

Hopelessly Entangled – Christ’s Promise to Set Every Captive Free !

“Jesus sees the guilt of the past, and speaks pardon . . . and we must not dishonor Him by doubting His love. **This feeling of guiltiness must be laid at the foot of the cross of Calvary.**

The sense of sinfulness has poisoned the springs of life and of true happiness. Now Jesus says, “Lay it all on Me. I will take your sins. I will give you *My* peace. Banish no longer your self-respect . . . **for I have bought you with the price of My Own blood.** **You are mine.** Your weakened will I will strengthen; your remorse for sin I will remove !”

– 9 Manuscript Releases, p.305

“Satan seeks to draw our minds away from the mighty Helper, to lead us to ponder over our degeneration of soul. **But though Jesus sees the guilt of the past, He speaks pardon**; and we should not dishonor Him by doubting His love . . . !”

– Lt 2, 1914. (Testimonies to Ministers,
p.518.)

Quote –

Jesus knows the circumstances of every soul. The greater the sinner’s guilt, the more he needs the Saviour. **His heart of divine love and sympathy** is drawn out most of all **for the one who is the most hopelessly entangled in the snares of the enemy.** With His own blood He has signed the emancipation papers of the race.

Jesus does not desire those who have been purchased at such a cost to become the sport of the enemy's temptations. **He does not desire us to be overcome and perish.** He who curbed the lions in their den, and walked with His faithful witnesses amid the fiery flames, is just as ready to work in our behalf to subdue every evil in our nature.

Today He is standing at the altar of mercy, presenting before God the prayers of those who desire His help. He turns no weeping, contrite one away. **Freely will He pardon all who come to Him for forgiveness and restoration.** He does not tell to any all that He might reveal, but **He bids every trembling soul take courage.** Whosoever will, may take hold of God’s Strength, and make peace with Him, and He will make peace.

The souls that turn to Him for refuge, Jesus lifts above the accusing and the strife of tongues. No man or evil angel can impeach these souls. **Christ unites them to His Own Divine-human nature**. They stand beside the great Sin Bearer in the light proceeding from the throne of God.

The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses “from all sin !”

– I John 1:7

“Who shall lay anything to the charge (s) of God’s elect? **It is God that justifieth**. Who is he that condemneth? **It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again**, Who is even at the right hand of God, Who also maketh intercession for us !” - Romans 8:33-34

Romans 6:1-6, 10-11

Colossians 2:9-13*

Over the winds and the waves, and over men possessed of demons, Christ showed **that He had absolute control**. He Who stilled the tempest and calmed the troubled sea **spoke peace to minds distracted and overborne by Satan**.

In the synagogue at Capernaum, Jesus was speaking of His mission to set free the slaves of sin. He was interrupted by a shriek of terror. A madman rushed forward from among the people, crying out, “Let us alone; what have we to do with Thee, Thou Jesus of Nazareth? art Thou come to destroy us? I know Thee who Thou art, the Holy One of God !” - Mark 1:24.

Jesus rebuked the demon, saying, “Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not.” - Luke 4:35.

The cause of this man’s affliction also was in his own life. He had been fascinated with the pleasures of sin and had thought to make life a grand carnival. **Intemperance and frivolity** *had* perverted the noble attributes of his nature, and Satan took entire control of him. Remorse came too late. When he would have sacrificed wealth and pleasure to regain his lost manhood he had become helpless in the grasp of the evil one.

In the Saviour’s Presence he was roused to long for freedom, but the demon resisted the power of Christ. When the man tried to appeal to Jesus for help, the evil spirit put words into his mouth, and he cried out in an agony of fear.

The demoniac partially comprehended that he was in the Presence of One Who could set him free; but when he tried to come within reach of that mighty hand, another’s will held him, another’s words found utterance through him.

The conflict between the power of Satan and his own desire for freedom was terrible. It

seemed that the tortured man must lose his life in the struggle with the foe that had been the ruin of his manhood. But the Saviour spoke with authority and set the captive free. The man who had been possessed stood before the wondering people in the freedom of self-possession.

With glad voice he praised God for deliverance. The eye that had so lately glared with the fire of insanity now beamed with intelligence and overflowed with grateful tears. The people were dumb with amazement. As soon as they recovered speech they exclaimed one to another, "What is this? a new teaching! with authority He commandeth even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him !" – Mark 1:27

There are multitudes today as truly under the power of evil spirits as was the demoniac of Capernaum. All who willfully depart from God's commandments are placing themselves under the control of Satan (Romans 6:16). **Many a man tampers with evil**, thinking that he can break away at pleasure; but he is lured on and on, until he finds himself controlled by a will stronger than his own. He cannot escape its mysterious power. Secret sin or master passion may hold him a captive as helpless as was the demoniac of Capernaum.

Yet his condition is not hopeless. God does not control our minds without our consent; but every man is free to choose what power he will have to rule over him. None have fallen so low, none are so vile, but that they may find deliverance in Christ.

The demoniac, in place of prayer, could utter only the words of Satan; yet the heart's unspoken appeal was heard. **No cry from a soul in need**, though it fail of utterance in words, will be unheeded. Those who consent to enter into Covenant (union) with God are not left to the power of Satan or to the infirmity of their own nature.

"Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered? . . . Thus saith the LORD, **Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away**, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee _____ (your name), and I will save thy children !"

– Isaiah 49:24-25.

Marvelous will be the transformation wrought in him who by faith opens the door of the heart to the Saviour !"

– Ministry of Healing, p.90-92