

Mrk16 – Power Over The Spiritual Enemy – Mark 5:1-20

Dave Shepardson, wordbymail.com

Our Text today – is “On The Heels” of Jesus Calming the Storm

Mark’s Gospel - often puts things together in Threes
to make sure we get The Big-Picture

& today’s msg – Is PART TWO of a POWER TRILOGY

LAST MSG - Mark showed us the Absolute POWER of Jesus
Over NATURE - in Calming the Storm

TODAY – we’ll see the Absolute POWER of Jesus
Over the DEMONIC REALM

& NEXT WEEK– We’ll see the Absolute POWER of Jesus
Over SICKNESS & DEATH

Today we see – The Absolute POWER of Jesus
OVER our Spiritual Enemy

& we see a man – in possibly
the WORST Spiritual Warfare Condition in the Bible

FIGHT to GET TO JESUS
In order To Be Transformed - By His Power

Let’s Pray

We start today – in Mark 5:1 (NLT)

1 So they (Jesus & the disciples) ***arrived at the other side of the lake, in the region of the Gerasenes.*** (after Jesus calmed the storm)

This is – the **GREEK** area

on the **Eastern Shore** of the **Sea** of **Galilee**

Altho **some Jews** lived there **with** the **Greeks**

for the **most part** - **Jews** would **not even go** into this **area**

Mark 5:2 (NLT)

2 When Jesus climbed out of the boat, a man possessed by an evil spirit came out from the tombs to meet him.

NOTICE – this **demon possessed** man

came out from the tombs IN ORDER TO Meet Jesus

We're **going** to **see** in **this story**

Some Actions that are **this MAN'S** actions

AND – **Some Actions** that are **the Actions**

of **the DEMON'S** who are **controlling** this man

Here – We see **The MAN CHOOSE**

to **come out** of the **tombs** - **TO MEET Jesus**

& **I think** we **see** here – **a BATTLE raging** inside this **man**

between his **“OWN” Choices**

& his **“Demonically Controlled” choices**

& In the next set of Vs's

we see those "Demonically Controlled" choices

Mark 5:3-5 (NLT)

3 This man lived in the burial caves and could no longer be restrained, even with a chain.

4 Whenever he was put into chains and shackles—as he often was—he snapped the chains from his wrists and smashed the shackles. No one was strong enough to subdue him.

5 Day and night he wandered among the burial caves and in the hills, howling and cutting himself with sharp stones.

Let me ask you a Question

Why does the Demonic World seek to destroy

Any Person that they can get their claws in . . . ?

Because Satan and the demonic world HATE GOD

Destroying your life is not the real end goal for them
they want to destroy your life →

Because you are the Apple of God's Eye

Because you were Created in God's Image

Because God loves you enough to send Jesus to die in your
place so you could spend eternity with God

& so - if the Demonic world can destroy your life – then they can
take "One Swipe" at God – on their way to destruction

& This man's life – had been Completely Destroyed
BY the Demonic World - (to say the least)

But then - we read in Mark 5:6 (NLT)

6 When Jesus was still some distance away, the man saw him, ran to meet him, and bowed low before him.

It seems to me – we're BACK to the Man's OWN Choices

This man was now - Running TO Jesus

In order to BOW LOW before him - (do you see it)

BUT – From the Disciples perspective

This must've looked pretty wild

AS the disciples are climbing out of the boat

this Wild, Crazy, Naked, Howling, Cut Up, Demonized man
is RUNNING FULL SPEED - towards them

& the disciples – who had just survived a death-defying boat ride -
are now thinking – “*you've GOT to be kidding me!*”

I'm sure Peter was thinking – where is my sword when I need it –
“*Man, I should've gotten that conceal carry permit*”

& So - as Peter picks up an oar

to smack this guy when he gets close enough

This Demonized – Foaming at the mouth
Filthy – Naked – Bleeding
Head Spinning Around - Crazy Guy

Suddenly – SLIDES TO A STOP on his knees

& BOWS LOW before Jesus
in an act of TOTAL SUBMISSION

I believe the Man & the Demons
are BATTLING each other – for control here

Again – v.6 says “the MAN saw [Jesus], & ran to meet him”

It certainly wasn't the Demons
who were Running to Meet Jesus

But . . . HOW did the Man KNOW who Jesus WAS?

I wonder if he SENSED the Demons within him
beginning to RAGE →

because they Definitely KNEW – WHO Jesus was

There's a BATTLE going on here – for this man's SOUL

& it seems - with whatever CLARITY this man had left

He was DETERMINED to REACH Jesus - to be SET-FREE

So – while Peter is still
holding the OAR like a baseball bat

& this guy is now BOWING before Jesus

The Demonized Man lets out – a full exorcist movie SCREAM

Mark 5:7(a) (NLT)

7 With a shriek, he screamed, “Why are you interfering with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? . . .

This is JUST AS EXTREME - in the SPIRITUAL BATTLE REALM

As the STORM was EXTREME – in the NATURAL REALM

the SPOKESMAN DEMON – Screams, with a Shriek
Why are you interfering with me . . .

