Increase in Mental Illness in Latter Days pt. 2

By Charles Feinberg

Charles Feinberg:

Friends such undisciplined living as we've been speaking of is working a world of havoc in mental health. The bill is staggering and it's going to continue to climb. The incident is told of a minister in England who was asked by a very dear friend of his who was head of a mental institution to come and preach in the mental institution. Well this dear friend said I've never done it before. I've not preached it on such occasion before and I'm afraid I wouldn't know what to say. And I rather doubt that I could be of much help. The superintendent of that institution said yes you can be of great help and I will tell you the subject that I'd like to have you speak on Oh he said that'll be helpful. What is the subject? He said I should like for you to speak on the subject of obedience obedience. You see that's the opposite of undisciplined living. So this preacher prayed much about it prepared a message on obedience and preached for about a half hour or 40 minutes and when he finished he was very very despondent. He thought he hadn't availed nothing. And he said so to the superintendent. He said My dear friend I have come as you wanted me to.

But he said I want to tell you frankly I don't think that I got very far. I don't think my visit my message was of much profit or benefit. Do you think it helped at all. He said I should say it has he said it helped not only those who are here hospitalized in this mental institution for many of them know that they are here because of a life lived without control without self-control. And
he said besides that there are in this institution some seventy-five attendants who are caring for these needy ones these mentally ill and they know quite well that this is true. It's told that Huxley the scientist was once on his way to a meeting of the British Association in Dublin. He arrived late at the station. He threw himself into a car called out to the driver drive fast away went the cab jolting over the streets until finally Mr. Huxley, after he had gained his composure had gotten his breath back asked do you know where you're going. The answer of the driver was No. I don't know where we're going. You didn't tell me where we were to go.

But anyway I'm driving fast that my dear friends is a picture of modern life driving fast but going nobody knows where speed without purpose a restlessness without an objective. How we remember a case where a young law school graduate son of a minister. He was in our country's intelligence in Europe after World War II became mentally ill because of undisciplined living. It's amazing the things that he imagined that he talked himself into while I was speaking with him because of his undisciplined living. He had some concept of the way back but it was a far from an easy road. Oh how easy to become enmeshed. It's not always easy for one to become disentangled from it. So here, we have friends two definite solid valid reasons why there's an increase in mental illness in the latter days. Fear undisciplined living and now another one another reason and many especially the unsaved have never credited this as a reason they'd rather think that it doesn't exist. It doesn't come into the reckoning but it does along with fear along with undisciplined living is demon activity.

Now my dear friends let's not make a mistake let's not go around diagnosing either that every case of mental illness a lot of them may have physical causes and there can be fear or undisciplined living also. But don't indicate that every one of them is demon activity but you cannot discount it in the overall picture of the cases that are evident today. The scriptures reveal
that there's a kingdom of demons just as there is a kingdom of angels godly angels under the Lord God of Hosts so there is a kingdom, that's the word, of demons with Satan at its head in Matthew 12 for instance beginning with verse 22 we read then was brought unto him. That's unto our Lord Jesus. One possessed with a demon blind, can a demon blind man yes, and dumb. The demon was given that power over this man to make him blind and dumb, and our Lord Jesus healed him and healed him in so much as the dumb man spoke and saw he got his sight back and he got his speech back. He was no longer dumb. The dumb man spoke and saw and all the multitudes were amazed and said Could this be the son of David. Could this possibly be the messiah? Because in the Old Testament such acts, you see such wonderful miracles were going to be done by the Messiah the Son of David.

But when the Pharisees heard it they said this man doth not cast out demons but by Beelzebub, the prince of the demons and knowing their thoughts he said unto them every kingdom notice this Satan has a kingdom every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation any kingdom that's fighting against itself doesn't have a ghost of a chance. Not at all to survive. And every city your house divided against itself shall not stand. We see that in many homes we see that in many cities. If you have civil strife can't stand we see that in Korea we've seen that in Vietnam. In our generation now and if Satan casteth out Satan see Beelzebub is the prince of the demons that's Satan if Satan casts out Satan he's divided against himself. How then shall his kingdom stand? And I often tell folk Satan is not as stupid as some who claim to be so wise in our churches they think that organizations and fellowships can go on without any injury uninjured and still be fighting one against another.

