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The Weekly Encourager - 16 February 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.

**"I SOUGHT THE LORD, AND HE ANSWERED ME;  
HE DELIVERED ME FROM ALL MY FEARS"**

*"Lord, My Deliverer, I Cry Out To You Again And Again"*

**THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS  
PSALM 34: Key Verses 1-8**

I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me: let us exalt his name together. I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him. Verses 15-22 The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their cry; the face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The LORD is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. A righteous man may have many troubles but the LORD delivers him from them all; he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken. Evil will slay the wicked; the foes of the righteous will be condemned. The LORD redeems his servants; no-one will be condemned who takes refuge in him.



There are numerous occasions in the life of a Christian suffering with schizophrenia when desperate prayers are made to God for deliverance from the evil of the psychotic bondage.

Living inside a mental prison-house, you fully understand what it means to engage "all kinds of prayers and petitions" to maintain your sanity.

Leaning hard on God, you will cry out to Him every time you need to know His delivering power over a spiritual darkness that wars within your mind and seeks to destroy you.

Remember, Jesus Christ has won the battle against the forces of evil opposed against you. He sits at the Father's right hand in heaven making intercession for you (Hebrews 7:25).

You may have suffered with schizophrenia for many years and have cried out to God all that time, and yet your day of freedom has not arrived. I know the patient endurance required to persevere because of having had a 26 years' wait before my jubilee day came.

I pray your deliverance and healing to come as soon as possible, but no matter how long before Jesus snaps the chains around your mind, keep holding on to Him ... even thanking Him for the freedom you are expecting.

**If you had not got the promised word of freedom of Jesus living in your heart – "If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you" John 15:7 –**

such a delay would be too much. But Jesus who gives you the promise also inspires faith and strength to hold on to it as you wait to see it performed.

What the Holy Spirit has been teaching you as He has been leading you into all truth strengthens your will with all might and power in your innermost being. To know Jesus is making intercession for you, that the Holy Spirit within your heart is groaning with pleadings that cannot be uttered - even though your mind is under such attack - fuels your faith to believe that the defeat of schizophrenia is not too big for Jesus to deal with.

Sometimes you have felt the oncoming victory over the mental bondage during the times you have praised God for sending Jesus to die on the Cross for you. When glimpses of the magnificent, conquering love and sacrifice of God touch your heart it stirs faith to believe that He can also swing wide the prison-door of mental bondage you face and defeat it for good.

Do all you can to exert your willpower to praise God, call out to Him to enlarge your heart with power in His promises to deliver, prove the power and effect of the blood of Jesus working on your behalf, and you will see your day of freedom coming nearer and nearer. You will step onto the highway of deliverance and drive every demon out of your mind with an authority and boldness given by Jesus Himself.

You were made for greater things than to be shut up in a prison-house by evil powers eager to find a place to dwell in. Allow faith to grow that inspires you to see that you were made for the skies!! You are going to fly again and fly higher than you ever did in your life before because when you leave the bondage of schizophrenia through the power of Jesus Christ at work, it will impart a fresh understanding of His love and power for you.

I want to encourage you by saying today that God continues to hear your cries for help to want to be free of schizophrenia. Not one cry goes unnoticed!!

Your cries contain prayers for help and every one that goes up to heaven are piling up in the vials where all the prayers are gathered. Sometimes, it takes a volume of prayer to "get the job done". Be determined to fill up the vials until such a time that God commands the angels to release the answer to earth.

### **LESSONS TO DRAW FROM KING DAVID IN PSALM 34:**

- 1. THE CONTINUOUS ACT OF PRAISE TO GOD HIS DELIVERER**
- 2. THE CONFIDENCE HE KNEW IN GOD HIS DELIVERER**
- 3. THE CLOSENESS HE EXPERIENCED OF GOD HIS DELIVERER**

**THE CONTINUOUS ACT OF PRAISE TO GOD HIS DELIVERER:** David, the psalmist, knew God so intimately that he trusted his whole life to Him and could say He was his own personal Deliverer. From early days caring for the sheep, he experienced the delivering hand of God helping him ward off real threats from ravenous animals. Anointed future King of Israel, he proved again the delivering hand of God in safety when his life came under threat from King Saul. It was as though at every turn when he hit a load of trouble, he would turn to God for help - and he was sure of receiving it. His whole life boasted of the reality of God, whether it was in the enjoyment of having fellowship with Him, living in the security of His protection or experiencing the intervention of God in his life. Little wonder he had built up such a level of praise to God for all His acts on his behalf. The confidence he knew in God resulted in a joy which produced inner strength and power.

