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Weekly Encourager - 30 October 2016

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia from James STACEY NOW IN HIS 27TH YEAR OF FREEDOM - OVER 28 YEARS OFF ALL PSYCHOTIC MEDICATION - THANKS TO JESUS CHRIST.

THERE IS HOPE FOR THE SCHIZOPHRENIC (Chapter 16 from *Schizophrenia Defeated* by James Stacey)

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.



Chapter 16 from Schizophrenia Defeated by James Stacey

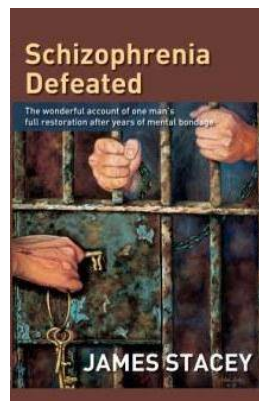
Nothing receives more attention in our modern society than the area of the human mind. Because of the increased incidence of insanity affecting countless numbers, there never was a more urgent time for people to receive the power of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to transform their besieged and distressed lives.

It is not only those labelled psychiatric patients who are being affected by satanic

powers. People from every walk of life, religion and culture across the length and breadth of our ever-shrinking world are being impacted in their minds by the pressures of spiritual darkness robbing them of precious sanity itself.

I ask: Is there hope for the mentally disturbed? Can the ever-increasing number of charities brought into being offer a glimmer of real hope to sufferers who daily face a satanic blanket of darkness over life? Can anything be done for the helpless and seemingly hopeless case of the schizophrenic let loose into society whom no one understands or cares for?

There is hope for the mentally sick, mentally disturbed, mentally assailed or mentally battered and bruised in modern life. Hope which releases freedom and wholeness promised by Jesus Christ, the Son of the eternal God, through His death and resurrection in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago. Hope, yes, real hope, in Him but in no other. I have proved that fact in my own life. You've read my story and ought to be asking: "What can believing prayer in Jesus Christ do for me?"



True, Jesus is the only answer for the problem of sin in every life. How important it is to know the peace of mind and heart that He brings. Because He is the one and only true God, He can do the impossible. He obtained for us the power of the Holy Spirit to live a Christ-centred and victorious life - but the receiving of that power and His resources are conditional. Everything hinges on receiving Him as Lord and Saviour through faith and acknowledging His sacrifice on the cross at Calvary as the only effective sacrifice procuring your eternal salvation.

In saying a schizophrenic COULD be healed and delivered, the declaration has to be qualified. A schizophrenic must see the importance of receiving Christ by faith into his heart despite the turmoil in his or her mind. Believing the controversial but spiritually discerned conviction that schizophrenia is not in the genes but can have its roots in demonic activity, it would be needful for a person to receive Christ for reasons of their own safety.

Jesus Himself pointed to the need of protection in Matthew 12: 43-45 where He says: "When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places, seeking rest, and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order.

"Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation."

What Jesus says here in effect is that after a person is delivered of demon spirits, the Holy Spirit needs to fill the area they have vacated. If that doesn't happen, then that person is in very great danger of finishing up worse than the previous condition. Only the power of the Holy Spirit would keep at bay the same demon returning with seven other spirits worse than the first.

Such a person would need God to help sort his/her life out. It would only be possible with the power of the Holy Spirit. Compassionate and Holy Spirit-led Christians would need to be found to offer love and prayer support, and it would be no short-term commitment. The reason is that the person would have to start living in two new relationships: seeing and knowing himself after being set free, with the additional experience of beginning a new life with Christ. With Christ helping, teaching and guiding that person he could hope to be restored to normal life. Yes, a living relationship with Christ could do it.

As my testimony has shown, I had the presence of the Holy Spirit in my life before my illness went into full bloom in my early twenties. Without that power I would have been unable to fight the evil presence of schizophrenia. I also had a tremendously long period after healing and deliverance had taken place to allow myself to "catch up" on 26 years in which I had not developed and grown normally. But God did it! The years after healing and deliverance were times of slow but definite

progress, requiring most of all a dependency on the Holy Spirit to teach, correct, inspire and show me those things I needed to know. I needed Tina's help too, and the prayers of friends, to get me there.

Since becoming free, I have reflected that although the 26 years were watched over by the faithfulness and love of God, those years for me were in a very real sense "absent" years. Years of not being aware of growing up in my early twenties, unaware that there were more things needing doing for my children apart from being their friend. Being unable to perform in sport, and never having the strength to do my work and know fulfilment in it, instead of always struggling. There was a long gap in my life which made it difficult to believe my age was almost 48 on deliverance day. During the subsequent years when people asked: "And when do you retire, Jim?" I couldn't get my head round that one. In age I felt that I was still somewhere back in my twenties.

Bearing in mind that God knew what He was doing, I have come to accept that the "gap" years referred to were not without significance because all of the time He faithfully watched over me, strengthened me and showed His commitment of never-failing love. Most importantly, it was in this long period of mental bondage that God gave me "the treasures in darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name" (Isaiah 45:3) without which I would be ill-equipped to help anyone who is battling schizophrenia. I trust that many who have read my testimony will realise and rejoice that He never wavers and His power and love are sufficient to bring deliverance, freedom and healing.

Restoration to full wholeness will require a determined and definite cooperation by any Christian who suffered schizophrenia after first coming to Christ. So if it is going to be a hard battle for anyone already a Christian before the illness dawns, how much more so for someone who, as a schizophrenic, receives Christ.