That's not true. No Satan knows better than that. He is not divided against himself but you see this passage reveals a remarkable truth that there is a kingdom of demons with Satan at
the head and the parallel passages in Mark three verses 22 to 24. There are evil principalities and powers as well as good principalities and powers that means ranks and assigned places of influence and power Colossians two 13 to 15. Christ conquered principalities and powers went above them into the third heaven. Demon possession was recognized by our Lord. Matthew 10:8 Mark 6 13. Luke 13 32 and Matthew 9 32 and 33 and Matthew 12 22 and Luke 11 24 to 26. Oh yes demon possession was recognized by our Lord. And there were so many cases of demon possession at the time of Christ because Satan had arrayed his forces against the Lord. He was trying to make an all-out thrust assault on the Lord of glory and those demon spirits knew a lot more than some of our liberal theologians and preachers they knew Christ was the lord of all spirits in the universe.

They said we know thee who thou art oh thou son of David the son of the Most High. They knew his deity they knew his supreme position over all creatures all created intelligences peoples and spirits. Hast thou come to torment us before our time? They also knew that in the future the Lord Jesus Christ is the judge of all spirits. My dear friends if they had been taking a course in systematic theology you would have had to give them 100 percent for their knowledge of Christ as much as they spoke of it their Christology was correct and their eschatology. They knew that in coming judgment day Christ would be and is assigned to be the judge of Satan of demons wicked angels wicked men. There are evil spirits we find out in scripture who even sway movements and councils of nations. Sometimes we say that nation seems as if it's gone berserk as in Germany before or in World War II and before World War II. And in some of the countries of Africa my dear friends there are evil spirits who have charge over nations and sway nations Daniel 10 13.
There was one who was a head of the kingdom of Persia one the head of the kingdom of Greece. There are sign working Demons, revelation 16 11 through 16. There are sign working miracle working demon spirits that gather the Kings and the rulers of the world to Armageddon. Reports from various parts of the world confirm these features demon activity. The person suddenly shows another personality speaks in a different voice. I remember in seminary days we had a book on demon demonism analyzed and verified by a missionary a Presbyterian missionary in China with pictures and it showed a person demon possessed. And then when that one had been liberated two entirely different categories of life even of appearance. And so again and again the person suddenly shows another personality speaks in a different voice. A lady speaks with a man's voice and the person often becomes violent. They show Supernatural not divine but supernatural knowledge.

His speech is evil, vile, crude often blasphemous. I remember a case of a lady who came forward to an invitation in Los Angeles and she was being dealt with by one of the pastors and myself I was on the pastoral staff minister in the Jewish department there in Los Angeles. And then it came out she had been living with a medium and while we were talking to her she heard ringing in her ears whisperings even while we prayed with her in her confused condition and you could tell you could tell she was in difficulty. You could tell she was harassed you could tell she was under tension. Her appearance was so distraught. Her eyes were so strange and the prophetic scriptures indicate an increase in demonic activity in the future. In Matthew 12 versus forty three to forty five. That's a remarkable passage there. Our Lord says but the unclean spirit immediately jumps into that subject talking about a greater than Solomon is here. But the unclean spirit when he's gone out of the man passeth through waterless places seeking rest and findeth it not. Here's a case of a demon spirit unclean spirit. He's been in a man.
And then he decides to go off and he goes through desert places. So he's seeking rest and he doesn't find it. He is restless. Then he says I'll return to my house whence I came out I'm going to go back where I came from. And when he is come that means when he's returned he finds it empty swept and garnished all polished up readied up. He finds that place entirely clean. Then he goes and takes with himself seven other spirits more evil than himself and they enter in and dwell there. And the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this evil generation he's talking about how God cleansed Israel of idolatry in the Babylonian Captivity in 586 B.C. all the way to 536 the first captivity was from 606 the first stage down to 536 70 years and they have been the least idolatrous of all the nations. But that doesn't mean that they are immune not having received Christ. They will leave themselves wide open to a further attack from demons. And he says it's the last day of that man's going to be worse than the first. Will it come to pass.

