

## “Out of the Tombs”

Mark 5:1-20

### THE GERASENE DEMONIAK. v.1-6

#### 1. A man with an unclean spirit. v.2

- He came “out of the tombs.” He lived among the tombs. v.3a

#### 2. A man with a violent and conflicted past. v.3-4

- No one could bind him—not even with a chain.
- There was a power at work in the man that was greater than his own.  
→ There was a power at work in the man that could not be overcome by others.

#### 3. A man with a miserable existence. v.5

- Night and day. The language indicates on-going, continual action in the present.
  - Among the tombs....He was always crying out and cutting himself with stones.
- This man is a picture of the lost state of a person who has not been born again.  
-Ephesians 2:5: We were dead in our trespasses. Same in Colossians 2:13.  
-1 Corinthians 2:14: The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

#### 4. He saw Jesus from far away. v.6

- The man ran toward Jesus and fell down before him.
- Conflicted! At war within himself! A man with an unclean spirit, but he ran *toward* Jesus.

### A SUPERNATURAL ENCOUNTER. v.7-13

#### 1. The conversation between Jesus and the man with the unclean spirit. v.7-9

- The unclean spirit was theologically accurate! v.7
    - He named they were from different kingdoms: What do you have to do with me? Mk 1:24; 1 Cor. 6:14-7:1
    - He called Jesus by name and was aware of Jesus’ divine origin: “Jesus, Son of the Most High God”
    - He knew of God’s power and authority (and ironically tried to command Jesus by the power of God).
    - He knew his future was one of torture and torment.
  - In fact, the demon was responding to Jesus’ command. v.8
  - Jesus asked the demon’s name. v.9
- A mixture of compassion for this poor man, and hatred toward evil.

#### 2. The unclean spirits are subject to Jesus Christ, the Son of God. v.10-13

- The man begged Jesus not to send them of the country. v.10
- Instead, they begged Jesus to be sent into a nearby herd of pigs on the hillside. v.11-12
- Jesus gave them permission—and the pigs were destroyed. v.13

### THE MAN’S TRANSFORMATION. v.14-20

#### 1. The herdsmen fled and reported what happened (including the loss of 2,000 pigs!). v.14

#### 2. The people from the city and the country came and saw. v.15-17

- “the demon-possessed man” = literally: “the man who used to be possessed”. v.15 Same in v.16, 18
- 1) sitting, 2) clothed, 3) in his right mind → ...and they were afraid.
- An eyewitness account was given, and the people begged Jesus to leave. v.16-17

#### 3. Jesus gave direction to the man’s life. v.18-20

- The man who used to be demon-possessed wanted to go with Jesus. v.18
  - a term indicating he wanted to be one of Jesus’ disciples. “that he might be with him”
- Instead, Jesus sent him to tell of the Lord’s work and mercy in his life. v.19
- The man obeyed (!) and went. v.20

→ Through this man’s life, Jesus was ‘preparing the way’ for a future mission to the Gentiles.  
→ From mission field to missionary.

## **2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1:**

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? <sup>15</sup>What accord has Christ with Belial?<sup>[a]</sup> Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? <sup>16</sup>What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

“I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,  
and I will be their God,  
and they shall be my people.

<sup>17</sup>Therefore go out from their midst,  
and be separate from them, says the Lord,  
and touch no unclean thing;  
then I will welcome you,

<sup>18</sup>and I will be a father to you,  
and you shall be sons and daughters to me,  
says the Lord Almighty.”

**7** Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body<sup>[b]</sup> and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

“True missionary activity begins at home...but does not end there. It does indeed begin at home (Acts 1:8; cf. Matt. 10:5, 6). Does this not also imply that a true church member is at least as concerned about providing a thorough Christian education for his own children as he is about sending missionaries to the heathen? The latter task is indeed very important and necessary, but the former should have the priority.” -William Hendriksen

“...no people can remain free if they become wicked and immoral. When a society decays to the point where people begin to fear for their lives and their property, the demands for a police state have always been inevitable.”  
-Benjamin Franklin