The implication here is

Why are you interfering with me – NOW
AS IN - “*it’s NOT the Right Time, Yet*”

Believe me – the Demons KNOW
their Final Judgement

they are fully aware
of their Eternal Damnation

They just want to destroy AS MUCH human life as possible
Before that FINAL Judgement FALLS on them

& also Notice – in V.7(a)

the Demon speaks the Name of Jesus
AND his Correct Title

7 . . . “Why are you interfering with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? . . .

FIRST of all – Notice

The Demons FULLY BELIEVE
WHO Jesus Christ IS – (*tho it’s NOT going to Save them*)

What we call “SAVING BELIEF” – is you putting your
Full Faith & Trust in Jesus Christ AS your Savior & Lord

BUT - there is also a view here
that the Demons were - (*in some way*)

trying to gain control of Jesus - or damage Jesus
by Announcing out-loud - who he is

& then – in the 2nd Half of V.7 - it just gets Weirder

Mark 5:7(b)-8 (NLT)

7 (Demon Speaking) . . . In the name of God, I beg you, don’t torture me!”

8 For Jesus had already said to the spirit, “Come out of the man, you evil spirit.”

The Spokesman-Demon says
"In the name of God, I beg you . . . "

Which Seems ODD – for a Demon to say . . .

BUT - It seems like the Demon
might actually be CHALLENGING Jesus

about the Time - Appointed by the Father
for their Eternal Demise

he may be Begging Jesus – NOT to issue
their FINAL JUDGMENT – Before God's Appointed time

But – One thing that's CLEAR FOR SURE
Is that the Demons Recognize

the Unquestioned POWER & AUTHORITY of Jesus
over their Entire Demonic Realm!

So – in response to the Demon Shrieking at Jesus

Jesus Calmly Demands the Demon's NAME

Mark 5:9 (NLT)

9 Then Jesus demanded, "What is your name?" And he replied, "My name is Legion, because there are many of us inside this man."

**Just as the STORM in the Previous section
was HUGE Man-Eating - Storm**

So this is a HUGE Man-Destroying - Demonic Attack

A **Roman LEGION** is **6,000 Soldiers**

But we **don't have** to **assume**
there were **actually 6,000 Demons** in this **man**

The demons are **about** to **inhabit 2,000 pigs**
so **there may** have **been 2,000 Demons**

But the **point probably** is **more general** – there was
an **ARMY of Demons - taking up residence** in this **man**

That is some **SERIOUS Demon Possession**

& **the Holy Spirit** is **trying** to **convince us** here

of **just HOW MUCH POWER Jesus** Christ **HAS**
over the **Demonic Realm**

He has **Absolute, Total - Power & Authority**
over the **ENTIRE Demonic Realm**

& Now – this **LEGION of Demons KNOWS**
Jesus is **NOT** going to **ALLOW THEM** to **STAY** in this **man**

& so - we read in - Mark 5:10 (NLT)

10 Then the evil spirits begged him again and again not to send them to some distant place.

**In Luke – this “Distant Place” is defined as “The Abyss”
which will be the demons Eternal Dwelling Place**

**& so again – the Demons are asking Jesus
NOT to bring their Final Judgment on them - EARLY**

& so - Mark 5:11-13 (NLT)

11 There happened to be a large herd of pigs feeding on the hillside nearby.

12 “Send us into those pigs,” the spirits begged. “Let us enter them.”

13 So Jesus gave them permission. The evil spirits came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the entire herd of about 2,000 pigs plunged down the steep hillside into the lake and drowned in the water.

The Demons know Jesus is going to send them somewhere
so they beg to be sent into this herd of 2,000 Pigs

BUT – as soon as the demons entered the pigs

the entire herd PLUNGED down a steep hillside
& into the Sea of Galilee

& They ALL DROWNED!

This is a Dramatic & Overwhelming show

of **The Power & Authority of Jesus Christ
over the ENTIRE Demonic Realm**

& **I believe – THAT is the main point
the Holy Spirit is trying to make**

**A LEGION of Demons – VS' a WORD from Jesus Christ
- & Every Demon OBEYS**

& the **Absolute Submission of the Demons
to the Word of Jesus - - is Dramatically Proven →**

By **2,000 pigs - floating like Bath-Toys
along the shoreline of the Galilee**

**THAT is the POINT of This Text –
& THAT is the POINT - you MUST Take Home - today**

**Jesus Christ has Absolute, Total, Undeniable
POWER & AUTHORITY - over the Entire Demonic Realm**

& **if you ever Enter a Deep Spiritual Battle
with the Demonic Forces of HELL**

REMEMBER this POINT

**Jesus Christ has Absolute, Total, Undeniable
POWER & AUTHORITY - over the Entire Demonic Realm**

& he **WILL EXERCISE** that **POWER & AUTHORITY**
ON your behalf

IF you will **TRUST him Completely**
& **Call on him** in **Complete FAITH**

JUST AS the **Power** of the **Storm**
was **Silenced** by a **WORD** from **Jesus**

So the **power** of a **LEGION of Demons**
is **Silenced** by a **WORD** from **Jesus**

& **Jesus** will **SILENCE** the **Enemy's Attack** in **your life**
the **Exact SAME WAY – With a WORD**

& **Jesus** will **Deliver that Victory**

By **YOU FIGHTING** to **REACH Him**
& **Surrendering completely - TO HIM**

Just as this Man did here

BUT – We **have one** other “**Situation**”
we **have** to **deal with** in this **Text**

There are **2,000 PIGS floating** like
Bath-Toys in the **Sea of Galilee**

& **That** is **BOUND** to bring
some kind of “**Response**” **from** the **people** - **Which it DOES**

Continuing in Mark 5:14-15 (NLT)

14 The herdsmen (the pig herders) fled to the nearby town and the surrounding countryside, spreading the news as they ran. People rushed out to see what had happened.