Revelation 13 14 and 15 in a coming day they will be completely deceived and worship the image of the beast. Because the religious leader invites them to do so and leads them on. An idol is nothing in the world but remember it. Behind every idol is a demon. First Corinthians 12 the ungodly are led to that. I received the letter some time ago after I'd spoken on increase in mental illness in a church in Southern California and the young man writes me I assume it's a young man from his writing. He addresses me and says concerning the above such subject increase in mental illness. He tells the date the hour the church concerning the above subject. I would like to thank you and tell you how much your preaching of the word in a very real and personal sense helped me. He was there at that meeting and then he goes in the second paragraph there are four paragraphs in all the second reads demons and demon possession have held only a passive interest to me but believe me Dr. Feinberg I've had agony of soul from fear without
apparent cause. That is until you pointed out my soul's need applying the word to the Demons addressing them directly and in the name of Christ depart from me. Even now, the demons whisper don’t make a fool of yourself. And right Dr. Feinberg don't bother doing that. But I know that the word runs contrary to this Galatians 6:2 believe me it has been a burden, which you have helped me to remove.

Thank God for that friends feel not obligated to answer this letter for this release of fears brought on by demons is compensation enough for me. Yours in Christ. Oh my dear friends demon activity has got to be realized. For what it's worth. For what it is now is there. Does there happen to be a biblical character a biblical personality who was mentally ill and combined all these features. What features fear undisciplined uncontrolled living and demon activity. Was there such a Bible Character. Very definitely, it was none other than the first king over Israel. Who's that? It was King Saul. Notice in first Samuel chapter 13. 8 to 12. Notice this undisciplined living this inability to control himself and he tarried seven days according to the said time that Samuel, Samuel the Prophet had appointed. He said he'd be back. And then they would do the things needful. But Samuel came not to Gilgal and the people were scattered from him from Saul and Saul said bring hither the burnt offering to me and the peace offerings and he offered the burnt offering and it came to pass that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering behold Samuel came.

Oh if he had just awaited and Saul went out to meet him that he might salute him. And Samuel said what hast thou done and Saul said because I saw that the people scattered from me and that thou camest not within the days appointed and that the Philistines assembled themselves together at Michmash therefore said I, now will the fullest and come down upon me to Gilgal and I have not entreated the favor of the Lord. Notice the undisciplined living now I forced
myself therefore and offered the burnt offering. I forced myself and offered the burnt offering. Now that was undisciplined living and fear and not only so my dear friends you remember how all the days after Samuel anointed David Saul was in a cross country a cross country race he was everlastingly after David so that David finally had to leave the country completely. Yes. So afraid and couldn't control that. You'd think after David had spared his life once and again that possibly he would let him go. No. He kept at it and at it he just seemed to be driven on and on.

And if you think we have overdone this particular area. Not at all. Look at first Samuel 16 14. Now the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him. Yes oh yes demons not only fear, undisciplined living, but demons. And then the last word concerning it is it first Chronicles Chapter 10 13 and 14. Notice how clear this is so Saul died as his dying on Mount Gilboa. So Saul died for his trespass which he committed against the Lord because of the word of the Lord which he kept not and also for that he asked counsel of one that had a familiar spirit to inquire thereby and inquired not of the Lord. Therefore he slew him Saul committed suicide but ultimately it was God who put him aside. Therefore he slew him and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse. My dear friend he consults finally the Witch of Endor and it was Rodger Kipling who said the craziest road of all is the road to Endor, a woman conversant with spirits.

