Life of Freedom MINISTRIES

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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

# Greetings!

This is the time of year when evil and death is celebrated by many. My response to that is one of my favorite passages from the New Testament, Hebrews 2:14-15: <sup>14</sup> Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—<sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. I pray that the darkness that is celebrated will not lead to fear or be an overwhelming burden for you. Instead, may we all walk in confidence that the power of death and the devil is overcome by the Living Jesus Christ.

### Praises:

I praise God for His working in ministering to help an entire extended family be free of ancestral burdens. Many of the family members weren't even aware of how one person addressed a family matter that was leading to the deception of many.

I praise God for His healing of a man who had been severely attacked by spirits sent by a Satan worshipping coven. The spirits were causing physical illness, but he is doing much better after their eviction.

### **Important Note:**

The road construction in front of the LFM office on County Road 38 is nearly complete. There is a main base coat of pavement down, awaiting a final two inch coat when all of the work on the edges to be complete. Therefore, it doesn't appear that there should be any issues for appointments. By the end of the month, the work will likely be finished.

# **Short Report:**

For most of Ms. ZZ's life, she felt doomed. In fact, she sensed that even God was telling her she was doomed. At a very young age, she was very fearful of evil spirits because a parent told her that the evil spirits would come through the wall and get her. She did not want to be bad and allow the spirits to be able to do so, but feared she'd not be good enough. Her father was abusive, even beating her mom right in front of her. As an adult, she had a number of negative encounters at churches: being told there was something wrong with her since she couldn't speak in tongues; being sexually attacked; and awkward experiences with church leaders. There was very little experience of grace for Ms. ZZ throughout her life. With all of this, she admitted she was confused about God, and most of the time felt that He was just a bully. However, she hoped it wasn't true, and that He'd bring her freedom.

After taking all of her burdens to the Lord, we began to confront any evil spirits that were at work in her life. None identified themselves or even acknowledged their presence. I then asked the Holy Spirit to bring to Ms. ZZ's mind anyone she needed to forgive, and her parents came to mind quickly. After some time in prayer to choose to specifically forgive her parents for their roles of abuse in her life, we again confronted spirits. This time, the spirits were quick to respond. About half of the group were inherited from her parents. The chief spirit was named Liar. He admitted to her that his whole purpose in the lies he told her was to keep her from God and living in relationship with Him. His main helpers who were inherited attacked her worth. Their names were Rejection and Guilt. Other spirits had taken residence with her then due to her responses to these burdens, and enticed her to more and more sinful practices. They caused addictions, sexual sin, and anger, all the while making her feel more and more worthless.

The evil spirits admitted that their right to stay was gone, as Ms. ZZ's had cancelled it in Jesus' name. We then ordered them to depart and go where the Lord Jesus would send them. I invited the living Lord Jesus to minister to her, and she felt Him hold her as one would hold a precious baby, healing a broken little girl. Instead of being confused about God and seeing Him as a bully, she experienced the true God in all of His love for her as He did indeed bring her freedom and healing.

## Something to Consider:

Matthew 8:3—<sup>3</sup> Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy.

Matthew 23:37—<sup>37</sup> "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.

Is God a bully? Absolutely not! In looking at the Lord Jesus in the Gospels, He was loving and caring, having compassion on the people. The passages above are just two of many that could be used that show how much He cares for and wants to heal the hurting. It is true that He could be very harsh with people. The verses prior to verse 37 of Matthew 23 shows Jesus using scathing words against the people who were wounding others and should have known better. Even in this case, He concludes by saying He wanted them to repent and return to Him, but they would not do it.

Not one time in a ministry session has God not been caring and gentle with the hurting client. As it was for Ms. ZZ, those who come that have wounded memories experience a God who has compassion and brings them comfort. As long as the person is willing to humble oneself and forgive, He is there to bring healing. Even if the person won't forgive, He is patient and woos the person to release the burden of unforgiveness. He doesn't bully or coerce, but invites and encourages. Therefore, if you see God as a bully, I encourage you to take a close look at Jesus in the Gospels and see how loving He is. Then, read the rest of the Bible and see all throughout how He is a loving God who has care and compassion for all of the people of the world.

### **Prayer Concerns:**

Please join me in prayer for people who have been hurting due to the passing away of loved ones. Some have been due to covid, some accidents, and others don't even have the answers. Even with the promise of eternal life in Christ, it is painful to lose a loved one. Let's pray for their comfort.

October can be very difficult for clients who have Satan worship in their ancestry. Please pray for them to be able to appropriate Christ's victory in a difficult season.

Continually Rescued by Christ Jesus,

Ben Smyder

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