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Weekly Encourager - 24 March 2013

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia from James Stacey now in his 23rd year of freedom and 25 years off all medication - thanks to Jesus

THE INDWELLING SPIRIT OF JESUS WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO QUIT!!

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS MARK'S GOSPEL CHAPTER 2

(Verses 36-45) **Gethsemane**: Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."



Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

He went away a second time and prayed. "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."

When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

The glorious celebration of Easter marks the triumph of the Lord Jesus Christ over sin, death and hell and should resound into every nation, tribe and tongue raising hopes of freedom over every spiritual bondage man is suffering – including schizophrenia.

As a Christian believer seeking deliverance and healing from schizophrenia, the message comes to you from God Himself – "I am sufficient to deliver, heal and free you! All things are possible with Me."

You may have struggled with schizophrenia for a long time and become weary with the activity of a demonic presence battling your mind. "Oh Lord, if only I could break free of these voices inside my head and get my life back," is often your prayer.

The lack of progress you are making can cause you to be indifferent as to what goes on in your life. But you must rescue yourself by faith and prayer out of every indifference and the passivity it fosters.

Let's sound it out so that you are encouraged to go on believing in Jesus for a breakthrough and victory which displays the mighty triumph He gained for you on the Cross of Calvary.

The Scriptures say: “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 in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:35-39).

What encouragement about Jesus from His Word!! If you knew just how much He is committed to see you delivered from schizophrenia, healed and restored, you would never again think about giving up or throwing in the towel.

This is not being triumphalistic; neither is it diminishing the difficulties existing in your life today to overcome the hellish powers of darkness that trouble you with their very real voices. IT IS SIMPLY TO STATE THAT IF GOD IS FOR YOU, THEN WHOEVER IS AGAINST YOU IS BY NO MEANS AS GREAT AS GOD HIMSELF!!

Allow me to give testimony to the faithfulness of God as a spur to keep you pressing on trusting Jesus. For the whole of 26 years, I never forgot that I belonged to Jesus. The Holy Spirit would not let me forget!! Even when spiritual opposition through demon spirits attacking my mind launched persistent attacks. I knew I was redeemed by the precious blood of the Lord Jesus. I was His. Though the battle was long and fierce – and at times I thought I was near to losing the fight, Jesus never left me. He was the Mighty Warrior fighting within. I came so close to what seemed a final knockout punch from Satan and demons. But Jesus would not let me be beaten. When in deep anguish, He fought with me and mightily strengthened my spirit. I owe Him so much. He is worthy of adoration and worship as the Mighty Conquering Saviour. Jesus will not allow you to be beaten, either.

The Holy Spirit taught me that faith is the victory - that Jesus is REALLY interceding for me and knows everything that is going on in my life (as He also knows about your life, too). Through the prayers of others and the prayers I was determined to make, a holy boldness gripped my life. God poured into me such a righteous opposition and hate of Satan and demons. Who were they to seek to occupy, never mind destroy, a life that God had made and redeemed for His own. Instead of being weary with fighting this “other presence”, God put me on the offensive with a resolve that I would not rest until I was completely free through His power and help. Fresh inspiration and power now gripped my life to reach the freedom promised by Jesus.

For far too long I had struggled. Year after year, I drove my will to turn up for work as a postman, counter clerk and administration officer with Royal Mail. Quitting would have been an easy way out. But praise God, the Holy Spirit within me would not let me quit. I would resist every demonic voice that suggested I end my life. That was not God’s way. Discouragement is one of Satan’s greatest weapons to take you out. His strategy must be overcome by holding firm to the faithfulness and love of God through His Word. I resisted every attack from the powers of darkness in every effective way I knew recommended from the Scriptures. Pleading the power of the blood of Jesus was something I knew Satan and demons could not stand. Praying with all prayer in the power of the Holy Spirit – and on every occasion (Ephesians 6:18) – became a living experience. I lived to pray and to know the power of prayer leading me on.

LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU TO TAKE HOLD OF CERTAIN TRUTHS THAT WILL GARRISON YOUR HEART TO KEEP PRESSING ON FOR YOUR FREEDOM AND OVERCOME ANY THOUGHTS OF QUITTING THE FIGHT!!