All three elements were in this very very unhappy King Saul Mrs. Dan Crawford the wife of that great missionary to Africa was speaking once at a YMCA in London. In the course of her speaking, Mrs. Dan Crawford told of a woman who from her earliest years had been conscious of a strange presence within her. Under the influence of that condition, she committed all kinds of unspeakable crimes. One day she ended the mission house and she squatted down in front of the platform. That day in the providence of God, the preacher was a young minister but he had only
a very elementary knowledge of the native language. And so when the time came for him to deliver his sermon words completely failed him. He couldn't find his tongue. He couldn't begin to speak in that African dialect so he did a very wise thing. He took up his Bible. He read through Mark 5 the account of the Gerasenes demoniac, the man possessed of a demon from Gerasenes some manuscripts reads Gederah but that was that demoniac with a legion of demons you remember. Well this dear young man finished reading Mark 5, didn't know what else to do and he didn't have a message yet.

So he read it again. That old woman listened with profound attention and at the conclusion; she did a most unusual thing. Nobody expected her to do it. That dear old woman that was squatted down there in front of the preacher at the end of his of his rereading of Mark five she jumped up she began praying to the unknown power that had done so much for that afflicted man. That they just heard about. She prayed to this unknown power to release her from her curse. In her intense praying, she foamed at the mouth. This isn't fiction friends it's fact. She foamed at the mouth and at one time, the those who were looking thought she would fall into a fit. At last she sank on the ground utterly spent utterly exhausted and she began whispering and all she could whisper was I'm freed I am freed and freed she actually was. For a long time she lived in the household and served with Mrs. Crawford a living testimony.

Thank God a living testimony to the power of the Living God over the powers of evil my dear friends dear it again there is an increase and it will continue on in mental illness in these latter days. And these three basic reasons no matter what others there may be these basic ones are there fear fear fear is an indignity because God says fear not. He's our great protector. Are we afraid he can't take care of us. Fear is a great cause for mental illness. It will fasten itself on the mind like a cancer and grow and grow. One of the basic causes for mental illness. Another is
undisciplined living throwing overboard throwing to the winds all the norms that God has set
down in his word for the living of the life here. God has made man. God has put him in this
environment on Earth. God knows what's best for us. We don't dare take it into our own hands to
do what we think is best. Yes, undisciplined living without self-control is a second cause and
never forget it. Third cause is demon activity. Thank God then friends Christ is the liberator from
every ill both of time and of eternity.

The Lord Jesus Christ can free from fear. Fear not, fear not he said again and again. Go in
peace. Thy faith has saved thee. Go. You're pardoned you're forgiven sin no more lest a worse
thing come upon you. Oh how he he freed how he liberated how he rescued men and
women in so many different walks of life. He liberated them from fear and above all from the
fear of death and he can do it now for you as he has done it for multiplied millions around the
world he frees from fear. He certainly freed from fear those five glorious martyrs among the
Achuar in Ecuador he frees from fear of every kind he can give victory over undisciplined living.
There's only one who is able to give the bridle on undisciplined living as the same one who can
tame the tongue no man can tame the tongue. We read in James the third chapter.

But just because no man can do it doesn't mean it can't be tamed God can tame it and so
God can give victory over undisciplined living and God alone can rebuke and suppress and
remove and annihilate and render ineffective all demonic activity. And there's plenty of it
around. More and more do we hear the worship of Satan the gatherings of Satan I wouldn't dare
call it a Church of Satan. They're not a church at all. The church belongs to Christ but in so many
places they are worshipping Satan gatherings assemblies congregations of Satan demonic
activity on the increase. And you can tell it men go completely beyond reason. They are led on
by demon operations. The only way to blessing, hear it friend and I mean it with all my heart.
The only way to blessing is through faith in him and his work on Calvary. [End]