

Mark 5:1-20

Three Prayers

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- In the passage before this, Jesus calmed violent storm – What have we to fear?
- If you asked the disciples how their trip across the water went. . .
- Jesus never told us why they were going, but the stay will be short.
 - How short? And hour a two. Jesus will come to offer them salvation and they will ask Him to leave. Ask Jesus. Prayer. we will look at 3 prayers.
- Let me prayer and then let's dive into today's scripture.

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.^[a]

- Location problems. Some versions call it Gadarenes. (Map) Probably - Kursi -

²When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him.

ESV (efthys) **immediately** there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit.

- Jesus comes to an area satan has good control of and is met IMMEDIATELY.

³This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. ⁴For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. ⁵Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

Luke 8:27 *²⁷ When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs.*

- From Luke we learn: Possessed a long time. Wore no clothes (like an animal/ subhuman)
- From Mark we learn: Has supernatural strength; tormented constantly. Causing self-harm (Cutting). Crying out; They couldn't control him; He lived among the tombs/ Death/ decaying bodies.
- Dylan said, "You gotta serve somebody, It may be the devil or it may be the Lord"
- Here, we see a life controlled by the devil. Do you really want to play with him?

⁶When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. ⁷He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God's name don't torture me!" ⁸For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you impure spirit!"

- The people believed that you had spiritual power over another if you knew or said their exact name. This is why the unclean spirits address Jesus with his full title.
- The people watching would see showdown and believe the demon possessed man had the upper hand.
- POINT: You can know exactly who Jesus is and not be saved.
- The demon didn't want to leave the person. Demons hate the image of God in man and they attack that image by debasing man and making him grotesque like this man.
- We're created in God's image, male and female, to bear God's image; Our word= Mutilation of babies in the womb. No gender, normalizing transgender, self-mutilation
- Satan wants to make the image of God in us unrecognizable, because God is his ultimate destruction.

⁹Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." ¹⁰And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

- Jesus doesn't believe in superstition. This isn't about gaining power. Already has it.
- A Roman legion had about 6,000 men in it.

- Notice the demon doesn't give his name, but replies "Legion" trying to intimidate Jesus with a large number.
- There's a bunch of us, we are organized, unified, ready to fight. They were waiting for Jesus.

¹¹A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. ¹²The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." ¹³He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

FIRST PRAYER: DEMON'S – Let us go in the pigs.

- Demons can't even go into pigs without God's permission.
- **Does Jesus give them what they ask for? Yes.** He lets them enter the pigs.
- Jesus plan is to totally demonstrate His authority over demons at the cross, so at this point he lets them enter the pigs. Where do you get that Dustin?

Colossians 2:15 - *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

¹⁴Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. ¹⁵When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. ¹⁶Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. ¹⁷Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

- Not the reaction you would expect. Didn't thank Jesus fixing problem they failed solving.
- Didn't celebrate, praise God, try to understand more. Instead we have our second prayer.

SECOND PRAYER: TOWNSPEOPLE– Leave—more at home with demons than Jesus.

- **Does Jesus give them what they ask for? Yes.** He leaves.
- **When people are more afraid of what Jesus will do in their lives than what Satan is already doing, they push Jesus away.**
- **Many do this. If Jesus is gone, we can ignore what happened.**
- **They wanted to continue to live with the familiar even if the familiar is evil.**

¹⁸As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. ¹⁹Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." ²⁰So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis^[b] how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

- **Total transformation** -*¹⁵When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. The man wants to follow Jesus*

THIRD PRAYER: MAN WHO WAS POSSESSED – Let be go with you.

- **Does Jesus give him what he asks for? Yes.** No. This man is now under Christ's authority. He leaves one guy who can testify about God's work in his life.
- **Why did Jesus cross the lake?** THE POWER OF ONE CHANGED LIFE
- **Probably an hour after leaving such an evil life, He is the area evangelist.**
- No training or teaching yet. Maturity is not about knowledge. It's about obedience.