

# CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

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## *A Word of Hope From Rebekah*

Dear Friend,

No person or situation is ever beyond the reach of Christ! Stretch your faith in God to believe for what may seem like the impossible in your situation.

Consider this Biblical example taken from the book of Mark chapter 5. There was a man who for a long time could not live in a home. Instead, he spent his days and nights roaming the mountains and dwelling among tombs. He walked around naked and was always crying and cutting himself with stones. People in his town tried to contain him by wrapping chains and shackles around him, but he would break them off. The Bible makes it a point to tell us that no one could tame this man; Ah, but One, the Holy Son of God.

When Jesus came to his town, the man ran to meet Jesus and worshiped Him, and Jesus healed Him. You see, what these people could not do with chains and shackles, Jesus did with words. We see this same kind of scenario often played out today. We come across a person, like this man, whom many today would consider certifiably insane or someone who has gone loony, and our first inclination is to bind him/her up in some kind of institution. We put bars and locks on the doors and windows and put them in a straitjacket so that they don't hurt themselves or others. Many back then considered this man totally depraved and beyond reach, just like many would today. But, notice something very important. Even in his most depraved state (walking around without clothes, cutting himself, crying all the time, etc...) this man came and worshiped Jesus.

When we decide to give up on someone, like a spouse, or some kind of situation we are facing, we may say to ourselves, There is just no hope! God, however, looks down and says, "No! This person is not beyond My reach. He can be healed. She can be delivered." No matter what you are facing, Jesus is saying to you today, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

Until we meet, encourage yourself with this hymn written by C.P. Jones (1865-1949).

Hear the blessed Saviour calling the oppressed,  
"O ye heavy laden come to Me and rest;  
Come, no longer tarry, I your load will bear,  
Bring Me ev'ry burden, bring Me ev'ry care."

Are you disappointed, wand'ring here and there,  
Dragging chains of doubt and loaded down with care?

Do unholy feelings struggle in your breast?  
Bring your case to Jesus, He will give you rest.

Stumbling on the mountains dark with sin and shame,  
Stumbling tow'rd the pit of hell's consuming flame,

By the pow'rs of sin deluded and oppressed,  
Hear the tender Shepherd, "Come to Me and rest"

Have you by temptation often conquered been,  
Has a sense of weakness brought distress within?  
Christ will sanctify you, if you'll claim His best,  
In the Holy Spirit, He will give you rest.

Come unto Me; I will give you rest;  
Take My yoke upon you, Hear Me and be blest;  
I am meek and lowly, Come and trust My might;  
Come, My yoke is easy, And My burden's light.

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