

- I) V1 -2 INTRO: Then *they came to the other side* of the sea to the country of the Gadarenes
 - a) AS WE BEGIN: Jesus and His men had been ministering continuously throughout the day
 - 1) IMPORTANT: Jesus was teaching His men that ministry is work and has no set hours!
 - 2) 1 Th 2:9 For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring *night and day*, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.
- II) KEY: After a long day of ministry, they had taken a boat across the Sea of Galilee
 - a) During their journey, they had encountered a severe storm, and were now exhausted
 - 1) ALSO: They are cold and wet: they have been laboring and are in need of rest
 - 2) It is late in the evening and they desire to arrive at their destination
- III) REMEMBER: Jesus had told the Let us cross over to the other side (4:35)
 - a) They were anxious to make it to the other side, but it is out of the frying pan, into the fire
 - 1) THIS PASSAGE: Gives us insight into what has been referred to as Demon Possession
- IV) SATAN: Was a high-ranking angel who used his evil influence on the angelic host
 - a) DEMONS: Are angels that sided with Satan when he rebelled against God
 - 1) Rev 12:4 His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth
 - 2) These fallen angels are now referred to as demons: Evil spirits
- V) THIS HOST OF DEMONS: Is made up of bodiless spirits
 - a) OCCASIONALLY: Demons will occupy a body and will inflict it with pain or even disease
 - 1) Mt 9:32 speaks of someone who was mute through demon possession
 - 2) Mt 12:22 speaks of one demon possessed who was blind and mute
 - 3) Mt 17:15 speaks of a demon that caused a child to suffer from epilepsy
 - 4) Lu 8:29 speaks of an unclean spirit: a demon provoking impure behavior
 - 5) Lu 13:11-17 speaks of a demon that caused physical deformity in a woman
- VI) THE SAD FACT IS: Demons desire to harm and destroy
 - a) In this portion of scripture, we see first hand what demons do to human beings
- VII) V1 THEN: They came to the other side of the sea to the country of the Gadarenes
 - a) They now land their boat (along with the other boats) and exit onto the shore of Gadara
 - 1) This is on the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee in an area called The Decapolis (10 cities)
 - 2) This was mostly Gentile in population which may have explain why they raised pigs
- VIII) IN THIS REGION: Were caves that were used for burial
 - a) The hills in the region descended to the Sea of Galilee, to the edge of the water
 - 1) It is from this hillside of tombs that the demonized man came to meet them
- IX) V2 AND: When He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man
 - a) POSSESSED: How had this happened? Most likely he opened himself up to it
 - 1) Unclean spirit: A spirit possessing him that drove him to physical impurity
- X) AS WE LOOK AT THIS PASSAGE: We see several things that reveal how tormented this man was
 - a) In doing so, we have an opportunity of seeing how Satan treats those who serve him
- I) REMEMBER: God loves you and desires to bless you

- a) Satan has other plans for your life
 - 1) Jn 10:10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

- II) V2-3 AND: When He had come out of the boat immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man
 - a) QUESTION: What is the fruit of following Satan?
 - 1) *FIRST*: You *MAY* end up living in a neighborhood you never thought you could live in!
 - 2) He lived in *the tombs*: An area where graves are carved out of the hillsides or cliffs

- III) LIVING IN THE CEMETERY: Reveals to us that this man was completely defiled
 - a) The Law of Moses made it clear that Jews were not to come into contact with dead bodies
 - 1) Nu 19:11 Whoever touches the dead body of anyone will be unclean for seven days.
 - 2) Spiritually, he was completely cut off from God, living in an immoral way
 - 3) It was an environment of death and decay, and had the aura of gloom and despair

- IV) *SECOND*: You can lose all sense of morals
 - a) Both Matthew and Luke also record this incident and add insights
 - 1) He roamed about completely *naked* (shameful life)
 - 2) Lu 8:27 He wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs

- V) KEY: He had lost all *modesty* and any sense of *shame*
 - a) Satan wants you to no longer feel embarrassment (gay day at Knott's or Disneyland)
 - 1) MODESTY: Reveals our understanding of human dignity and influence we exert
 - 2) It speaks of self-control as it relates to sexual passion, and rejects anything that dishonors God

- VI) FACT: God used nakedness as a picture of shame and humiliation
 - a) Is 47:3 Your nakedness shall be uncovered, Yes, your shame will be seen
 - b) Rev 16:15 Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.
 - 1) This man had an unclean spirit, and had lost all sense of propriety and dignity

- VII) V3b-4 *THIRD*: No one could bind him, not even with chains and the chains had been pulled apart by him
 - a) PEOPLE: Grew to have a tremendous fear of him and avoided him
 - 1) FACT: Satan encourages angry hatred towards others, not compassion or love for them
 - 2) Mt 8:28 They (two men) were so violent that no one could pass that way.
 - 3) What do you think pushes people to such violent acts, with no remorse?

