

The Betrayal
Of The
Innocent

By
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Betrayal Of The Innocent

Endless washing of hands and face in water so hot it would have

Scorched the flesh of less tormented souls...but not you, not your flesh,

But you found you could never cleanse your skin, your secret self,

Your inner man of all that had befallen you.

Aloof, difficult, temperamental, you kept everyone at bay,

Except for those rare moments when your torment and vulnerability

Would show through, moments when you would reach out

And allow yourself to love and be loved...briefly;

Then suddenly you'd remember again and hastily retreat,

Vanishing irretrievably behind that hard, implacable wall of fury

That eventually became such an impenetrable part of you.

How I wish I could take that hurt away...

Dismantle that wall brick by brick,

But unless you can admit that torments and fears plague your soul

No-one can take your pain away or help you find absolution

From the guilt that was never yours to begin with.

Sylvia Darling



The sexual abuse of any child has to be one of the most appalling crimes someone can commit. There is nothing more helpless, vulnerable and trusting than the human child, the emotional and psychological damage caused by such foul and violent acts of treachery and lust (often committed by close family members or family 'friends') is incalculable. This TOTAL violation and domination of their young bodies without even the slightest thought or concern about the absolutely appalling emotional and physical trauma caused, or the pain inflicted upon them is cruelty beyond belief. It subjects them to AN ORDEAL from which the vast majority of them never TRULY recover. The physical injuries may eventually heal but the memory, the humiliation, the rage over what was done to them is embedded in their souls and engraved upon their psyches'. It is a torment they must somehow bury and repress just to enable them to get through another day but it is a struggle they live with every day of their lives...lives which in their own eyes are now forever 'blighted'.

despair

black moments yielding to dark thoughts of eternal rest rest from tormenting fears aching areas of 'being' untouched unruffled left to lie unexplored undisturbed for fear of dark places better left unknown unsuspected better left untapped unrevealed even to ourselves

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THIS is PAIN - THIS is TRAUMA. The Black Hole of depression and despair the victims of sexual abuse experience, often on a daily basis, can be so completely overwhelming that many eventually succumb to it, unable to grasp that there IS an answer, that there IS a way to stop their pain and mind-numbing despair OR that they CAN HAVE a BETTER 'Tomorrow', but there IS ONE Person who CAN heal us, ONE Person who CAN take away pain of that magnitude ... Our Heavenly Father. Only HE can RESTORE us, RENEW US, and SET US FREE to BECOME the person HE intended us to be and He does it ALL through His Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us.

2 Cor 5:17/18 + 21 "...If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new, and all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ...For he hath made him to be sin for us...that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

The new creature 'in Christ' that the Apostle Paul speaks of in this Scripture reflects the way *God sees us* the moment we are spiritually reborn, but the changing of who we are into who we will become 'in Christ' has to be done with OUR involvement, OUR consent, OUR understanding every step of the way, if it were not so God would be acting sovereignly, OVERRIDING our freedom of choice, our free will and that He will NOT do. This process is a co-operation between man and God.

There are many things God does Sovereignly. We are saved By His Grace Sovereignly when we accept Jesus Christ as Our Lord and

Saviour. We can be freed from oppressions of the mind and receive physical healing for our bodies Sovereignly, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Emotional healing however, the healing of the psyche (which the dictionary defines as soul, mind, mentality and character, the absolute ESSENCE of who we ARE) these things are not physical and therefore NOT something God seeks to achieve externally and Sovereignly but INTERNALLY, with our co-operation and understanding so that TRUE wholeness might be achieved. The experience, the memory must be dealt with, the pain healed and completely excised from our mind, from our soul; we will remember that the abuse happened but the pain will no longer be there, we will be distanced from it, detached, but it must be understood that something the Bible refers to as the 'renewing' of our mind is a vital part of this healing process.

Romans 12:2 "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable and perfect will of God." It is Gods' Perfect Will that we be made whole. Titus 3:5/7 says "...according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost: which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour..."

The 'renewing' of our mind doesn't happen in the blink of an eye, it is a gradual process and happens over time. Our understanding and spiritual insight GROW as we 'walk' with Him, draw closer to Him, enter into a relationship with Him; we become more open to Him and His Ways and it is then that we develop a readiness to change, an awareness that we need to change. God knows us, He created us, He created us with an innate need and desire to both know and understand everything He wants to impart to us. He also knows when we are ready to RECEIVE certain truths, spiritual or otherwise, and exactly how much truth and insight we will be able to handle at any one time. He knows exactly the right moment to place these things before us.

