

Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

The first Sunday of April was Resurrection Sunday, and I hope it was a day for you that brought peace and joy to your heart. What a wonderful, loving God we serve. He was so mindful of us that He rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into His kingdom (Colossians 1:13). Moreover, we have victory over the powers of darkness through Christ (Colossians 2:15). I pray these truths increase your joy in the Lord this month.

Praises:

I praise God that indeed we are more than conquerors in Him. The last few weeks had some sessions of astounding works of freedom by the Holy Spirit. One person in particular had been plagued for years with a malady that departed promptly when spirits departed!

I praise God for how He gifts believers in different ways to serve Him by helping others. I'm grateful for others minister to me in different ways in my life. Nonetheless, I encourage you to seek the Giver of the gift, not the special gifts themselves.

I praise God for the truth of His Word. The promise to be with us always (Matthew 28:20) is very comforting to me.

Finally, I praise God for answering prayer. I've asked for a few months for prayers for some particular individuals, and progress has been made.

Short Report:

Mr. Y was haunted by very powerful fears and worries, especially in regard to finances. The worries seemed to almost paralyze him, and somehow he knew it was a spiritual matter. He went through the normal process of ministry, and we were in Jesus' name able to cast out a number of spirits. Things slowly got better, but there was something still troubling him. Finally we were able to get to the cause of the trouble. In Matthew 12, Jesus is accused of being empowered by Beelzebub to drive out demons. Interestingly, Mr. Y had an ancestor who sacrificed an animal to Beelzebub during the Great Depression to ensure the financial security and prosperity of his family. The blood sacrifice committed the family to that demon, and he had a powerful hold on Mr. Y. Normally, ministry sessions are quite calm. This one had a little more drama as Beelzebub tried to get Mr. Y out of the seat and come after me. I had ordered in Jesus' name no violence and forbade him to leave the chair. The spirit was very angry! I asked the demon if the angels were holding him down, and the demon angrily admitted that was the case. Even though the man's body was wiggling and thrashing, he did not leave the chair. The arms did not even come off the armrest! The demon also angrily admitted he had no more right to stay and departed. The man collapsed in the chair. Mr. Y was worn out but set free!

Something to Consider:

Hebrews 1:14—¹⁴ *Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?*

Hebrews 13:2—² *Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.*

One of the dangers about a ministry such as this is that a person can become enamored with the spirit realm and supernatural. Whether it be angels, demons, or spiritual gifts, if one focuses on these things instead of the living God, we can be distracted and deceived. Therefore, as noted above, we must maintain our focus on Him more than the gifts He gives, the angels who serve Him, or the demons who oppose Him. For me, I can become too negative and down because of seeing all the destruction that the enemy has caused. I must remember the truth of Christ's victory over them. Likewise, I cannot be too overjoyed about the authority I have in Christ to address the evil spirits. I must rejoice more in the salvation in Jesus Christ.

Maintaining balance does mean, though, that we recognize the reality of a spiritual battle. In this battle, God's holy angels are available to minister to us and lend a hand in dealing with the powers of darkness. In the case with Mr. Y, it was very evident, as the confrontation with the demons was more dramatic than normal in a ministry session with me. It was very clear from the start of the meeting that the demons were uncomfortable. It was common for Mr. Y to adjust his chair when he first arrived—he made it just right for him. This day, he couldn't even move the chair! When we got to the point of confronting the spirits, no matter how much the demons moved his body, the chair would not move. Thankfully, another person was there to witness what happened to confirm what I saw to be true. This was not the first time I had an experience where it was obvious that angels assisted in a session, but it was one of the more dramatic cases. I am very thankful, though, that they were there to protect me and the other person in room. Another occasion had a similar experience, where a man raised his arm to hit me, but he couldn't bring his arm forward. (I say "he," but really the demon had taken control momentarily. It didn't last long as it left quickly).

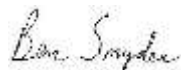
We may never know when an angel has been at work for us in our lives. Sometimes while focusing on inner healing during sessions, the Holy Spirit shows a person what was happening in the spirit realm during a difficult time. The person then sees how the angels were at work to protect the person. In one case, the angels protected the person from being killed by an attacker, as the demons were enticing the attacker to do. The angels were battling the demons and spared the person's life. I certainly don't have all the answers as to why things happen, but working in ministry has shown me that God does care and He and His angels are working for us in our lives. Therefore, we can trust in Him to care for us and carry us through difficult times. Dean Hochstetler would say we can't order angels to hoe our gardens or tie our shoes, but they are available for spiritual battles! I can firmly say, "Amen!"

Prayer Concerns:

Please continue to pray for those ones I mentioned in earlier months.

Please pray for wisdom for me to increase for ministry as well as for maintaining compassion for a hurting world.

Continually Rescued by Christ Jesus,



Ben Snyder

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