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Weekly Encourager – 1 May 2011

(from James Stacey: scriptural advice and insight on how to be set free from schizophrenia)

SCHIZOPHRENIA WAS DEFEATED WHEN JESUS DIED AT CALVARY

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS LUKE'S GOSPEL CHAPTER 24: Key Verses 13-24: On the Road to Emmaus: Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognising him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."



The life-changing news of Easter cannot be confined to a brief holiday period for it impacts every day of our lives.

The comment by a Christian after a Sunday night service – "Well, that's another Easter over, Vicar", seemed to miss what the celebration was all about!!

Because of the message and triumph of Easter through the death and resurrection of Jesus every day for you and me is forever changed. His triumph became our triumph, just as He said it would – **"For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."** John 6:33

Believe with your whole heart and soul in the glorious victory of Jesus Christ over sin and death. When He died, you died. When He was raised from the dead, you, too, were raised.

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead gives you hope to defeat schizophrenia in His Name. Despair was changed into glorious hope through the Easter resurrection proclaiming that **JESUS IS ALIVE AND ALIVE FOR EVERMORE.**

Today, and every day, a banner of sure and certain hope of forgiveness, deliverance and healing extends from heaven declaring that God intervened in history to save us from our sins and give us eternal life. Through his death, Jesus also defeated the worst of spiritually-dark mental bondages.

Because Jesus lives YOU can face every day through the power of His indwelling life even to the point of knowing that His resurrection life conquered schizophrenia and the evil behind the condition. Through His mighty victory on the Cross, you can know the life God intended you to have.

What is so dynamic and true about the resurrection of Jesus is that He foretold it would happen. He prophesied that he would rise again after three days – and sure enough He did.

And He also promised that because He lives, we shall live also. His spoken word is the guarantee of things taking place. You may think that schizophrenia cannot be overcome and defeated. But Jesus Christ defeated it at the Cross when He died. The guaranteed expectation of being delivered and healed is realised when you apply the word of God in your life and are fruitful in your relationship with God.

When Jesus said in Mark 9 to the father of the demon-possessed boy: **“Everything is possible for him who believes”** - remember it is the word of Jesus speaking.

The truth and power of Jesus can overcome the insidious presence of evil voices in your mind and enable you to drive them out for good when He is sufficiently active and at work in your life.

During 26 long years of mental bondage, I always knew that the resurrection life of Jesus lived in me. I knew that Satan and demons could never reach the place of God's freedom in my spirit. My mind was often assailed and thrown into confusion but God helped me to hold on to the lifeline of the Word of God in prayer and keep my sanity.

The spiritual fight was often intense and hard. At such times I did not know how to pray but the Holy Spirit in me prayed with groanings which words could not express. (Romans 8:26-27). Even on “crunch day” when the nest of spirits in my life – of which the schizophrenia spirit was the key one – God proved that He was greater in me than he who was in the world.

When you are going through the tough times and voices are heard in your head, bind them up in the Name of Jesus and claim the protection of the blood of Jesus Christ over your life. Proclaim to the powers of darkness that your life now belongs to Christ and there is no room in your life for any darkness because Jesus owns it. Assert your authority in Jesus and the hold on darkness in your life will begin to loosen and then, finally defeated.

As was pointed out at the beginning - because of the everlasting victory of Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary we now have eternal life living within us. He defeated Satan and the kingdom of darkness on every count including the victory over schizophrenia once and for all in your life and mine. Believe it and you will experience the reality for yourself.

A PRAYER OF HOPE: “Dear Loving Heavenly Father, as I continue to remember the celebration of the death and resurrection of your dear Son, my Saviour, Jesus Christ will you come to me and make His sacrifice so 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. Thank you, Jesus, for taking my sins and my sorrows and for making them your very own. By the power of your shed blood, I am set free and I am now opened up to all the resources of your grace and power which enables me to live for you. I am looking forward to the day – why not today, O Lord? – when the bondage of schizophrenia surrounding my mind is totally defeated. Yes, all the darkness driven away by the light of your Resurrection Presence. In the Mighty Name of Jesus, I pray, Amen.

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 learn and commit to memory 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: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." John 14: 6-7

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2: 9-11

(Jesus said): "I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10: 9-10

The Weekly Encourager

8 May: The Discipline of Meditation Is Powerful In Defeating Schizophrenia

15 May: Allow God To Free Your Tightly Closed-Mind To The Schizophrenia Deliverance

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