JESUS HAS PROMISED THAT BECAUSE HE LIVES YOU SHALL LIVE ALSO: God wants you spiritually free. His desire for you is to know His life of love in your heart. He wants you to live for His

glory. At Easter He came to pay the ultimate sacrifice for the sin that had affected the whole human race through our disobedience to God. Jesus came to restore us into a loving relationship with God the Father. His death was a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice to accomplish all that. He dealt a final blow to death itself and defeated Satan who had the power of death. The kingdom of darkness was defeated, well and truly. Every dark, crippling, Satanic bondage can now be overcome – even entrenched schizophrenia. Praise God!!

You and I have been bought with a precious price, the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. He did all that was necessary to bring the whole human race back to God through a perfect atonement on the Cross. Jesus, as we see from our reading above, went through real anguish of heart as he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane knowing “that the hour had come”. He did not quit. He did not turn back. And we are so glad that He didn’t. He went to the Cross and carried the enormity of the world’s sin. He died and three days later rose triumphant. As with every word Jesus spoke, His promise concerning rising from the dead came true. So true was the word He spoke – “because I live, you shall live also”. That means living without schizophrenia or, more precisely, with schizophrenia really defeated in your life. Jesus can do it for you as He did it for me 23 years ago this coming May Day.

JESUS HAS PROMISED YOU THE POWER OF HIS HOLY SPIRIT TO DEFEAT SCHIZOPHRENIA -

Jesus came to set the captives free and bind up the broken-hearted, two conditions that exist in the life of someone in the real bondage of schizophrenia. The Christian church should be actively involved in setting you free. More than any other class of people in need, you warrant the help and support of Christians to reach your freedom. You shouldn’t have “to go it alone” in defeating this insidious monster of a demonic bondage. It proved a tremendous advantage to know Jesus before the bondage dawned on my life because I had the presence of the Holy Spirit. I would not have wished to have faced living with schizophrenia without Jesus. I immediately turned to Jesus in my confusion and helplessness. But someone hit by the demonic thunderbolt who does not know Jesus has no-one to turn to. If such a person comes to know Christ, they will need extra care and support as they “manage” schizophrenia and are seeking to grow in a new relationship with Christ, too.

How to release the power of the Holy Spirit from your heart into the area of the mind affected by schizophrenia doesn’t come easy. The Holy Spirit can personally teach you on this issue. To prevent demonic spirits sowing their evil voices into my life, I fed my mind with verses from the Word of God. Since my mind was the battlefield, it had to be kept “sane” by truths from the word of God rising from my heart. This was a much-needed strategy. This was a perpetual exercise – even while I at work – and a stance always maintained. The word of God “was quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword”. But how energy-sapping was such an operation. It was, however, necessary because Satanic forces were looking for an opening to catch me off guard and take an advantage over me. You will not allow Satan to catch you off guard either if you are praying in the Holy Spirit and relying on His ministry to empower you. So keep on asking God to give you the Holy Spirit. Your resolve to become free will be strengthened and greatly enhanced as you do. May the Lord Jesus empower and richly bless you!

FINAL WORD: A well-known minister was in his study writing an Easter sermon when the thought gripped him that his Lord was living. He jumped up excitedly and paced the floor repeating to himself, “Why, Christ is alive, His ashes are warm, He is not the great ‘I was,’ He is the great ‘I am.’ He is not only a fact, but a living fact. Glorious truth of Easter Day!”

... We believe in a risen Lord. Turn not your faces to the past that we may worship only at His grave, but above and within that we may worship the Christ that lives. And because He lives, we shall live also. by *Abbott* from *Streams in the Desert* by Mrs C E Cowman

FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:

2012: 5 & 12 February – Praying Thoughts Of Freedom From Your Heart To Release Your Mind

2011: 23 October – Persevering In Faith, Prayer And God’s Word Drives Out
The Demon of Schizophrenia

2010: 29 October – Getting To Know The God Of The Bible Personally

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: "I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me." John 14:30-31

Jesus said: "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God... But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop." Luke 8: 11 and 15

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29: 11-14

Weekly Encourager 31st March, Easter Sunday - "HE'S ALIVE, HE'S ALIVE, HE IS RISEN"

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