

# Mental Illness

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It is estimated that up to 50% of Americans will have a reported mental disorder in their lifetime, and many more have problems that go unreported. The Department of Health & Human Services says, "Mental health problems affect one in every five young people at any given time." I believe that if the truth were known, it is probably more than that. Having some type of a mental disorder is a serious problem that plagues our society and the Church today; in society, for obvious reasons, and in the Church because repentance, for the most part, is not taught.

Mental illness comes into a person's life through disobedience to the Voice of God and His Commandments either through the generational iniquities of the forefathers and/or through parents not bringing their children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. ISA 1:2-8 confirms this, where God says, "Listen, O heavens, and hear, O earth; for the Lord speaks, "Sons I have reared and brought up, But they have revolted against Me. An ox knows its owner, and a donkey its master's manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand. Alas, sinful nation, people weighed down with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, sons who act corruptly! They have abandoned the Lord. They have despised the Holy One of Israel. They have turned away from Him. Where will you be stricken again, as you continue in your rebellion? The whole head is sick (speaks not of a sick man but of one flogged in the head), and the whole heart is faint. From the sole of the foot even to the head there is nothing sound in it, only bruises, welts, and raw wounds, not pressed out or bandaged, nor softened with oil. Your land is desolate, your cities are burned with fire, your fields-- strangers are devouring them in your presence; it is desolation, as overthrown by strangers and the daughter of Zion is left like a shelter in a vineyard, like a watchman's hut in a cucumber field, like a besieged city." To besiege means: to surround with hostile forces or troops i.e. the powers of darkness. It means to crowd around or hem in, to harass or importune, as with requests (voices), to cause to feel distressed or worried, to attack from all sides, to assail, assault or set upon. Jesus called us a city in MAT 5:14. There He said, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden."

The Scripture in Romans 1 warns us of the consequences of exchanging the truth of God for a lie and worshipping the creature rather than the Creator. In verse 28, it says, "And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved (reprobate) mind, to do those things which are not proper. Could this possibly one of the causes of Alzheimer's?

Children who do not grow up with parental discipline do not feel loved and hate themselves. People who hate themselves and who do not feel good about themselves have low serotonin levels and have addictive types of personalities. PRO 15:32 says, "He who neglects discipline despises (hates, loathes, abhors) himself." PRO 13:24 says, "He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently" and PRO 22:15 says, "Foolishness (folly) is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of discipline will remove it far from him." There are many positive sides of discipline: love, care, nurture, fellowship, communication, protection, guidance, teaching, training, provision, affection, hugs, kisses, encouragement, comfort, forgiveness, patience, affirmation, encouragement, etc. The only negative side of discipline is the rod if a child does not listen. Many parents have called this ministry looking for a place for their mentally ill 17, 20, 30, 40 year old child. When asked have you disciplined your child; without

exception they have replied, "I am sorry to say that I have not." A parent's failure to discipline their children often leads them to bemoan the monsters they have created. The Good News is that when parents cease enabling and their children and they line up with the Word of God, God restores the years the locusts have eaten and healing comes.

The world gives a person no hope for the healing of mental illness. Some years back, I had a woman come to me from another state for deliverance. She said, "My psychiatrist said I can never be healed of my mental illness." I answered her, "Your psychiatrist is right. If you continue looking to him and the world for answers, you will never be healed. But if you look to Jesus, the Great Physician, and meet His conditions, He will heal you." The condition is in a person aligning himself with the Word of God through repentance.

God tells us in COL 2:8,9: "See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ." The world and psychology teach doctrines of demons. Psychology can actually cause a person to be brought into greater bondage. This is always compounded by the mind altering drugs that are prescribed which keeps a person in a drunken state and can cause them to fall away from the faith. 1TI 4:1 says, "But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons." 1TH 5:6 says, "So then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober."

Jesus said in MAT 12:30 "He who does not gather (to bring parts together) with Me scatters (To cause to separate and go in different directions). Notice the whole subject of Matthew 12:22-30 is deliverance. Sin opens a person up to demons that cause them to be scattered. One of the curses listed in DEU 28:25 is, "The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them, but you shall flee seven ways before them, and you shall be an example of terror to all the kingdoms of the earth." The world calls this mental condition in its' compounded state, MPD (multiple personality disorder) or more recently has defined it as DID (disassociate identity disorder). God promises that through repentance and alignment with the Word of God, He will gather us from all the places where we have been scattered.

The world calls it a societal problem but the Bible makes it clear that mental illness is a curse. DEU 28:34 says, "And you shall be driven mad by the sight of what you see." DEU 28:28 says, "The Lord will smite you with madness and with blindness and with bewilderment of heart." The dictionary defines mad and madness as suffering from a disorder of the mind. It means to be temporarily or apparently deranged by violent sensations, emotions, or ideas. A person who is mad or has madness is lacking in restraint or reason; marked by extreme excitement, confusion, or agitation; frantic, crazy or deranged. It is the quality or condition of being insane. Mad and madness means to have mental disorders impairing the capacity to function adequately: mental illness, alienation, craziness, dementia, lunacy, mania, irrational, obsessive behavior, monomania, compulsiveness, obsessive, fanaticism, psychosis, psychotic, delusional, hallucinatory, psychoneurotic, schizoid, schizophrenic, unthinking, fallacious, illogical, unreasonable, unsound, clouded, cloudy, muddled, disturbed, irrational, unbalanced, neurotic, touched, non compos mentis (*Latin*), sick, deranged, unhinged, unsound, unstable, paranoid, paranoiac, raving, lunatic, nutty, loopy, batty, daft, hydrophobic, rabid and foaming.

PRO 26:2 says, "Like a sparrow in its flitting, like a swallow in its flying, so a curse without cause does not alight." The spiritual root to mental illness without exception is rebellion which is violating the Word of God and His Commandments.

God gives us His solution to mental illness. It is found in ROM 12:1-2, where it says, "I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." In other words, submit your life to God, renewing your mind with the Word of God and enter into the process of aligning your life with the Word of God. 1PE 2:24 says "And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might (1) die to sin and (2) live to righteousness (3) for by His wounds you were healed."