

Miracles of Jesus

Jesus exorcises a legion of demons from a man

MARK 5 VERSE 6 THROUGH 9

But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, 7 And cried with a loud voice, and said, what have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. 8 For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. 9 And he asked him, what is thy name? And he answered, saying, my name is Legion: for we are many.

INFORMATION

What an amazing scene! A man who was possessed by not one, not a few, but many demons, about 2,000 in fact. Observe what happens.

Jesus came across the sea to a certain place apparently intent on spreading his message to the people of that region, a message that included great healings and teachings. Jesus's first act, after stepping off the ship, is to free a man who was possessed by many demons. Consider the exchange that took place. Jesus did not pursue this man, the man pursued him. Why did he run to Jesus? Was this man seeking to be freed from the demons? Perhaps, but the Word does not seem to indicate that. It would appear that it was the demons who spoke with Jesus. The demons ran to Him, worshipped (in this context it likely means the man bowed down, not necessarily that they worshipped him.) and begged that he not be tormented.

It is not possible to run from the Living God. Even demons must bow before the One.

Why did the demons desire to be cast into the swine? Could they not have just left and gone somewhere else? Perhaps, but when Jesus casts out a demon, I suspect there is no returning to anyone. Perhaps, however, the demons thought that by possessing the swine and then killing them, they could impede Jesus's progress in this place because they knew the people would value the swine and ask Jesus to leave. If that were the case, then they were right; the men of this place did ask Jesus to leave. However, their attempt to impede the Living Word did not succeed. Jesus sent the man into his country where he spoke of Jesus and what he had done.

Nothing can impede the plans of God.

WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

Do we allow material things to stand between us and God? Do we put our money, or the source of our money (jobs, investments, inheritance) before Jesus; the Savior of the world? STOP! When the Savior comes to speak with us, let us be still and listen to what He has to say.

Are we discouraged when we share the gospel with others when they do not accept it? If so, we need not be discouraged. If God's living plan is to open the heart of a man, nothing can stand in His way. It may not appear at a time when we are present, but if it is part of God's plan, then it will come to pass.

Relevant Passages

Mark 5:1-20

And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. 2 And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: 4 Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him. 5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. 6 But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, 7 And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. 8 For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. 9 And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many. 10 And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country. 11 Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. 12 And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them. 13 And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea. 14 And they that fed the swine fled, and told it in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done. 15 And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid. 16 And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and also concerning the swine. 17 And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts. 18 And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him. 19 Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. 20 And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel.

Isaiah 55:11

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.