You may struggle to praise God day in and day out when battling against schizophrenia. Let's be real and admit that there will be days when you FEEL that the promised freedom Jesus has for you will never come!! It is at those times you have to reach out in faith and declare against all the odds and against all YOUR FEELINGS and turn it into praising God for his delivering power. When you believe a truth the Holy Spirit reveals, you can still believe it even though you do not feel it. To declare, for example, to the demon of schizophrenia - when you don't feel like it - that you have

faith to believe Jesus Christ died for you and your life is His and the demon has no place in you – that’s the kind of faith which begins to loosen its hold. Go on to bind it up and so inactivate its activity in your life while at the same time pleading the power of the blood of Jesus to drive it out – and that will invoke God’s presence, God’s power and God’s forces.

**THE CONFIDENCE HE KNEW IN GOD HIS DELIVERER:** When David, the young shepherd boy arrived at the scene of the battle between Israel and the Philistines, he witnessed the fear among his own nation’s army at the sight of the giant warrior Goliath defying them. He knew no fear. With confidence he declared to Saul: “The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” This was a fresh battle for David but the confidence he had in God and in His ability to become the deliverer over Goliath stemmed from winning previous battles. As a believer in Jesus before schizophrenia appeared in your life, you too may have won battles of faith inspired by your Lord and Saviour. These enthused confidence in God in you concerning his power and faithfulness to deliver. It is now time to remind yourself of those victories and regain your confidence to fight for your freedom in the Name of Jesus over schizophrenia. This too is a new battle for you – and a more involved one calling on knowing more of Christ’s resources than you have ever before needed in your life.

Because your mind is fighting to know the truth of God every hour of every day of your life, you will need to rely on the Holy Spirit supplying you with all the truth you need to combat the darkness of schizophrenia. This is a more personal battle than you have yet faced – but there is confidence in your heart to believe that God will not fail you and will supply all you need to fight and win. Armed with His truth and armour equipping you, you stand strong as a soldier of Jesus.

**THE CLOSENESS HE EXPERIENCED OF GOD HIS DELIVERER:** David says: “The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The LORD is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” Verses 17-18. When you are confident of God, He is close to you. All of us need to live in closeness to the One Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, whom we know through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit, the living Presence of God, has been given to everyone believing in Jesus. “Let us live in the faith that the Spirit of power is within us, and that the Father will, as we wait on Him, fill us with the power of the Spirit,” exhorts Andrew Murray, the devotional writer. I don’t know how you reacted when schizophrenia dawned on your life? For me, I knew only of One Person to go to and that was the Lord Himself. In the confusion and immediate mental battle, I looked to the grace of God to carry me through what was a very difficult time, followed by many difficult years. But thanks be to God, I do believe it was through endeavouring to draw closer to Christ in the years before the experience happened that I instinctively knew to lean hard in faith upon Him.

**FINALLY:** In all your struggles to freedom, take heart from the sure and certain knowledge that God in Christ knows all about your ups and downs you face battling to His promised freedom. Keep faith in the Strong Deliverer of your life “who is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine according to the power that is at work in us.” He will perform His word in your life – to your endless delight and for the glory of His Name!!

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**FOR FURTHER READING – See Archive File**

**2012:** 8 July – "Jesus - Look To Your Faithfulness And Set Me Free!"

**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

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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.*

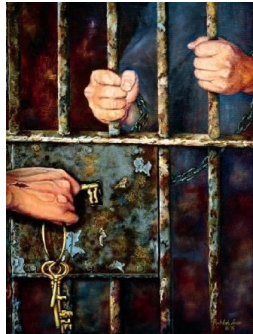
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**See below in the pictures BEFORE AND AFTER deliverance and healing, the visible difference made by the power of the Holy Spirit on my great day of freedom in May 1990.**



**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.

(Jesus said): "If you love me, you will obey what I command. I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." John 14:15-18

May your unfailing love come to me, O LORD, your salvation according to your promise; then I will answer the one who taunts me, for I trust in your word. Do not snatch the word of truth from my mouth, for I have put my hope in your laws. Psalm 119:41-43

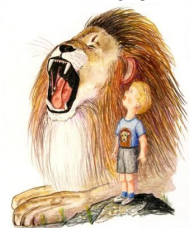
Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace, because the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. Romans 8: 5-8

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## **WEEKLY ENCOURAGER: 23 FEBRUARY: My Prayer Has Power With God**

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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-tried 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*