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Weekly Encourager - 27 May 2012

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia from James Stacey now in his 22nd year of freedom from the bondage and free of all medication for over 24 years - thanks to Jesus

POSSESSING THE POWER OF PRECIOUS FAITH EQUIPS YOU TO DEFEAT SCHIZOPHRENIA

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS LUKE
CHAPTER 4

(Verses 14-37) Jesus Rejected at Nazareth Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

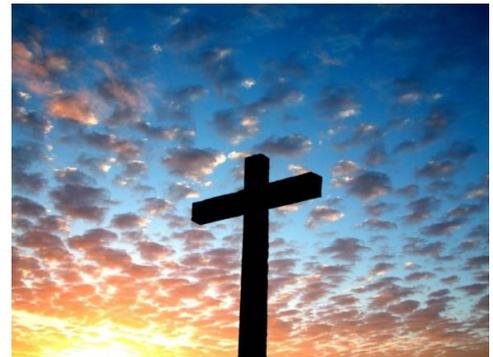
Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself! Do here in your home town what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.' "

"I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his home town. I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed – only Naaman the Syrian."

All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

Jesus Drives Out an Evil Spirit: Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath began to teach the people. They were amazed at his teaching, because his message had authority.

In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an evil spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, "Ha! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!"



“Be quiet!” Jesus said sternly. “Come out of him!” Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

All the people were amazed and said to each other, “What is this teaching? With authority and power he gives orders to evil spirits and they come out!” And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area.

Two basic requirements are necessary to defeat schizophrenia which lead a Christian suffering with the bondage into a place of strength in Christ and out into freedom.

Firstly, there is the coming to an understanding of the deep significance of the Bible and secondly, the need to receive the personal ministry of truth of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Having secured the relevance of the important part these two essentials play in your rescue mission back into the full enjoyment of Christ, you can progress to supplement and enhance your spiritual warfare and gained deliverance.

Once you possess faith and your will is fortified by the power of the Word of God and the revelatory truth of the Holy Spirit, you hold the key to open up the treasure of the Lord’s provision to battle for your freedom.

The loosening of the Satanic stronghold and its final “driving out” can take place as you arise determined to have your breakthrough armed with the full panoply of a fired-up soldier of Jesus Christ.

Consider what is constantly opened up to you once you grow into the knowledge of the importance of the Word of God and the personal, inspirational ministry of the Holy Spirit in your life

1. Your prayer life grows in power, authority, and confidence to plead the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. 2. You possess boldness to declare that Jesus Christ died for you and no Satanic power NOW has a legal right to remain in your life. 3. You take hold of promises in the Word of God and claim them for yourself, and have faith to believe to see them fulfilled. 4. The joy of the Holy Spirit begins to possess your spirit and you rise up in the arms of faith to claim your freedom. 5. The ability and confidence to demolish the strongholds and lies Satan has sown into your life have to be driven out. 6. You know that God is really on your side and if “God is for us then who can be against us.” (Romans 8:31). 7. You possess power to be encouraged and endurance to see the fight through to its final conclusion.

8. You now have a praising heart which is filled with thanksgiving knowing God loves you and in His sight you are very precious. 9. A righteous strength in Christ takes up arms against a dark, evil power who has had the audacity to interfere with God’s purpose for your life to glorify His Name. 10. A new faith in the ability of Jesus makes you confident more than at any other time that you can be delivered and healed by Christ.

The day you discover the preciousness of the Word of God will cause you ever after to thank God. The Bible is not just another book. There is none other just like it to be found. It’s important that all people discover more about the eternal God who came into our world as a human being, and walked and lived among men. No other book contains the revelation of God on the stage of human history and the vivid account of Jesus’s life on earth fulfilling the work He came to do. In it the words of Jesus are recorded. If you want to know what the eternal God actually said during his time on earth, read what Jesus says in the Bible. It contains the unique record of the unique Son of God. “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father,” said Jesus (John 14:9).

It is most fitting that the moment a person receives Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, they are directed to read the Bible and pray. I shall always be indebted to the counsellor who spoke with me on the night I received Jesus. Having come under strong conviction of the Holy Spirit during an evangelistic rally, I was rather disturbed during the period he led me to Christ. But he

thoroughly pointed me to Jesus, prayed with me to receive Him into my heart and then commended the importance of growing in the knowledge of Jesus in my new-found faith by daily reading God's Word and praying.

I had no idea how vitally important those early years of being a Christian reading the Word of God were to prove. After about six years of following Jesus, the stirrings of schizophrenia were working in my life. I am so glad that through that time, God helped me to build spiritual resources in prayer and Bible reading which were going to stand me in good stead. Feeding on the Word and living in the Spirit enabled me to fly "to the Rock that is higher than I" when the onslaught of schizophrenia later bombarded my life and a strange, new existence was hard to handle. What a sure anchor Jesus was through providing His power and strength to see me through - founded on His enduring faithfulness and love.

