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Weekly Encourager - 13 August 2017

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia from James Stacey NOW IN HIS 28TH YEAR OF FREEDOM FROM SCHIZOPHRENIA AND ALMOST THIRTY YEARS OFF ALL PSYCHOTIC MEDICATION - THANKS TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

WHY DOES IT TAKE SO LONG FOR A CHRISTIAN TO BATTLE THROUGH SCHIZOPHRENIA ON THEIR OWN?

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS PSALM

91: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. If you make the Most High your dwelling - even the LORD, who is my refuge - then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent." "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call me upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation."



The unwelcomed, demonic onslaught of schizophrenia erupting in a young Christian's life causes such mega-disruption as to require a refuge and fortress in the Lord Jesus Christ to provide permanent safety and security.

How to handle such an overwhelming intrusion of evil into one's life, you can well imagine, disables the normal functioning of mind and heart as a believer flounders to know which way to turn to overcome what amounts to be a "takeover" of life itself.

The Christian church, generally speaking, neither understands or knows the dilemma a believer is suddenly thrown into at such a time and, therefore, has no interest in seeing Jesus Christ as becoming a helper to restore deliverance and healing to someone now so incapacitated. Wrongly do they say it is the lot of the psychiatric and medical field who must take over.

It can literally take years - for me it was 26 years, more than a third of a lifetime - before a believer in Jesus Christ gets his or her life back again. The length of time returning to normalcy would be greatly reduced if the Christian Church was geared to offering the kind of transformation ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ that called on the power of His Name to administer both deliverance and healing.

Because so many Christians have closed minds and hearts concerning the ability of the Lord Jesus Christ to free the schizophrenic from Satan's bondage of evil, it never occurs to them that unless He is involved in their lives, the unfortunate plight will never be mastered.

What the psychiatrist gets up to in his role to intervene raises no interest and never expects a life-changing transformation. How sad he is seen as the only answer to a mental problem which Jesus Christ is well-qualified to overcome.

I reckon there seems to be a regular sort of pathway that Christian schizophrenics tread covering many, many years. Firstly, the unpleasant dawning of the mental disorder that disrupts life so much as to cause such monumental chaos that it is hard to know what to do. Supposing a Christian is out on their own, when the sudden thunderbolt descends and life is suddenly covered by a very real spiritual darkness. Where do they go?

If they have not been in a meaningful relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ at the time it happens, He may not be the refuge to whom they turn. It so happened in my life that Jesus was the first person to whom I turned but even then the disruption and disturbance at work in my life was too overpowering that fairly soon I was conveyed 14 miles by emergency ambulance to the old Victorian Sanatorium in Sheffield.

The standard programme of sorting me out through electric shock treatment followed by psychotic medication over 50 years ago is still carried out today but what these interventions into one's life produce is the creation of a passive mind that is so hard to recover from. There is no problem accepting that such a person can be excused from working at such a time. Except for the grace of God to sustain me and fortify my faith and will, I would have fallen into that category.

Year after year, I dragged my feet as I was only firing on one cylinder. At the appointed time I took my medication or later changed it for a fortnightly injection. I never challenged the conclusion of one psychiatrist who declared that I would have to be on medication all my life. Another psychiatrist, however, said that "I needn't necessarily have to be on medication all my life." How interesting that 22 years later following a holiday with my son in Majorca when I reduced my medications in order to be alert to enjoy the holiday with him, I was guided by the Holy Spirit to come off them for good. That will be 30 years ago next January. I give all the praise to God.

In facing the question why does it take a Christian so long to battle through schizophrenia on their own, it would be fitting to mention a comment by well-respected deliverance minister, Ida Mae Hammond: "The Schizophrenia deliverance is the deepest, most involved and most determined deliverance that we have encountered.." If you are fighting schizophrenia simply on your own then it is going to take too long, if ever, before you reach freedom day!

I reached my glorious day of deliverance and healing on May Day, 1990 following constant and important painstaking help and prayer from Tina, who became my wife in 1991, the immense support of her father, the late Rev Maurice Winterburn and his second wife, Esther, and the faithful intercession of a persistent group of Christian friends. All their combined efforts were answered in more light and truth being revealed in my life from the Holy Spirit. My spiritual life took on a deeper meaning and appreciation of who I was in Jesus Christ. The evil of schizophrenia had to be evicted and ejected from my life for good, even if it meant that I had to do it single-handedly empowered with the help of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

Next week, I want to write about what God showed me in the long battle for freedom over 26 years concerning two important discoveries at work which were a necessary prelude to becoming free: FINDING GOD AS YOUR REFUGE AND FORTRESS EQUIPS YOU TO DEFEAT SCHIZOPHRENIA.

FOR FURTHER READING – See Archive File

2016 26 June - God Will Keep Advancing Your Fight To Become Free

2015 25 October - Believe That The Lord Jesus Christ For Ever Lives To Make Intercession In Heaven For You

2014 9 November - How To Survive When Schizophrenia Threatens To Steal Your Mind

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.

See below in the pictures BEFORE AND AFTER deliverance and healing, the visible difference made by the power of the Holy Spirit on my great day of freedom in May 1990.



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

PROCLAMATION FOR GOD'S PROTECTION by Derek Prince

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 said: "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armour in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils. He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me, scatters". Luke 11:21-23

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shelter of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and fortress, in whom I trust." Psalm 91:2

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

