

## A MAN WITH AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT

TEXT:	Mark 5:1-20
KEY VERSE:	Mark 5:20

Jesus went up North to the tribe of Gad. As he got out of the ship, a man who was possessed of “an unclean spirit” - a demon - met him. This man had seen Jesus from a distance and ran to him and worship him. The demon controlling the man immediately began to speak, begging Jesus not to force him (THEM) out of his territory. Jesus allowed the demons to enter a herd of pigs, who did what any sensible animal would do. Rather than let Satan control them, they jumped off a cliff. See, only humans are stupid enough to disobey their Creator, and let Satan have their mind ... But I digress.

Jesus handily dealt with this man's demon problem and gave him some clothes. Now he is free, delivered! Is there rejoicing in the land of Gad? No. The people came out to see what had happened, and there sat demon-guy, all quiet, and dressed, and normal, and stuff. But rather than praising God, and “many believed on Jesus”, they were more concerned about their pigs - **PIGS**... Hold on a minute...what are Hebrews, of the tribe of Gad, doing raising unclean, pigs, anyway? No wonder the demons didn't want to leave. *They* were welcome here ...

... But not Jesus.

*<sup>17</sup> And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts. Mark 5:17*

### SONGS OF

*The message of grace is  
best told by someone  
who greatly needed it.*

### DELIVERANCE

I have done that. You? “Jesus, please go away. I'm enjoying my sin right now. I'll call if it gets out of hand.”

Some never get that chance. You and I did.

The *former* demon-guy just wanted to be around Jesus. When I saw how far Satan had driven me, and how completely Jesus forgave me, I just wanted to stay with him too. Jesus saw something. He *Himself* could not reach these people. Even his miracles only caused them to fear<sup>1</sup>, but look

<sup>1</sup> Mark 5:15

what happened. Jesus told the man to go home and tell what the Lord had done for him. He did as Jesus said, and everyone who heard marveled. The message of grace is best told by someone who greatly needed it. Don't get me wrong, we ALL desperately need God's grace. But people will often listen to, "God delivered you from **THAT!**?" The man who was delivered got more of a listen then perfect Jesus did.

## Man's answer to the human condition is to push it away. Mark 5: 3, 4

"Because he had often been bound with shackles and chains." V.4

*This covenant man of Israel had a spiritual problem. He needed a spiritual solution. He needed deliverance, but mankind gave him further bondage.*

### SONGS OF

*\* Carnal minds cannot solve spiritual problems.*

### DELIVERANCE

*<sup>14</sup> But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

*1 Corinthians 2:14*

READ

Romans 8:7-9,12;2

Psychologists cannot fix what is wrong with your heart. All they can do is bind you with chemical shackles , in an attempt to keep you from hurting them, or someone else. Modern psychology would have told this man, "You are a demoniac. You have 'Demon Resistance Deficiency Syndrome'. Take these for the rest of your life, they'll minimize the effect."

## Man's solution does not work. Mark 5: 4, 5

"no one could bind him, not even with chains," v.3

"And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him." v.4

- When men try to tame a person, who is in spiritual bondage with further bondage, human nature is to seek an escape.
- Man looks on the outward appearance<sup>2</sup>, and man is selfish by nature. The people who encountered this man only wanted to *tame* him, *contain* him, not **help** him.

*and they were powerless even to do that!*

<sup>2</sup> 1 Samuel 16: 7

I have had three cellies who were bipolar. No fault of theirs, but the “chains” did not work! Psychology’s attempts to contain these men did precious little. I have seen them “snap” over nothing, while they were **on** their psych meds.

## It took Jesus to see this man's pain. Mark 5: 15

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*<sup>5</sup> And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. Mark 5:5*

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1. “Always, night and day”                      You may have thought it was fun to play with the demonic. You may not have even realized that you were being influenced by the demonic. Or, worse, maybe you just don't believe in all that demon stuff. “That’s just TV.” But, however you do it, when you give Satan permission, he takes possession, and he does not easily let go!
2. “He was in the mountains”                      He tried to get away from the demons, and from the people who tried to contain him. Even in his condition, he knew that people's solutions were not at all effective, so he tried to get away. People would leave him alone in the mountains and tombs.
3. “Crying”    Look where Satan drives you! He will drive you away from your family, away from a normal life **to your own tomb**, if he can. This man was hopeless, and in tears.
4. “And cutting himself with stones”                      Satan almost had him! A few more weeks, people would have been asking, “What happened to that crazy guy, down by the cemetery?” Without Jesus, we go to wild extremes to try to escape our pain.”

