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Weekly Encourager - 14 July 2013

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia, from James Stacey now in his 24th year of freedom from the bondage and free of all medication for over 25 years - thanks to Jesus.

## WHY DOES THE CHURCH TRUST THE PSYCHIATRIST MORE THAN JESUS IN HELPING MENTAL CAPTIVES?

### THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS JOHN'S GOSPEL CHAPTER 5

*The Healing at the Pool: Verses 1-15* Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews. Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie – the blind, the lame, the paralysed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”



“Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no-one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.”

But he replied, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’ ”

So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?”

The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him. “See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

There's something totally inspiring and God-glorifying when an individual believer or a group of Christians rise up in faith to prove the power of God in a given situation.

The Spirit of God within them stirs the abiding conviction that there is an answer to a devastating bondage, sickness or problem calling for the intervention of God.

Let's suppose that a Christian teenager from a godly family, who has known the Lord for some years, is suddenly diagnosed with schizophrenia and a bewildering change has come over his/her life causing great concern. What should the church do?

Generally speaking, entire trust is placed in the medical and psychiatric world who are summoned to respond to the crisis. But no-one is saying: “Surely, we ought to be seeking God for an answer.”

The trend of conversation at such a time is : “The psychiatrist is the expert – let’s leave everything to him. He’s had the training to handle the problem. We are out of our depth with something like this”.

We need to ask one question. What is the truth about mental illness and of schizophrenia in particular? Our Lord Jesus has the answer. Speaking about the time when the Holy Spirit would be given, Jesus said: “But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.” John 16:13-14.

The Holy Spirit is able to guide us into all truth. What a precious revelation!! As the spirit of truth, he will guide us into every matter requiring truth. He will expose lies, deceptions and on the issue of schizophrenia will guide concerning the truth about the real nature of the condition.

Christian schizophrenics the world over are missing the help of willing hands and hearts all because fellow Christians lack “the knowledge imparted by the Spirit of truth” concerning the evil darkness of schizophrenia. That’s why, basically, the Church trusts the psychiatrist more than Jesus to set the captives free from mental bondages.

Many Christians are unable to come to the aid of fellow believers contending with the monster of schizophrenia simply because they themselves are not “seeing” the truth about the condition. If the Holy Spirit granted a revelation to them, they would then be able to offer real spiritual help to schizophrenics crying out “to know the truth which would set them free” (John 8: 31-32).

The prophet Hosea states in Chapter 4:6 – “my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.” If the body of Christ does not possess the knowledge of the truth on schizophrenia – which it should have – then how in the world is it going to minister deliverance and healing to its fellow believers who find it extremely difficult to grasp the truth about the condition themselves because of being held in its spiritual darkness.

The ranks of faith-filled believers who live and walk in the truth of the Spirit of Jesus need revelation from the same Spirit concerning schizophrenia. While it needs to be said to Christian schizophrenics that they ought to seek God as much as they can on their own in order to receive freedom, the soldiers ready and waiting to be drawn into battle with them to offer urgent support often take some finding. In some quarters, Christians still live in indecision about whether “a born-again Christian can be demonised”. Some live totally unrelated to the fact that Jesus described Satan as “the prince of this world” whose dark activity still needs defeating through the death and resurrection procured by the Saviour of the world.

It may never occur to some Christians who allow family members to be admitted into psychiatric care, that the treatment given in the early stages of schizophrenia has necessarily to be continued or, as usually happens, increased in intensity. Instead of turning to the God of all truth for help in faith and making healing prayer for these loved ones, the treatment of psychiatric drugs is often allowed to continue with negative and unhelpful, if not damaging, experiences.

If there had there been people around me at the onset of schizophrenia who were ready to believe that this real bondage strangling my life could be driven out, it would not have taken 26 years before all the demonic intruders were defeated!! But when faith did finally arise on my behalf among God’s people that He COULD DO something, the day of Jubilee moved quickly ahead.

Yes, the Christian church needs to rise up in faith to set the captives free, but before it can there has to be fresh faith to receive the truth imparted by the Holy Spirit who leads into all truth.

