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The Weekly Encourager - 13 April 2014

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia, from James Stacey NOW IN HIS 24TH YEAR OF FREEDOM AND 26 YEARS OFF ALL MEDICATION - thanks to Jesus.

Fighting For My Sanity Was A Life-and-Death Struggle

by Peter Laue

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THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING IS LUKE CHAPTER 23: Selected Verses 26-56 – *The Crucifixion*: As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then 'they will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills 'Cover us!' For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?'"



Two other men, both criminals, were also led with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals – one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

The people stood watching and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others: let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."

The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

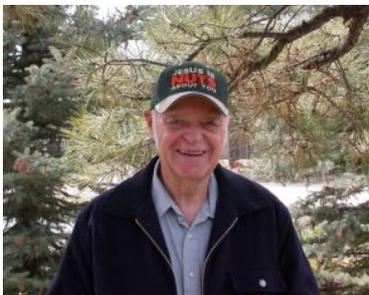
Jesus' Death: It was about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out

in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But all those who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance, watching these things.

Jesus' Burial – Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea and he was waiting for the kingdom of God. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no-one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.



Fighting for my sanity was a life-and-death struggle. It was a struggle that lasted many years. I saw things and thought things that caused my mind to resemble a courtroom in continuous session. Sometimes I was the accused, sometimes the accuser. At other times I was the judge or jury. My thought process was compelling, relentless, emotionally charged, exhausting, and totally unproductive. For a brief period I was on medication. It did not solve my problems, but it may have kept me from doing something stupid. For this I am very grateful. Much like an aspirin, it provided temporary relief for a bad headache. But it was the Word of God and the grace of God that eventually created order out of chaos. Only as I believed the Word and obeyed it, was peace and order restored to my mind.

The significant turning point came when I became convinced that God was not the author of my accusing, confusing, grandiose, and tormenting thoughts and emotions. When I began to police them and adopted a militant posture, I began to heal. Healing came gradually. I learned to identify my enemies more and more quickly and developed a variety of strategies in dealing with them. I cut them off at the pass, so to speak, and did not allow them to gain an inch of ground. After an exhausting battle, I soothed my emotions by playing music like King David might have played.

I discovered that the only way I could be an alert and effective soldier was to do away with all tranquilizers and mind and mood-altering drugs. This strategy is certainly not new, but it was new for me. I never wavered in my decision to throw out all medication that had been prescribed. Mind and mood-altering drugs, both legal and illegal ones, are like chemical bullets that can misfire and cause debilitating side effects. Even innocent-looking sleeping pills can cause havoc. Violent and unpredictable behavior has been traced to the sleeping medication Halcyon. Our personalities can be altered and sabotaged without our knowledge or permission. Enslaved by drugs, we can experience a false sense of security and wellbeing and turn into wimps instead of warriors.



I did not hide in bed, reach for a sleeping pill, cigarette, alcoholic beverage or run to the television when wrestling with raging and ungodly thoughts. I got out of bed in the middle of the night and got

dressed. I walked; I marched and I prayed my heart out in a secluded meadow. With all my heart and might I called upon the name of Jesus. Today, many years and many battles later, my life is filled with joy, peace and gratitude. Yet, I am reminded daily to never let my guard down. Adversity continues to be my taskmaster and teacher.

At the time I was hospitalized in 1970 courts could not mandate that mental patients had to submit to drug therapy in or out of institutions. Unfortunately that has gradually changed over the years. Had that ruling not been in place when I was hospitalized, I would be a compliant patient today, instead of a crusader for the mentally disadvantaged. I realize that these are strong words. Do not accept them or offer them to others unless the Holy Spirit explicitly prompts you to do so. They are not intended to make anyone feel guilty or condemn them for taking drugs, but to serve as a challenge and door to permanent freedom.

On numerous occasions I asked Jesus why this battle for my sanity was so lengthy and difficult. He always replied with these same words:

“These battles build character, insight, compassion, perseverance and many other qualities that a courageous soldier and a compassionate physician needs. Peter, you would not have a story to tell if you did not have to battle for your sanity. Because you have been in this lengthy conflict with hell, your uncrucified ego, and the lust of your own flesh, I can trust you with keys and weapons of warfare that you can use and also pass on to others.”

