

Sunday Sermon Guide

Central Baptist Church – Crockett, Texas

December 14, 2025 – Miracle Moments: Power Over Darkness

Main Passage: Matthew 8:28-34

Main Idea:

Jesus Christ has absolute authority over every power of darkness. Demons fear Him, creation submits to Him, and believers walk in His victory.

Sermon Outline

I. Jesus Enters Enemy Territory (vv. 28–29)

- Jesus intentionally crosses into a Gentile, spiritually dark region.
- Two demon-possessed men emerge from the tombs — violent, uncontrollable, feared.
- Demons immediately recognize Jesus as the *Son of God*.
- They fear His authority and their future judgment: “Have You come to torment us before the time?”

II. The Demons’ Request and Jesus’ Authority (vv. 30–32)

- Demons beg to enter the pigs rather than face confinement.
- Jesus speaks one word: “**Go.**”
- No ritual. No formula. Absolute authority.
- The demons flee the men; the pigs plunge into the sea.

III. The Town’s Response (vv. 33–34)

- Herdsmen report the miracle throughout the city.
- The townspeople see the transformed man — clothed, calm, in his right mind.
- Instead of worship, they respond with fear.
- They beg Jesus to leave — the miracle cost them more than they were willing to lose.

IV. What Scripture Teaches About Demons

- Demons are real — fallen angels who rebelled with Satan.
- They possess unbelievers but cannot possess believers.
- Demonization appears in scripture in multiple forms.

- Signs in Scripture include:
Supernatural knowledge, supernatural strength, altered speech, self-destruction, violent behavior, involuntary reaction to Jesus or Scripture, isolation, compulsion toward darkness, loss of normal control.
- What is *not* automatically demonic:
Mental illness, addiction, personality disorders, trauma, grief, sin struggles, emotional outbursts, and physical sickness.

Application

1. **Jesus has absolute authority over all darkness.**
This is not a cosmic battle of equals. Jesus is Lord. Believers fight *from* victory.
2. **Satan's goal is always to dehumanize and destroy.**
Demons cannot possess believers, but they can torment and distract.
3. **You cannot fight alone in the dark.**
Bring the battle into the light of Scripture, prayer, and worship.
4. **Deliverance leads to testimony.**
Freed men became the first missionaries in the region.
5. **Use spiritual confusion as a gospel opportunity.**
Where the world fears, the Gospel brings clarity, peace, and hope.

Summary

Christ enters the darkest places to set people free. Darkness bows to His authority. Believers walk in courage. Unbelievers are invited into deliverance. The church steps forward with clarity, compassion, and confidence in Christ our King.

"Jesus enters the dark places to free mankind from Satan. Darkness must bow at the authority of Christ."

"You cannot fight the devil in the dark. Drag him into the light of Christ—into Scripture, prayer, and worship."

"This is not a cosmic battle of equals. Jesus is Lord. We fight *from* victory, not *for* victory."