15 A crowd soon gathered around Jesus, and they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons. He was sitting there fully clothed and perfectly sane, and they were all afraid.

FIRST – Look at the **Previously Demon-Possessed** man

He was sitting there fully clothed and perfectly sane,

This was **AS POWERFUL** a **STILLING**

As the **Storm WAS**

With a Word – The **Demon Storm** in this **Man's Life**
WAS STILLED

He was **Healed** – His **Mind** was **Restored**
& **He** was **Born Again** – with **New Life**

ONLY WITH the **Supernatural Power** of **Jesus** Christ
is this level of **Transformation Possible**

& **maybe** – **that is exactly** what **YOU need** to **hear today**

With the **Supernatural Power** of the **Lord Jesus Christ**
Transformation is **possible** – **at ANY level**

**If Jesus can Calm the Storm of an Army of Demons
inhabiting - This Mans' Life**

**then Jesus can Calm the Storm
that is inhabiting - YOUR LIFE TODAY**

**There is NO internal Struggle – NO Addiction –
NO Bondage from the Spiritual Forces of Darkness**

**that CAN STAND UP to the POWER & AUTHORITY
of Jesus Christ in Your Life**

**IF YOU WILL - FIGHT your way to Jesus
Like This Man Did**

**IF YOU WILL - Truly BOW at His FEET
in Complete Surrender**

**IF YOU WILL - Put your Full Faith in Him
To Deliver you**

**Then Jesus Can Deliver you
from the Oppression of ANY Spiritual Warfare – with a WORD!**

THAT is what Happened to THIS Man - &

THAT is what Can Happen in YOUR LIFE today

But notice also – in Mark 5:15 - (*at the end*)

It says – The People who saw
the Demon Possessed man – Made *Miraculously SANE*

The People who saw the 2,000 Bath-Tub *PIG TOYS*
Floating in the Galilee

The end of Vs 15 says - . . . *they were all afraid.*

The STILLING of the Storm

had made the Disciples *AWESTRUCK*
at the Power of Jesus over the Storm

But – these people –
(many of them likely involved - in the Bacon industry)

These people - were afraid for *another reason*

Continuing - in Mark 5:16 we read (NLT)

16 Then those who had seen what happened told the others about the demon-possessed man and the pigs.

The First-hand witnesses
relayed the Supernatural Power →

that had just FREED the *Scariest Demoniac* they'd ever seen
from an ARMY of Demons

**AND then – there was THE PROOF – 2,000 Times Over –
Floating in the Galilee**

**& the witnesses pointed at ONE MAN
who did all of THIS - with a WORD**

& Mark 5:17 says (NLT)

***17 And the crowd began pleading with Jesus to go away and
leave them alone.***

WHY?? – WHY did they say that?

Listen Pls - They had their Reasons

**& WE have OUR reasons - when WE plead with Jesus
to Go Away & Leave US alone**

**& if you tell Jesus to GO AWAY
he will LEAVE you – with your Demons**

**& if you tell him enough – there will come a time
when it will be TOO LATE - for you to change your mind**

**You've GOT to FIGHT - to Get TO JESUS
For him to Supernaturally Transform your life**

**DON'T FIGHT – to get Jesus to LEAVE you alone –
in the middle of your internal STORM**

Finally – We can't end without seeing what Jesus DID with this "Previous Demoniac"

Mark 5:18-20 says (NLT)

18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon possessed begged to go with him.

19 But Jesus said, "No, go home to your family, and tell them everything the Lord has done for you and how merciful he has been."

20 So the man started off to visit the Ten Towns of that region and began to proclaim the great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed at what he told them.

This Previously Demon-Possessed man

May well have been - the FIRST Evangelist sent into the GREEK WORLD

The "Ten Towns" is – The Decapolis – a fully GREEK region on the East Side of the Jordan River

& notice – V.20 says – he went proclaiming the great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed at what he told them

How successful – do you think this First GREEK Evangelist was?

WHY . . . ?

Because of what Jesus had Delivered Him FROM

Guys – Jesus Christ

can **Deliver you** from **ANYTHING**

If you will **FIGHT thru** your **Struggles**
to truly **GET to Him**

& **if you** will **BOW before** him
in **Complete Surrender**

& **WHEN** he **DOES Deliver** you

You will **have** a **STORY to tell**

& **Jesus** will **SEND you OUT**
to **TELL THAT STORY**

Let's Pray