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Weekly Encourager - 16 September 2012

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia from James Stacey now in his 23rd year of freedom from the bondage and free of all medication for over 24 years - thanks to Jesus

“I GREATLY ADMIRE SCHIZOPHRENICS PRESSING THROUGH TO FULL FREEDOM ...”

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS ROMANS CHAPTER 8

(Verses 15-39) For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may share in his glory.



Future Glory I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will.

More than Conquerors And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is Christ Jesus our Lord.

"I greatly admire schizophrenics who fight through to victory. I admire these victories above all other deliverances," says Ida Mae Hammond in her book *Pigs in the Parlour*. She says it is hard work for the schizophrenic pressing through to full freedom.

What would cause a mature, respected Christian counsellor and deliverance minister to state her unique and revealing conviction?

During the course of her ministry, with her husband, she came into touch with many lives in bondage needing the freedom of Jesus. Nothing was more challenging to her than the schizophrenia deliverance – hence her declaration.

The purpose of this Weekly Encourager is to convey to you the hope, encouragement and comfort found only in Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, regarding the defeat of schizophrenia.

You may feel like wanting to give up as the fight to become free is proving too long and seems apparently hopeless. But don't throw in the towel! Jesus kept hope alive in me for 26 years – then He granted power to drive out the evil intruders in my life and minutes later burst through with His healing. The joy of freedom experienced was beyond mere telling. It can be the same for you, too.

Our scripture reading above talks about waiting patiently in hope for that which is not possessed. The kind of patience in your heart hoping for freedom can often exist in the fertile ground of what is a long, hard struggle with "the Holy Spirit helping us in our weakness" (verse 26).

When you read "Pigs in the Parlour" you will encounter just how God gave to Ida Mae Hammond a revelation about schizophrenia at a time she was helping a woman. How beneficial it would be if thousands more Christians around the world had a similar heart to understand the schizophrenic's dark, spiritual battle!!

God said to her: " 'Schizophrenia is a disturbance, distortion or disintegration of the development of the personality.' He instructed me to put my hands together, palms facing and with fingers laced together tightly. He said this represented what the schizophrenic nature was like. Each hand represented one of the dual personalities within the schizophrenic, neither of which was the real self. They were tightly interlocked.

"The Lord said: "Your hands represent the nest of demon spirits that make up schizophrenia. I want you to know that it is demonic. It is a nest of demon spirits, and they came into this person's life when she was very, very young."

LET US CONSIDER THE UNIQUENESS ABOUT JESUS, THE SON OF GOD, WHO IS WELL ABLE TO DELIVER FROM SCHIZOPHRENIA:

1. *Through His death and resurrection, Jesus defeated Satan and all the powers of sin and death – even schizophrenia.*

In John 8, Jesus says: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." If you know Jesus as Lord and Saviour, then He has ownership of your life. His light which has shone into your life is the presence of His power, glory and love able to defeat the evil presence of schizophrenia. I had known Jesus for eight years when the disturbance of schizophrenia shipwrecked my life. Little did I realise it was going to take more than a third of a lifetime before normal life and freedom would return.

But though life was to become increasingly isolated and difficult as time went on, the faithfulness of Jesus living within kept hold of me. Right now in your struggles, you may ask "Where is Jesus in all this? I thought He was going to lead me through and out!" In all the bad feelings and the bombardment of our mind, remember to keep trusting in the God who never fails. The God you love is the One and Only True God!! When He says to you that will never walk in darkness - believe it!! The light of the life of Jesus can penetrate and defeat any spiritual darkness seeking to control and destroy your life.

It is always necessary to keep central in your thoughts the importance of the Word of God as you battle on to victory. Not only do we value the uniqueness of Jesus but we highly prize every single

word the Incarnate Son of God gave us. He underlined the need for faith as the victory, keeping His commandments and allowing His presence to dominate our lives. As He Himself said before going back to heaven: "I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you." John 14.

What a wonderful provision it is for a Christian schizophrenic to be able to rely on the strengthening support of the presence of Jesus to carry them through. It is only through leaning hard on the Holy Spirit that you are able to make sense of the battle ensuing in mind and heart. Through trusting in Jesus, you can bring the light of the spirit of God to reign within you. Determining to keep the word of God living and active in you also provides resistance against the devil who seeks to take an advantage over you mentally.

2. *Jesus encourages us to entirely trust the word He has spoken for He is well able to bring about the performance of every promise He has made – which depends on Him alone to bring it to pass.*

Every promise that Jesus made, He is well able to fulfil. So when He says, as in Mark 9, to the man who brought his boy possessed son with an evil spirit for deliverance that "everything is possible for him who believes," it is a word for us to believe. The defeat of schizophrenia in your life may seem to be such an impossible and hard thing to happen but with Jesus IT IS POSSIBLE. I have proved it. After 26 years of long struggle, Jesus did break through the prison doors and lead me out. I have been through the daily discipline of years of hanging on to Jesus but with Jesus mainly hanging on to me. He fulfilled His word and delivered me. Let that breakthrough encourage you!!

