

“It’s a trap!!”

By Roberto Bruno

Can you imagine how it would feel to be a mouse in a trap or a fish on a hook with no way out? The victim is most likely overwhelmed by fear and panic with death imminent. We may not be in a physical trap but some of us are trapped in invisible cages. Trapped in a bad relationship. Trapped in a dead end job. Trapped in a sickness. Trapped! Whatever trap we may find ourselves in; we have to get up in the morning, wash our faces, get dressed and go about our day. When people see us they don’t know that they are talking to an inmate that is trapped! How are we supposed to sing and be happy? This is the same dilemma Israel was in. Psalms 137:1-4 tells us, *“by the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept when we remembered Zion. We hung our harps upon the willows in the midst of it. For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song, and those who plundered us requested mirth, saying, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion!” How shall we sing the LORD’s song in a foreign land?”* At this point Israel was under the Babylonian rule. They were taken from their homes and now living in a foreign land. Israel’s captives wanted them to sing some of their folk songs from back home. Their response was “How can we sing when we are trapped. How could Israel sing happy songs when they were being held against their will?

At times we can feel the same way when we are in the midst of a deep trial. How can we be happy and hopeful when we see no end to the difficulties? It can seem daunting and lonely while in a trap but King David wrote, *“I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my supplications because He has inclined His ear to me, Therefore I will call upon Him as long as I live. The pains of death surrounded me, and the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow. Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I implore You, deliver my soul!”* Psalms 116:1-4. God hears our cries! Our prayers are not in vain. Even when our lives feel like they are over because of the trap it is not over. Maybe our dreams have died, our joy is gone, or our emotions are numb. The Lord is the master at bringing things back to life. *Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live”.* John 11:25. **I Am...** the resurrection... **I Am** the healer... **I Am** the restorer... What do you want?! Wherever Jesus is there will be somebody who is going to get up, get free, or get out! We just need to trust Him while we are on the road to complete freedom.