I will quote from one of my favorite authors, Frances J. Roberts, to underscore what I have written. In her book, “Come Away My Beloved,” she writes on page 93:

“You cannot risk giving your thoughts free rein. They will never choose the right path until you bridle them and control them by your own disciplined will. You are master of your own house. You do not have to invite into your mind the foul birds of evil thoughts and allow them to nest there and bring forth their young.

Whatsoever ye sow in your secret thought-life, that shall ye reap. Sow love and kindness, and ye shall be rewarded openly. Sow charity and forgiveness, and ye shall reap in kind. Sow generosity and gratitude, and ye shall reap in kind. Sow generosity, and ye shall never feel poor. Sow hope, and ye shall reap fulfillment. Sow praise, and ye shall reap joy and well-being and a strong faith. Sow bountifully, and ye shall reap bountifully. Sow! ye shall see your seed and be satisfied.”

I am willing to expose my own captivity, my own season of delusional thinking, to be able to convince others that there is a way out. The Book of Daniel, Chapter 4, tells my story and maybe yours also. I can easily place the name of Peter D. Laue alongside the name of King Nebuchadnezzar. The last verse of Chapter 4 could have just as easily read:

“Now, I, Peter D. Laue, praise and glorify and honor the King of Heaven, the Judge of all, whose every act is right and good; for He is able to take those who walk proudly and push them into the dust!” The story of King Nebuchadnezzar is to remind and warn us that God’s penalty for pride may be and often is insanity. We must not think of ourselves more highly than we ought to (Romans 12:3).

You do not have to be a ward of the state for the rest of your life. You do not have to be a prisoner of drugs for the rest of your life. You do not have to make endless trips to a counselor or psychiatrist for the rest of your life. Your mind does not have to resemble a courtroom or smell like a garbage can full of delinquent and unfruitful thoughts, visions, and voices. But you do have to adopt the posture of a warrior. You do have to police your thoughts and emotions, and how you express them.

Our heavenly Father does not give His children a spirit of fear, torment, or confusion. He gives His children love, forgiveness, power, and a sound mind. Systematically sort through your thoughts, visions, and voices and consistently refuse those that are contrary to God’s nature as revealed through the life and words of Jesus Christ. It helps to write down your visions and special dreams

and carefully review them from time to time. Do not jump to conclusions as to their meaning. Ask God to help you interpret them. Share them with a trusted friend. Offer to help others sort through their unresolved spiritual experiences and dreams. Listen kindly. If you do not have an answer, say so. Be slow to give advice. A close friend can be of much help by offering his listening heart.

Twenty-five years ago my mind mirrored the word picture taken from the movie "The Ten Commandments" produced by Cecil B. DeMille. When Moses was cast out of Egypt for refusing to bend his knee to Pharaoh, this monologue shadowed his trek through the desert. Moses survived. I have survived and so can you. Allow me to be your cheerleader. Give the gift of victory as your legacy to future generations.

"Into the blistering wilderness of Shur, the man who walked with kings now walks alone: torn from the pinnacle of royal power, stripped of all rank and earthly wealth, a forsaken man without a country, without a hope, his soul in turmoil. Like the hot winds and raging sands that lash him with the fury of a taskmaster's whip, he is driven forward, always forward, by a God unknown or a land unseen; into the molten wilderness of Zin, where granite sentinels stand as towers of living death to bar his way.

"Each night brings the black embrace of loneliness. In the mocking whisper of the wind he hears the echoing voices of the dark, his tortured mind wondering if they recall the memory of past triumphs or wail foreboding of disaster yet to come. Or whether the desert's hot breath has melted his reason into madness. He cannot cool the burning kiss of thirst upon his lips, nor shade the scorching fury of the sun. All about is desolation. He can neither bless nor curse the power that moves him, for he does not know from where it comes. Learning that it can be more terrible to live than to die, he is driven onward through the burning crucible of desert, where holy men and prophets are cleansed and purged for God's great purpose. Until at last, at the end of human strength, beaten into the dust from which he came, the metal is ready for the Maker's Hand."