Many Christian schizophrenics are not being delivered and healed because they are struggling on their own to get to freedom. It is because of a lack of action from faithless believers - who could help if they believed more in the power and work of the Holy Spirit to set these desperate captives free.

More of the real compassion of Jesus must be at work in Christians - as seen at work in the life of a pastor who was challenged by the dawning of schizophrenia in the life of a good friend in his church. He sought and trusted God for help for him knowing that the psychiatrist was not the final answer. He was not prepared to see his friend have his life "stolen, killed and destroyed" by Satan. Receiving revelation about the condition and armed with the Spirit's might, he was instrumental in setting him free.

When your spiritual eyes "have caught sight of Jesus" you see the victory He obtained through His death and resurrection for you. You can be stirred into action to believe that a Christian schizophrenic need not remain in the devil's bondage and move in to help. The possibilities are limitless. There is no bondage too big that cannot be broken in the Name of Jesus Christ. Satan HAS TO YIELD to the greater power of Jesus Christ working through you. Through the power of believing prayer coming from your life for a Christian schizophrenic, you can do all that is necessary in bringing about deliverance and healing in the Name of Jesus Christ.

It must be said that there is sometimes a place to receive the help of a psychiatrist. Because the church is not part of the rescue process when schizophrenia takes hold of a person, it is good that struggling patients are taken to hospital in a bid to help them in their hour of crisis. The work of the psychiatrist must not be dismissed since many sufferers with schizophrenia owe a lot to their intervention. But a Christian with schizophrenia knows that the effective deliverance and healing he/she requires must come from the Lord Almighty alone, either directly or through fellow believers in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Every person who has ever been drawn close to Jesus realises that there is something unique about living life with the Saviour of the world, God's dear and only Son, and that He alone must be ALL and EVERYTHING to them in whatever they face in life, even when it is the demonic hell of schizophrenia.

To someone struggling in a schizophrenic bondage from Satan's kingdom of darkness, it is totally inadequate to trust completely in a psychiatrist in the hope that he holds the key to lead you out into freedom. A spiritual bondage requires a spiritual answer - Jesus Christ.

When someone who loves Jesus and has walked in the ways of God is suddenly hit by a demonic bondage, he/she is thrown into the arms of Jesus Christ for the life-line of hope that cannot be found anywhere else. Fellow Christians have that life-line to offer in God's name.

Why does the Christian church trust the psychiatrist instead of Jesus when real mental bondages grip His people? Surely, it is because it has not found the faith that can sink the mountain of schizophrenia into a plain!!

No-one who is a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ and has to contend with schizophrenia should be short of help from fellow Christians in the body of Christ when all the power and strength to defeat the bondage is in their hands to set the captives free!!

What a sad testimony that the Christian church has often failed to take hold of the power of the risen Lord Jesus and display the undisputed victory of the Saviour of the world who defeated all the powers of darkness at Calvary for the whole human race.

There is no reason why the church of today cannot thrive and succeed in bringing people to Christ, and also becoming the instruments of healing and deliverance just as happened in the days of Jesus and of the early church. God's unlimited power to accomplish the work has not changed since those days. Let those of us who share in Christ's victory open up our hearts to be broken bread and poured out wine to many in mental bondage and lead out into the FULL FREEDOM those He so dearly purchased who already love Him.

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**FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:**

**2012** - 15 January: The Mind Of The Spirit Overcoming The Schizophrenic Mind

**2011** - 19 June: Esteem Proven Medical Therapy But Look Only To Jesus For Your Freedom

**2010** - 12 December: Sharing The Vision Of Having A Healing Rescue Home In The U.K. To Set Christians Free of Schizophrenia

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*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.*

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**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"

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*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.*

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## **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

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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.

He (Jesus) 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.” Luke 4:16-19

But as for me, I shall always have hope; I will praise you more and more. My mouth will tell of your righteousness, of your salvation all day long, though I know not its measure. I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, O Sovereign LORD; I will proclaim your righteousness, yours alone. Psalm 71: 14-16

(Jesus said): “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.” John 16: 12-14

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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](http://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*