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*“And sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.” James 1:15*

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... But even if you are a cutter, there's deliverance **right now** in Jesus.

5. “But when he saw Jesus a far off”                      Notice, this story began with this man meeting Jesus’ ship at the shore. He got there!
  - At some point, we must recognize that Jesus alone is our solution, and go to him. That is as easy as, “Dear Jesus ...”
  - Even controlled by a demon, this man could see his need and recognized that Jesus was the answer. So, he went to Jesus. Will you?

## Satan had a stronghold in Gad.

1. This is the most extreme example of demon control in Jesus’ ministry!
2. Despite pigs being unclean and forbidden to Jews, this area had a large swine industry. Obeying God was not high on their priorities.

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*<sup>23</sup> For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,  
and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.  
Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD,  
he hath also rejected thee from being king.  
1 Samuel 15:23*

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3. The entire region was under the strong control of a spirit of fear.
  - The man was possessed of it, crying out, being driven into the mountains, cutting himself. <sup>3</sup>
  - The swine herders ran into town, and reported in fear what happened to the pigs, without much apparent interest in the man.
  - When the people saw the man, clean and delivered, their reaction was fear. <sup>4</sup>
  - Rather than believing Jesus, they BEGGED him to leave ... Just like the demons.

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*“What have I to do with you, Jesus, Son of the most high God?” Mark 5:7*

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This is the Jesus who delivers. He is the only one who can truly loose the chains of bondage holding your mind, your heart.

- The demons begged to keep their hold on a region.
- The people begged Jesus to leave them in their sin and bondage.
- **One man** begged Jesus for rescue!

... Then he begged to stay with Jesus.

*Do you ever wonder why Jesus let the demons keep their territory?*

1. Free will.            Jesus will not force deliverance on you if you want to keep the demon that is killing you.
2. He was about to unleash on that region the power that puts down Satan and all of hell!
  - A Christian with a testimony, surrendered to Jesus!

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*<sup>11</sup> And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. Revelation 12:11*

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- This delivered man published Jesus all over Decapolis! Decapolis was a Roman region; it means, “10 cities.” He was not quiet about it!
- “And they all marveled.” His testimony was effective. The people in an enslaved region began to see that Jesus had more to offer than those demons.

Do you?

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<sup>3</sup> Luke 8: 29

<sup>4</sup> Mark 5:15

Are you running from your own demons? You will never get away from them by human effort. You must stop running FROM, and run TO.

- Run to Jesus. As easy as, "Dear Jesus..."
- Worship Him. Understand who he is – LORD.
- Then, just receive his help. The man did nothing but accept Jesus' rescue. So must you<sup>5</sup>.

*"Jesus,*

*I am in bondage to [ name your demon: anger, lust, stealing, pedophilia, drugs, laziness, pride, etc. He is Lord over **all** demons!]. You are my only hope. I come to you humbly, receiving the deliverance, mercy, and freedom you bought for me in your own blood on Calvary. I thank you, Lord Jesus, that I am delivered like the man in Mark 5. I am in my right mind. I am clothed in your righteousness. I am clean. I am forgiven. Glory to God!*



Think on these things...

*In Jesus name, Amen."*

1. Fill your heart with God's Word. Joshua 1: 8, Psalm 1, Psalm 119: 105, 9- 11
2. Read: Who Switched Off My Brain, by Dr. Caroline Leaf
3. Get into a Spirit-filled church, and fellowship with others who have been delivered.
4. "Publish." Talk about what Jesus did for you.
5. For more help go to, [www.SongsOfDeliveranceMinistry.org](http://www.SongsOfDeliveranceMinistry.org)

Or write:

Songs OF Deliverance Ministry

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<sup>5</sup> Hebrews 11: 6, Ephesians 2: 8- 10