It is encouraging to see the amount of effort the Christian Church in our land is making to lead people with mental problems into freedom. Many, while desirous of following Christ, are held back because of generational curses affecting their lives. Bondages going back three and four generations run riot in lives today and need dealing with. But despite the signs of getting involved with the mentally ill, much more needs to be done by the Church in this area. To care for the mentally sick and love them with the compassion of Jesus is not the glamorous kind of Christian evangelism that may win us a name or recognition, but God notices when we move out in His Name to love, care and bring deliverance.

Every time I hear of a killing done by a schizophrenic, my heart goes out to him in his sickness. High profile incidents such as the murder by a schizophrenic of a social worker while visiting a hostel for the mentally ill in Balham, south London, and his subsequent conviction are becoming regular news items. This man was said to suffer from an "untreatable personality disorder". I suggest they present a challenge to the Christian Church to get its hands dirty and its heart engaged in offering Christ's compassion and delivering power for such hopeless cases.

That is why I want to do my part in declaring His love and power through PUSH - Prayer Until Schizophrenia Heals - and with a trumpet voice declare that Jesus Christ is the only answer and hope for so many lives held in the grip of a bondage so powerful.

The offer of the love and power of Jesus is so relevant today for everyone. Every Christian knows he faces the implacable hate and serpentine subtlety of our adversary the devil and makes it the business of the day to stand fast against him while advancing the kingdom of God. To liberate untold numbers whose minds are captive, teach them the power of the word of God and life lived in the spirit of prayer is gloriously possible.

Nothing is too difficult for God!!

I do not understand the nature of the research being carried out into schizophrenia in attempts to reach a solution to this complex mental illness. I wish those engaged in this work every success in trying to solve what is a most baffling problem. It would be a breakthrough to understand why a

person can live normally up to or just beyond teenage years before the “dawn of devastation” changes life completely. To understand why this latent force within a person bursts forth would answer many heart-searching questions.

But there is another focus of importance which must be entered into, namely, that of praying to seek God for insight into the darkness. For plainly it is an illness which not only demands the former kind of investigation but also the kind which calls or cries out to the Almighty God, the Creator of the human body. Living in a fallen world it is of utmost importance to consult the living God, who through Jesus Christ came to undo and conquer every realm of life affected by sin, of which schizophrenia is part.

I find it quite amazing that in my struggle over such a long period of time, the only help I was given came in tablet or injection form, aimed at containing the illness. It was not until the desire to become free grew in my spirit through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that God gradually began to unfold the steps leading to deliverance. Already, as with everything else, God knew the way out of this embroiled and compounded maze of a problem with its stronghold wrapped solidly around my mind. He had already made available to me through His death and resurrection the same power that raised Him from the dead.

My story seeks to give the due honour and glory to God's ability to solve the impossible. “The possibilities of prayer are established by the facts and the history of prayer. Facts are stubborn things. Facts are the true things. They cannot be ignored”, wrote a mighty intercessor.

The evil power in my life was definitely demonic; there is ample evidence of that. It is interesting to debate the roots of schizophrenia but far more interesting to be honest in acknowledging the obvious present devastation it causes. Plainly, those held in its grip lack the normal freedom enjoyed by everyone else. It may be profitable to argue about the source of the psychotic disorder - to ask: does the illness start from cells disturbed in the womb, or, as some suggest, is the origin in the expectant mother contracting some sickness or, as I believe, is it rooted in a demon of rejection - but without doubt demons can thereby find an easy entry point into the human body to make it their home.

I know of no other way for schizophrenia to be defeated but by using the power of prayer in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the Son of God, and applying the authority of the blood of Jesus shed at Calvary. Until there is recognition of the satanic powers behind the condition - leave behind the argument if you will of the source, and concentrate on the plight of every schizophrenic sufferer shackled in bondage □ and a determination to deal with it, I see little hope of freedom being found and the condition overcome.

However, as detailed in my account, there is hope in God for deliverance. I believe that through the death of Christ on the cross, forgiveness and restoration may be received and His wonderful indwelling life enjoyed. God is still able to deliver and heal all sorts and conditions of people - something which is powerfully amazing. When I look at His ability to restore a schizophrenic, as He has done for me, I doubly marvel at the wonderful power of God.

What a mighty Saviour He is! A powerful Redeemer who came to destroy the works of Satan in every form. I commend him to you. He's well worth knowing!!

FOR FURTHER READING – See Archive File

2015 - 25 January: What A Transformation When A Schizophrenic Knows God Is Reviving His Heart

2014 - 7 September: How Palliative Drugs Can Inflict Damage On Your Natural Mind

2013 - Anchor Your Faith In Jesus Christ And You Will Never Lose Hope

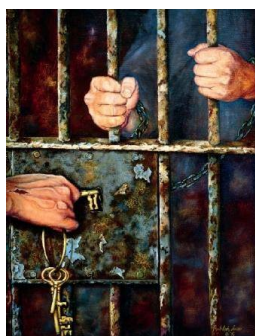
A PRAYER OF HOPE FOR THOSE SUFFERING WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: "Lord God Almighty, will you hear my prayer and make the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ real to me. Wipe away my sins that were atoned for on the Cross of Calvary by Jesus in order that I might not have to die eternally. I believe that Jesus 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.

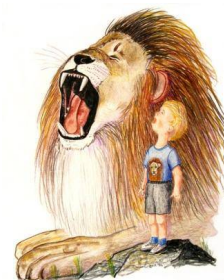
(Jesus said): "If you love me, you will obey what I command. I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.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