

HOW JESUS BRINGS CALM TO OUR CHAOS

He Gets Us: Part 4

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Matthew 8:28-9:1 | [Mark 5:1-20](#) | Luke 8:26-39

So they arrived at the other side of the lake, in the region of the Gerasenes. ² When Jesus climbed out of the boat, a man possessed by an evil spirit came out from the tombs to meet him. 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.

⁶ When Jesus was still some distance away, the man saw him, ran to meet him, and bowed low before him. ⁷ With a shriek, he screamed, “Why are you interfering with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? 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.”

⁹ Then Jesus demanded, “What is your name?”

And he replied, “My name is Legion, because there are many of us inside this man.” ¹⁰ Then the evil spirits begged him again and again not to send them to some distant place.

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.

¹⁴ The herdsmen 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. ¹⁶ Then those who had seen what happened told the others about the demon-possessed man and the pigs. ¹⁷ And the crowd began pleading with Jesus to go away and leave them alone.

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.

Mark 5:1–20 (NLT)

WHAT I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DEMONIC ACTIVITY

1. The spiritual world is real but it’s nothing like [HOLLYWOOD](#).

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against...the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” (Ephesians 6:12, NIV)

2. The power of the gospel is [STRONGER THAN THE CHAINS OF SATAN!](#)

JESUS: *"The ruler of this world has no power over me."* (John 14:30a, GW)

"You are from God...[and] greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world." (1 John 4:4, NASB95)

3. Christians cannot be possessed but can be **OPPRESSED**.

"Don't you realize that...the Spirit of God lives in you?" (1 Corinthians 3:16, NLT)

"Lot was a righteous man who was tormented in his soul by the wickedness he saw and heard day after day." (2 Peter 2:8, NLT)

TRAITS OF THE TORMENTED

1. Short term **PATTERNS** that have turned into long-term **PROBLEMS**.

"As he was climbing out of the boat a man from the city of Gadara came to meet him, a man who had been demon-possessed for a long time..." (Luke 8:27, The Living Bible, Paraphrased)

2. Increasing **ISOLATION**.

"...homeless and naked, living in the tombs outside the town." (Luke 8:27, NLT)

3. Normal **RESTRAINTS** no longer working.

"He had often been chained hand and foot. However, he snapped the chains off his hands and broke the chains from his feet. No one could control him." (Mark 5:4, GW)

4. **SELF-HARM**.

"...screaming and cutting himself with stones." (Mark 5:5, GW)

5. Vacillating between **DARKNESS AND DESPAIR** and crying for help.

"As soon as he got out of the boat, a man with an unclean spirit came out of the tombs and met him." (Mark 5:2, CSB)

"When he saw Jesus a long way off, he ran and bowed in worship before him—" (Mark 5:6, The Message)

6. Suffering from a **"LEGION"** of disorders.

"My name is Legion, because there are many of us inside this man." (Mark 5:9, NLT)

HOW TO HELP SOMEONE FIND HOPE AND HEALING

1. Embrace your **CALLING**.

*“Jesus called his twelve disciples together and **gave them authority to cast out evil spirits and to heal every kind of disease and illness.**” (Matthew 10:1, NLT)*

*“Jesus turned and saw her. “Dear woman, **don’t give up hope,**” he said. “Your faith has healed you.” **The woman was healed at that very moment.**” (Matthew 9:22, NIV)*

2. Expect **FEAR**.

*“With a shriek, he screamed, “**Why are you interfering with me,** Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In the name of God, I beg you, **don’t torture me!**”” (Mark 5:7, NLT)*

*“No fear exists where his love is. Rather, **perfect love gets rid of fear...**” (1 John 4:18, GW)*

3. Remember, deliverance is a **PROCESS** not an event.

*“(He said this because **Jesus was saying,** “Evil spirit, come out of this man!”)” (Mark 5:8, GNB)*

*“Therefore, my dear friends...continue to **work out your salvation** with fear and trembling, for it is **God who works in** you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:12–13, NIV)*

4. Recognize the root issue: **IDENTITY**.

*“Then Jesus demanded, “**What is your name?**”” (Mark 5:9a, NLT)*

*“For we are God’s masterpiece. **He has created us anew in Christ Jesus...**” (Ephesians 2:10, NLT)*

*“...I will also write on them **my own new name.**” (Revelation 3:12, CEV)*

5. Address the **WHOLE PERSON**.

*“[The villagers] came to Jesus. They saw the man who had been controlled by many demons. He was sitting there. **He was now dressed and thinking clearly...**” (Mark 5:15, NIV)*

6. Celebrate visible **MARKERS OF PROGRESS**.

*“...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.” (Mark 5:13, NLT)*

7. Don’t be surprised if everyone’s **NOT HAPPY** about the healing.

*“and the crowd began pleading with Jesus to **go away and leave them alone!**” (Mark 5:17, The Living Bible)*

8. Encourage them to RECYCLE THEIR RECOVERY.

*“[Jesus] said to him, **Go home to your own [family and relatives and friends]** and bring back word to them of how much the Lord has done for you...” (Mark 5:19, ANT)*

ACTION STEPS

Serve at Peace 1-Day

Prepare your heart on Good Friday.

Invite someone to Easter Sunday!