There is so much time and so many days for you when life is so hard because schizophrenia makes it so. As Ida Mae Hammond said: "The deliverance is the deepest, most involved and the most determined that she and her husband encountered." And how much heavier is the burden to carry and see through when there are no loved ones or Christian friends standing by giving support or spiritual help. Why should it be so overwhelmingly apparent that God's precious people needing the most support to bring them through into freedom find the least support of all coming their way. It is possible for a schizophrenic not only to be found struggling to understand what the bondage is all about, but other Christians struggle "what to make of " this unusual uninvited presence into the life of someone they know.

God is God and He works and assists us towards the breaking forth of His freedom into your lives. I do believe that after such a long time battling the spiritual bondage, God sovereignly led me to meet my present wife, Tina, and arranged "my way out". What I mention now is in order to build up your faith that the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ can intervene and set free. After three months of courting Tina, the Lord visited me in my bedroom one night and gave me a real vision of Tina in a bridal gown with her father, Maurice, by her side. His words were simply these: "Enough is enough."

At the time I had been praying about coming off my medication – a decision I would only do if the Lord guided me. That was the night in 1988 when God spoke and medication finished for good. I could not get away from the vision of Tina. I was not ready for marriage but said to the Lord: "If you give me a vision like that I will hold on to it." And so I did. When Tina, who had found out about my schizophrenic illness, took me out for a dinner date and said on the way to the restaurant: "This is our last day today James, there is no longer any point in our relationship", I knew it was not the right time to let her go.

Stunned by my reply, Tina returned home with our relationship still intact though our meetings were curtailed somewhat. In time, she said to the Lord: "Is there a way out for James? He loves you, I know that." She believed that my deliverance and healing could move forward if a prayer force was established for me. So she contacted family members and friends up and down the United Kingdom and asked them to pray. Some calls were made at desperate times when I was in particular need. But the amount of prayer ascending to God's throne on high grew and grew, until eventually "there was enough to get the job done", and God sent His answer. It came during a time of prayer in which I heard the Lord whisper that by the end of the day I would be free. And within a few hours of receiving the answer, God enabled to cast out the nest of spirits in my life to be followed by a healing touch lasering its way through my entire head!!

CONCLUSION: The Lord answered Moses, "Is the LORD'S arm too short? You will now see whether or not what I say will come true for you." Numbers 11:23

"GOD had made a positive promise to Moses that for the space of a whole month He would feed the vast host in the wilderness with flesh. Moses, being overtaken by a fit of unbelief, looks to the outward means, and is at a loss to know how the promise can be fulfilled. He looked to the creature instead of the Creator. But does the Creator expect the creature to fulfil his promise for Him? No; He who makes the promise ever fulfils it by His own unaided omnipotence. If He speaks, it is done – done by Himself. His promises do not depend for their fulfilment upon the co-operation of the puny strength of man.

We can at once perceive the mistake which Moses made. And yet how commonly we do the same! God has promised to supply our needs, and we look to the creature to do what God has promised to do; and then, because we perceive the creature weak and feeble, we indulge in unbelief. Why look we to that quarter at all? Will you look to the top of the Alps for summer heat? Will you journey to the north pole to gather fruits ripened in the sun? Verily, you would act no more foolishly if you did this than when you look to the weak for strength, and to the creature to do the Creator's work. Let us, then, put the question on the right footing. The ground of faith is not the sufficiency of the visible means for the performance of the promise, but the all-sufficiency of the invisible God, who will most surely do as He hath said.

If after clearly seeing that the onus lies with the Lord and not with the creature, we dare to indulge in mistrust, the question of God comes home mightily to us: "Has the Lord's hand waxed short?" May it happen, too, in His mercy, that with the question there may flash upon our souls that blessed declaration: "You will now see whether or not what I say will come true to you."

Taken from C.H. Spurgeon's "Morning and Evening Daily Readings."

FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:

2012: 4 & 11 March – "God Specializes In Things Though Impossible – Nothing Is Too Hard For Him!"

2011: 30 October – Faith In Jesus Releasing His Life, Authority and Power To Set You Free

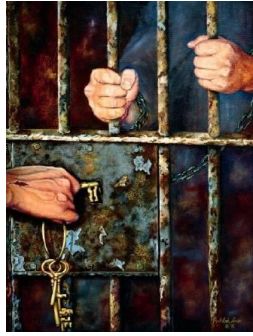
2010: 20 June – Persevering In Faith, Prayer And God's Word Drives Out The Demon Of Schizophrenia

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.



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): "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

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

