

## Sal's Place

**“A pastor claims he can cure MCS because it is a simple emotional fear reaction.”**

I was recently sent a document in which a pastor claims he can cure MCS because it is a simple emotional fear reaction. Now I don't doubt that spirituality can help a person cope with the very real fear that the presentation of toxicants produces when one goes into "flight or fight" - a natural reaction that motivates us to protect ourselves. But this pastor whom I will not name has mixed up the simple difference between a real fear and a phobia which is a perceived threat that is unrealistic. He further has claimed that the "flight or fight" fear reactions are the MCS symptoms that MCSers suffer from.

Whoa! Wait a minute! MCS symptoms such as seizures, respiratory distress, and headache are not the same as a flight or fight reaction in which adrenaline is released to give us energy to fight or run. Both may be present but "curing" the alarm reaction will not stop the MCS reaction that is physiologically mediated. In fact it may place an individual in direct danger by having one not take the

necessary precautionary measures to avoid an MCS reaction.

I provided many studies and supporting evidence for the physiological cause of MCS as the pastor tempted to sway me. Then I asked for proof in the way of studies that have shown the "hundreds" he cured were actually diagnosed with bona fide MCS prior to healing and were tested as negative for MCS, or in remission, post healing. I asked where these "cured" people are. Why have they not come forth in joy to share their healing? I honestly wonder if they are alive and well. Surely they would share their miracle if they were healed.

The funny thing is that I never got a reply when I asked for proof. I guess it just goes to show that we need to be on the lookout for money making schemes that prey on the sick and desperate. In this case science is on our side.

In Good Health,

Lourdes "Sal" Salvador