- VIII) V5 AND *ALWAYS*: Night and day he was in the mountains and in the tombs
 - a) *FOURTH*: Satan does not bring you into a state of peace and rest
 - 1) His torment was constant, with no break in the action and no time when he could rest

- IX) V5b *FIFTH*: He was constantly *crying out and cutting himself with stones*
 - a) He was Self-destructive: They intend harm, and ultimately push him towards self-destruction
 - 1) His existence as unbearable, and he continually tried to end it all
 - 2) The people had attempted to control him, but they could not set him free
 - 3) KEY: If they can get him to kill himself, he will be lost forever

- I) V6 WHEN HE SAW JESUS FROM AFAR: He ran and worshipped Him
 - a) He came running up to Jesus, and fell on his knees before Him

- 1) This is not the worship of a believer but the begrudging recognition of an inferior
- II) V7 NOTICE: He cried out *What have I to do with you Jesus Son of the Most High God*
a) THE ANSWER: We have nothing in common with one another
1) Jn 14:30 I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.
- III) V7-8 I IMPLORE YOU: *By God* that You do not torment me For He said Come out of the man
a) The demons were trying to soften their inevitable end by referring to God
1) FACT: They recognized Him for who He was and were afraid
2) Jas 2:19 You believe that there is one God. Good; even the demons believe that --and shudder
- IV) KEY: They knew there was an appointed time awaiting their final judgment
a) They may have tried to get Him to act abruptly, breaking God's timetable
1) Mt 8:29 What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?"
2) This could have disqualified Him because He would not have been obedient
- V) V9 THEN: He asked him *What is your name?* And he answered saying Legion for we are many
a) This revealed the depth of evil that this man was in bondage to: 6826 soldiers or so
1) Jesus knew he was infested, but this gave the witnesses greater insight
- VI) V10-12 ALSO: He begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country
a) Lu 8:31 They begged him repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss
1) ABYSS: A bottomless pit; the abode of demons (Rev 9:1-2, 11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1-3)
2) They are desperately trying to find a way of staying out of the Abyss, looking for an escape
3) They see a great herd of swine and seek permission to enter them
- VII) V13 AND AT ONCE: Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered
a) There is no reason given for His allowing this to take place: He simply did
1) Perhaps they hoped when the pigs were lost that the city would reject Jesus
2) THEY KNEW: That people care much more for their material comforts than spiritual
- VIII) V14-15 SO: Those who fed the swine fled and they told it in the city and in the country
a) What did they see: He was sitting, clothed, and in his right mind! At peace, resting in comfort!
1) THIS: Is what the Lord can do in a person's life: He removes your torment!
- IX) FACT: He can produce a radical transformation in various ways (2 Co 5:17)
a) TESTIMONY: D- average at graduation
1) IN MILITARY: Passed language aptitude test, asked to go to School of Linguistics
2) WAS GIVEN: An invitation to attend West Point
- X) V16-17 AND: Those who saw it told them how it happened
a) A testimony is given: Yet, they didn't even give Him the respect the demons did
1) They asked Him to depart: They cared more about their money than their eternity
- I) V18-20 AND: When He got into the boat he who had been demon possessed begged Him that he
a) This Man of Power had delivered him from torment: He should be followed forever
2) Ps 66:16 Come and hear all you who fear God and *I will declare* what He has done for my soul

- II) V19 HOWEVER: Jesus did not permit him but said to him Go home to *your friends* and tell them
 - a) This is how evangelism takes place: You share with your friends
 - 1) INTERESTING: I wonder how many friends this man had! Not many would be left!
- III) THEY MUST: Have known him before he became demonized and had been grieved
 - a) He can come to those who love him and share with them, first
 - 1) He had been touched by God, and was a visible witness of God's power to deliver
- IV) YOUR LIFE: Is your ministry testimony
 - a) Being in your right mind and telling people how that happened is your testimony
 - 1) Open your mouths and share about what the Lord has done
 - 2) Do not be pushy or obnoxious, but when given opportunity, take it
- V) IT ALL FLOWS: From a life that has been touched by Jesus
 - a) Lu 8:39 Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.
- VI) SOME WILL MARVEL: Others will reject Him
 - a) Mt 8:34 Behold the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region
 - 1) Do I welcome Him, or do I reject Him?