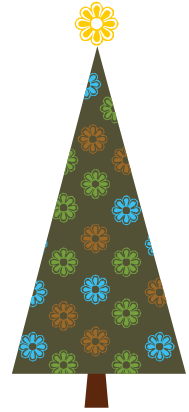


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SCHIZOPHRENIA DEFEATED - CHAPTER 16

“THERE IS HOPE FOR THE SCHIZOPHRENIC – AT CHRISTMAS AND DURING 2010”



Nothing receives more attention in our modern society than the area of the human mind. Because of the increased incidence of insanity affecting countless numbers, there never was a more urgent time for people to receive the power of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to transform their besieged and distressed lives.

It is not only those labelled as psychiatric patients who are being defeated by satanic powers. People from every walk of life, religion and culture across the length and breadth of our ever-shrinking world are being impacted in their minds by the pressures of spiritual darkness robbing them of precious sanity itself.

I ask: Is there hope for the mentally disturbed? Can the ever-increasing number of charities brought into being offer a glimmer of real hope to sufferers who daily face a satanic blanket of darkness over life? Can anything be done for the helpless and seemingly hopeless case of the schizophrenic let loose into a society whom no one understands or cares for?

There is hope for the mentally sick, mentally disturbed, mentally assailed or mentally battered and bruised in modern life. Hope which releases freedom and wholeness promised by Jesus Christ, the Son of the eternal God, through his death and resurrection in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago. Hope, yes, real hope, in Him but in no other. I have proved that fact in my own life. You've read my story and ought to be asking: "What can believing prayer in Jesus Christ do for me?"

True, Jesus is the only answer for the problem of sin in every life. How important it is to know the peace of mind and heart that He brings. Because He is the one and only true God, He can do the impossible. He obtained for us the power of the Holy Spirit to live a Christ-centred and victorious life - but the receiving of that power and His resources are conditional. Everything hinges on receiving him as Lord and Saviour through faith and acknowledging His sacrifice on the cross at Calvary as the only effective sacrifice procuring your eternal salvation.

In saying a schizophrenic COULD be healed and delivered, the declaration has to be qualified. A schizophrenic must see the importance of receiving Christ by faith into his heart despite the turmoil in his or her mind. Believing the controversial but spiritually discerned conviction that schizophrenia is not in the genes but can have its roots in demonic activity, it would be needful for a person to receive Christ for reasons of their own safety.

Jesus himself pointed to the need of protection in Matthew 12: 43—45 where he says: "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 my house I left." When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order.



“Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they go and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation.”

What Jesus says here in effect is that after a person is delivered of demon spirits, the Holy Spirit needs to fill the area they have vacated. If that doesn't happen, then that person is in very great danger of finishing up worse than the previous condition. Only the power of the Holy Spirit would keep at bay the same demon returning with seven other spirits worse than the first.

Such a person would need God to help sort his/her life out. It would only be possible with the power of the Holy Spirit. Compassionate and Holy Spirit-led Christians would need to be found to offer love and prayer support, and it would be no short-term commitment. The reason is that the person would have to start living in new two relationships; seeing and knowing himself after being set free with the additional experience of beginning a new life with Christ. With Christ, helping, teaching, guiding that person he could hope to be restored to normal life. Yes, a living relationship with Christ could do it.

As my testimony has shown, I had the presence of the Holy Spirit in my life before my illness went into full bloom in my early twenties. Without that power I would have been unable to fight the evil presence of schizophrenia. I also had a tremendously long period after healing and deliverance had taken place to allow myself to “catch up” on 26 years in which I had not developed and grown normally. But God did it! The years after healing and deliverance were times of slow but definite progress requiring most of all a dependency on the Holy Spirit to teach, correct, inspire and show me those things I needed to know. I needed Tina's help too, and the prayers of friends, to get me there.

Since becoming free, I have reflected that although the 26 years were watched over by the faithfulness and love of God, those years for me were in a very real sense “absent” years. Years of not being aware of growing up in my early twenties, unaware that there were more things needing doing for my children apart from being their friend. Unable to do things like sport that I used to enjoy, and never having the strength to do my work and know fulfilment in it, instead of struggling. There was a long gap in my life which made it difficult to believe my age was almost 48 on deliverance day. During the subsequent years when people asked: “And when do you retire, Jim?” I couldn't get my head round that one. In age I was still somewhere back in my twenties.

Bearing in mind that God knew what He was doing, I have come to accept that the “gap” years referred to were years not without significance because God was filling that time by faithfully watching over me and showing his commitment of never-failing love. I trust that many who have read my testimony will realise and rejoice that He never wavers and His power and love are sufficient to bring deliverance, freedom and healing.