Jesus is still the same in His faithfulness and commitment to you – so take heart. You may be finding it difficult to cope with schizophrenia and something of an ordeal. Many Christian sufferers are in the same boat and long for days of freedom to come. If ever a mental condition tested a believer in Jesus it must surely be the schizophrenic condition. But here is where hope is found – in believing the Word of God and discovering its place of power in enabling you not only to endure the spiritual darkness but to rise up with strength to oppose and defeat it. The power of believing the scriptures and the words of Jesus have power sufficient enough to develop in you a strong opposition to the schizophrenia presence and give power to drive it out from your life.

Jesus Christ has made available to every person on our planet a spiritual freedom in Himself that is the richest and best in life itself. Through His death and resurrection on the Cross, His ascension and glorification, He has so triumphed that everyone believing in Him may not perish but have everlasting life. But here and now we can and do possess the inheritance and benefits of His death on the Cross. Christ defeated Satan and sin once and for all and made it possible that we too can triumph even over such bondages and strongholds of schizophrenia. I know this is true because over 22 years ago, Jesus helped me drive out a strong nest of spirits, including schizophrenia, which had taken up residence in my life.

Reading the Word of God will release Jesus's words of "spirit and life" into your mind and heart. You will soon realise the need to have the spiritual power of Jesus fighting with you against the evil spirit of schizophrenia. But have you discovered the precious power of faith in Jesus which comes as you repeat those words of spirit and life? (John 6:63) Speaking them out will dislodge strongholds. You could be as much surprised as the disciples were when they returned to Jesus and remarked, "LORD, EVEN the demons submit to us in your Name." Such results are still obtained today whenever followers of Jesus oppose Satan and his cohorts.

2. A word now about knowing the personal ministry of the Holy Spirit – the second great truth it is important to build on in being equipped to face schizophrenia and defeat it.

What a great difference knowing Jesus Christ as Lord makes in our lives. The moment we ask him to forgive us our sins and declare our willingness to receive Him, the promised Holy Spirit – His very own Presence – is given to us (John 16:13). Then begins a completely new life in which the Spirit of Jesus lives in you, ministers to you, prays through you, grows in you, shares His life with you.

You are now walking in the light of His Presence with a permanent appetite to continue so doing. Because you love the Lord you want to honour and glorify Him and keep away from sinful acts which would spoil your fellowship with Jesus. Growth in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus are positive acts of faith which increase the preciousness of Jesus in your daily life and underline the importance of walking in the Spirit and the ways of the Lord.

It is the personal ministry of the Holy Spirit which every Christian schizophrenia has to maintain once the devastation of the bondage has struck. You know that such a time can be horrendous. How on earth can any sense be made of such a happening, except by clinging on to God in faith. The Holy Spirit will at such a time lead you into all truth – and what an immensely important comfort that can be.

FINAL WORDS: As mentioned at the beginning – the understanding of the importance of the Word of God and the ministry of the Holy Spirit enable you to launch into a deeper Christian life where you can seek your own freedom from schizophrenia. You can become really strong when you proceed and are gripped by the authority and Name of Jesus. It is at such a time you need to plead the blood of Jesus. As one Christian said: “The name of Jesus and the blood of Jesus – glory in them, stake your all on them, and use them to the glory of God and the routing of Satan.”

Charles Haddon Spurgeon said: “That unlocks the treasury of heaven. Many keys fit many locks, but the master key is the blood and the name of Him that died and rose again, and ever lives in heaven to save unto the uttermost.”

FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:

2012 4 & 11 March – “God Specializes In Things Thought Impossible – Nothing Is Too Hard For Him!”

2011 30 October – Faith In Jesus Releasing His Life, Authority and Power To Set You Free

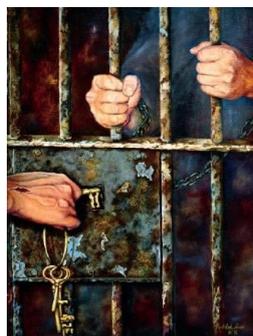
2010 20 June – Persevering In Faith, Prayer And God’s Word Drives Out The Demon Of Schizophrenia

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.



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, too, can also be completely set free and my whole life enjoy the total freedom of Jesus. Amen.

PROCLAMATION FOR GOD'S PROTECTION

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 answered: "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." John 4:13-14

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption. the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13-14

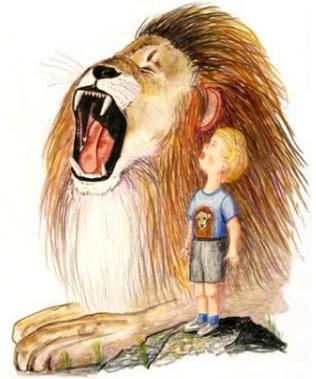
I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name. Isaiah 45:2-3

The Weekly Encourager:

3 JUNE: Exercising Faith In God Strengthens Your Mind As He Writes His Laws Into Your Life

10 JUNE: The Evil Spirit of Schizophrenia Has To Be Driven Out – By You Or Someone Else

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-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