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Weekly Encourager – 22 May 2011

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to defeat schizophrenia from James Stacey now in his 22nd year of freedom from the bondage - thanks to Jesus Christ

ALLOW GOD TO FREE YOUR TIGHTLY-CLOSED MIND TO THE SCHIZOPHRENIA DELIVERANCE

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS MARK'S GOSPEL CHAPTER 5: The Healing of a Demon-Possessed Man: Key verses 1-15: They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him. This man lived in the tombs, and no-one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No-one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!" Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area. A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.



The Weekly Encourager this week is not only addressed to those suffering with schizophrenia but to those with doubts that a deliverance from Jesus is required to defeat the bondage.

In the course of receiving personal correspondence for over six years now, acceptance has been widespread from those in the unrelenting grip of a demonic mental battle that they need the intervention of the greatest Healer of all to be set free.

It's most common to receive a communication from a schizophrenic, or a member of their family, on having rejoiced at my testimony which says something to the effect: "I always thought that this whole problem had a demonic involvement to it and Jesus was the only answer."

The manifestation of schizophrenia at first is such a life-changing upheaval that it affects people in different ways. It can erupt so violently as to throw a person into utter confusion and a search for an explanation leading back out into freedom.

When the demonic bondage first bombarded my mind, I was sent reeling and thrown into a spiritual fight for life. I was not so much interested in the name behind the bondage that was upon me – rather in knowing how I could get out of the utter confusion and restlessness it caused.

If you have received Jesus Christ as Saviour and the presence of the Holy Spirit has come into your life, you, too, will be aware in just the same way as I was that the darkness of schizophrenia is without a doubt an intruding evil spirit force.

Sad thing is that some Christian leaders of long-standing can declare their opinions in pulpit and in print what schizophrenia is and pronounce the entire opposite. A lack of real discernment and understanding about the condition prevails.

How can they seek to argue – if things came to that – with someone (like myself) who lived in a schizophrenic prison for 26 years where evil spirits tormented me that the whole thing was imaginary and a spiritual battle did not exist?

I am prepared to declare what the disease or bondage of schizophrenia is all about. In fact I believe one of the reasons the Lord Jesus kept me a mental prison for more than a third of a lifetime was to give real and living hope to multitudes across the world where at least one in every 100 suffer and are held captive.

You know what is going on in your life if you know Jesus!! The Lord Jesus Christ said that when the Holy Spirit is poured out He would lead us into all truth. Truth about what!! Everything related to life that we want to know the truth about... God, ourselves, and the powers of spiritual darkness - even schizophrenia.

Our Scripture passage this week from Mark 5 is chosen to draw attention to the plight of one man to whom the occupation of evil spirits in his life was real. What a picture is drawn for us here of a man whose life was certainly not his own but held in the strong grip of evil spirits.

As a visiting pastor addressing a congregation on the story said: “You thought you had problems until you get acquainted with what this man was facing day in and day out. He needed a strong deliverance and only Jesus Christ was able to make it happen.”

I ask the question of those who know the Lord and who read this story: “Do you think that the same kind of bondage described here in the gospel story is still going on today? Are the powers of darkness so visibly obvious in this story absent from the lives of people today?” Most certainly not!!

How can Christians either dismiss the plight and anguish of others struggling to get free from schizophrenia and its evil powers or fail to seek spiritual discernment from the Lord regarding the root of the condition?

I ask: “Have you really waited before God for answers about this bondage? Have you allowed God to change your mind about the Christian in your congregation with schizophrenia? How can you effectively help that person when you are still not desperate to receive God’s diagnosis about the bondage?”

Herein lies the reason why there is so little help for Christians suffering with schizophrenia. The lack is all due to a dearth of real compassion to set the captives free and of spiritual understanding about the bondage. Add to that the absence of aggressive believing prayer life and its power required to set the captives free. So many of us have yet to allow the Spirit of God to stir our hearts and lives. As soon as “we see light in His light” more help and support flow from our hearts to help those in bondage.

Would you today allow yourself to have your tightly-closed mind challenged about the schizophrenia deliverance. Read our Scripture passage over a couple of times and ask God to speak as you contemplate what the man in the story was going through. In order to be set free, a strong demonic presence had to be driven out by the stronger power of Jesus before the man was healed.

That still remains the way of operation TODAY among an untold number of people the world over suffering with schizophrenia!!

A PRAYER OF HOPE: “Dear Loving Heavenly Father, as I continue to remember the celebration of the death and resurrection of your dear Son, my Saviour, Jesus Christ will you come to me and make His sacrifice so 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. Thank you, Jesus, for taking my sins and my sorrows and for

making them your very own. By the power of your shed blood, I am set free and I am now opened up to all the resources of your grace and power which enables me to live for you. I am looking forward to the day – why not today, O Lord? – when the bondage of schizophrenia surrounding my mind is totally defeated. Yes, all the darkness driven away by the light of your Resurrection Presence. In the Mighty Name of Jesus, I pray, Amen.

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, too, can also be completely set free and my whole life enjoy the total freedom of Jesus. Amen.

PROCLAMATION FOR GOD’S PROTECTION

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 learn and commit to memory 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.

One one occasion, while he was eating with them, he (Jesus) gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.” Acts 1: 4-5

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8: 31-32

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous. Psalm 146: 7-8

The Weekly Encourager

29 May: “You Will Be Baptised With The Holy Spirit” – said Jesus Christ
5 June: Faith in Jesus Releases Power Leading to Deliverance and Freedom

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