One mental health professional concluded his evaluation of this writer for the benefit of the courts and insurance companies as follows:

"It is my professional opinion that his psychotic processes are still dormant and will be waiting for expression for the rest of his life. Thanks to his preoccupation with fundamental Christianity, his most recent letters to me show a total covering up of this schizophrenic process. I doubt, however, that Mr. Laue could ever assume a job in the traditional employer-employee model. I believe that such stress would be the catalyst for a resurgence of his schizophrenia. Everything should be done to encourage him to remain phobically centered on his Christian endeavors."

I will conclude with this prayer, "Lord, may all who battle for their sanity, who have had a foretaste of hell on earth, have a preoccupation with fundamental Christianity." This preoccupation with fundamental Christianity was the key to my healing and I hereby hand the key to as many as will accept it. To know our God and the purpose for which He has created us is joy unspeakable and full of glory.

World, do not compel anyone to subscribe to your shifting definition of normal! God can never bless such a mindset. Please remember that many of us cannot bloom where we are planted. Please treat us with love and respect and allow us the freedom to be different. Without apology I have adopted this prayer:

"Lord, let my life be Your glorious contradiction to the world's definition of normal."

I will close with a poem written by one of those "different" people. Her name is Debi.

THE PAINT BRUSH

I keep my **Paint Brush** with me, wherever I may go,
in case I need to cover up,
so the **Real Me** doesn't show.

I'm so afraid to show you **Me**; afraid of what you'll do;
you might laugh, or say mean things;
I'm afraid I might **Lose** you.
I'd like to remove all my **Paintcoats**,
to show you the real, true **Me**.
But I want you to try and understand;
I need you to **Like** what you see.
So, if you'll be patient and close your eyes,
I'll strip off my coats real slow;
Please understand how much it hurts,
to let the **Real Me** show.
Now my coats are all stripped off. I feel naked, bare and cold.
If you still love me, with all that you see,
you are my friend, pure as gold.
I need to save my **Paint Brush**, though, and hold it in my hand;
I want to keep it handy, in case somebody don't understand.
So please protect me, my dear friend,
and **thanks** for loving me **True**;
But, please let me **Keep My Paint Brush** with me,
Until I Love **Me** Too!

CONCLUSION

It takes **courage** to let the “**Real Me**” show and **wisdom** to know when not to. Jesus—or Yeshua, if you know the Lord Jesus by that name—is the author of both. I speak and write these words not only to you, but also as a reminder to myself. As I do, they become more and more a part of who I am. The best way I can be a blessing to you is to let the “**Real Me**” show. I challenge you to do likewise. It's an essential step towards sanity. To be a blessing to those near and dear to us, we must be so well and so real, that we are contagious in a good way. It's **never** too early or too late to become real. Be prepared for a battle if you accept the challenge!

“God creates originals. Satan can only make carbon copies. Am I an original or am I a carbon copy?” I must know.

Extract taken from "In Search of Sanity" by Peter Laue. To read full manuscript from the booklet, visit Partners and Links tab at the top of the Homepage: www.schizophreniadefeated.com

FOR FURTHER READING – See Archive File

2013: 27 Jan & 3 Feb - The Power Of God's Love Setting a Schizophrenic Totally Free

2012: 1 April - Enforce The Victory Of Jesus At Calvary By Prayer Warfare

2011: 3 July - Boldly Pleading The Blood Of Jesus Hastens Your Schizophrenia Deliverance (2)

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.

There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no-one will fall by following their example of disobedience. Hebrews 4: 9-11

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world, Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8: 12

"See, it is I who created the blacksmith who fans the coals into flame and forges a weapon fit for its work. And it is I who have created the destroyer to work havoc; no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me," declares the LORD. Isaiah 54: 16-17

WEEKLY ENCOURAGER:

20 & 27 April: JESUS LIVES! THY TERRORS NOW CAN, O DEATH, NO MORE APPAL US

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-tried 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