Restoration to full wholeness will require a determined and definite co-operation by any Christian who suffered schizophrenia after first coming to Christ. So if it is going to be a hard battle for anyone already a Christian before the illness dawns, how much more so for someone who, as a schizophrenic, receives Christ!

It is encouraging to see the amount of effort the Christian church in our land is making to lead people with mental problems into freedom. Many, while desirous of following Christ are held back because of generational curses affecting their lives. Bondages going back three and four generations run riot in lives today and need dealing with. But despite the signs of getting involved with the mentally ill, much more needs to be done by the Church in this area.

To care for the mentally sick and love them with the compassion of Jesus is not the glamorous kind



of Christian evangelism that may win us a name or recognition, but God notices when we move out in His Name to love, care and bring deliverance.

Every time I hear of a killing done by a schizophrenic, my heart goes out to him in his sickness. High profile incidents such as the killing of a social worker while visiting a hostel for the mentally ill in Balham, south London, and his subsequent conviction are becoming regular news items. This man was said to be “suffering from an untreatable personality disorder.” I suggest they present a challenge to the Christian church to get its hands dirty and its heart engaged in offering Christ’s compassion and delivering power for such hopeless cases.

That is why I want to my part in declaring His power and love through **PUSH** – Pray Until Schizophrenia Heals – and with a trumpet voice declare that Jesus Christ is the only answer and hope for so many lives held in the grip of a bondage so powerful.

The offer of the love and power of Jesus is so relevant today for everyone. Every Christian knows he faces the implacable hate and serpentine subtlety of our adversary the devil and makes it the business of the day to stand fast against him while advancing the kingdom of God. To liberate untold numbers whose minds are captive, teach them the power of the word of God and life lived in the spirit of prayer is gloriously possible.

Nothing is too difficult for God!!

I do not understand the nature of the research being carried out into schizophrenia in attempts to reach a solution to this complex mental illness. I wish those engaged in this work every success in trying to solve what is a most baffling problem. It would be a breakthrough to understand why a person can live normally up to or just beyond teenage years before the “dawn of devastation” changes life completely. To understand why this latent force within a person bursts forth would answer many heart-searching questions.

But there is another focus of importance which must be entered into, namely, that of praying to seek God for insight into the darkness. For plainly it is an illness which not only demands the former kind of investigation but also the kind which calls or cries out to the Almighty God, the Creator of the human body. Living in a fallen world it is of utmost importance to consult the living God who through Jesus Christ came to undo and conquer every realm of life affected by sin, of which schizophrenia is part.

I find it quite amazing that in my struggle over such a long period of time, the only help I was given came in tablet or injection form aimed at containing the illness. It was not until the desire to become free grew in my spirit through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that God gradually began to unfold the steps leading to deliverance. Already, as with everything else, God knew the way out of this embroiled and compounded maze of a problem with its stronghold wrapped solidly around my mind. He had already made available to me through His death and resurrection the same power that raised Him from the dead.

My story seeks to give the due honour and glory to God’s ability to solve the impossible. “The possibilities of prayer are established by the facts and history of prayer. Facts are stubborn things. Facts are the true things. They cannot be ignored”, wrote a mighty intercessor.

The evil power in my life was definitely demonic, there is ample evidence of that. It is interesting to debate the roots of schizophrenia but far more interesting to be honest in acknowledging the obvious present devastation it causes. Plainly, those in its grip lack the normal freedom enjoyed by everyone else. It may be profitable to argue the source of the psychotic disorder – to ask; does the illness start



from cells disturbed in the womb, or, as some suggest, is the origin in the expectant mother contracting some illness or, as I believe, is it rooted in a demon of rejection – but without doubt demons can thereby find an easy entry point into the human body to make it there home.

I know of no other way for schizophrenia to be defeated but by using the power of prayer in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the Son of God, and applying the authority of the blood of Jesus shed at Calvary. Until there is recognition of the satanic powers behind the condition -leave behind the argument if you will of the source, and concentrate on the plight of every schizophrenic sufferer shackled in bondage – and a determination to deal with it, I see little hope of freedom being found and the condition overcome.

However, as detailed in my account, there is hope in God for deliverance. I believe that through the death of Christ on the cross, forgiveness and restoration may be received and His wonderful indwelling life enjoyed. God is still able to deliver and heal all sorts and conditions of people – something which is powerfully amazing. When I look at his ability to restore a schizophrenic, as He has done for me, I doubly marvel at the wonderful power of God.

What a mighty Saviour He is! A powerful Redeemer who came to destroy the works of satan in every form. I recommend him to you. He's well worth knowing!!

James Stacey

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