I remember one such moment in my own life when I was genuinely seeking His Face and finally prepared to do whatever He wanted me to do in order to save my rapidly deteriorating marriage. It was a truly remarkable experience. I had been praying earnestly before Him, entreating Him to show me whatever it was I needed to know or to do to change things. He began to show me my attitudes, the way I responded to my husband if he did or said certain things, but as He showed them to me He also took me back to instances years earlier in my life that I subconsciously related those particular words and actions to and how very much they had hurt me then. As He showed me incident after incident in my life and I wept before Him,

He healed me of that pain and it was gone. I emerged from that prayer time a different woman, prepared to put what I had learned into practice. I resolved not to instantly lash out verbally if I felt my husband might possibly be trying to 'put me down' in some way realizing now that it was probably more 'in my head' than reality. I chose instead to keep quiet, 'button my lip' and just to let some things GO...IT NEARLY KILLED ME at first, but I eventually got the hang of it and my home-life immediately became more harmonious and tranquil. I've never forgotten my experience that day or how very much closer I felt to God after it, I knew that He Loved me, that He Cared, my spirit was enriched by it. This is just one example of how God can and does heal things in our lives, how He can restore us and make us whole again.

It was a few days after this that I wrote the poem "God Uses Broken Things...all my poems are written from my own personal experience or are the result of time spent seeking the face of God after which they have flowed quite naturally from a worshipful spirit. God is Good.

When it is time for an experience like this in your own life do not be afraid. Gods' Love is there, His support is there and you will find it peaceful yet awe-inspiring as you become aware of Him right there with you, helping you and guiding you every step of the way.

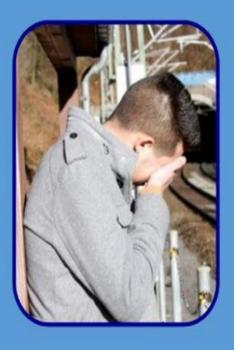


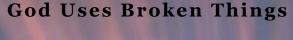
Dawn

We learn through pain, We grow through pain. Understanding doesn't come Through happy times, It comes through hurt and fear, Sorrow and pain; Understanding comes through Heartache and despair, Bitter lonely nights, Wretched, unhappy tears... But then the Light comes, Healing comes, joy comes And along with peace - understanding. He was there all along. Waiting, Loving, Understanding. There to see you through. The only True Light at the End of the tunnel.

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Do you need to be helped? Do you need to be restored, but do you also need to understand, not just be healed? Of course you do, but the first step is to genuinely choose to give your life over to Christ by accepting Him as your Lord and Saviour. The next step is to follow Him, immerse yourself in His thoughts, His teachings and elect to lead a different life, and embrace a different way of thinking. If you do all these things sincerely and honestly you will one day not only be made whole, but you will also be a partner with God and Jesus Christ for you will have made an incredible spiritual journey, a transition with Gods' Help and with Jesus Christ right by your side.





The Father healed my aching heart,
Made the broken pieces mend,
And, whilst I was serving Him
Caused my inner pain to end.
For He had seen my anguished soul
And alone He knew the cause,
And brought to mind the hundred cuts
That always made me pause,
Afraid to enter in.





Now I have felt His Healing Balm
I can rise again,
And I can help the others find
The Healer of all men,
For others need that Healing Touch
To penetrate their soul,
And others need the Living God
Who truly makes men whole.
Come...Trust in Him.

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Gods' Precious Holy Spirit guides us into all spiritual truth, we have the support we need, the understanding we need, God gives us everything we need to enable us to complete every part of our journey, all we have to do is put our trust in Him and take that first step of faith believing that HE IS, then...we cannot fail!

God Bless you as you embark on your journey.

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Be Still

God, You are so special to me, You're the one thing in my life That no-one can take away. There is only one thing that Can come between us - ME, And You help me even to overcome myself. When I withdraw helpless and afraid You reach out and draw me close. When I am angry and confused You listen, then when I am still once more, You soothe me and explain. How far is my mind from Yours, Yet always You are there, Reaching out to communicate. I need only to be still to hear. Sylvia Darling

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