

Luke 8:26-36 LESSON: SPIRITUAL DELIVERANCE – April 17, 2016

HISTORY:

Chapter 8 Verses 19-21 ¹Jesus taught the people probably in a house. His mother Mary and his brothers wanted to speak with him. But they could not get in because of the crowd that was already there. Someone told Jesus that his mother and brothers were outside. Then Jesus told the crowd a strange thing. His mother and brothers were already round him, He said. Those that were listening to His words had really become like his mother and brothers. And they did what God said. Jesus was not refusing His family. He respected His mother very much. But He taught that we could become His family. This is not in the normal physical sense. We can be His family when by *faith we accept the Word of God. We must hear the word of God and we must obey it.

Verses 22-25 Jesus and His disciples got into a boat and Jesus says "*Let's go to the other side of the lake*" and they launched forth; the Sea of Galilee. On the way across, Jesus laid down and went to sleep in the back of the boat. But while He was sleeping, a fierce wind rose up. They got caught in a dangerous storm causing the boat to fill up with water. Sometimes the waves would come as high as 20feet. The disciples were not frightened without cause. They were afraid and woke Jesus up, saying "*Master, Master, we are perishing.*" Jesus stood up and rebuked the wind and waves; they obeyed Him and all became calm. Jesus began to say "*Where is your faith?*" And they were filled with awe and fear saying to one another, "*Who is this man that even the winds and waves obey Him?*"

I. A BOUND MAN 8:26-29

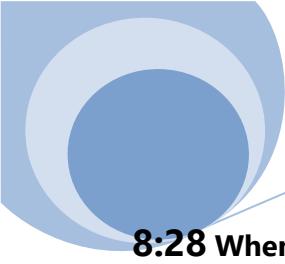
8:26 And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. The Gadarene country was a Gentile region southeast pf the Sea of Galilee. This is where Jesus and His disciples arrived.

8:27 And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs. Time He set foot on the land, Jesus met a certain man of the city possessed by devils a long time; having no clothes on and not living in a house, but residing in the tombs. Ten traits of evil spirits are found in this passage.

1. Evil spirits are enemies of Christ and of man, possessing man for long periods of time. They take hold of a man, controlling his faculties and causing him to act abnormally, hurting both himself and others.
2. Evil spirits cause men to lose their sense of shame and conscience. This man was driven to run around naked.
3. Evil spirits cause alienation; the loss of all friends and social life. They lead a man to be cut off; ostracized from others. They often force a man to withdraw into himself and away from others, including immediate family; or they cause society to push the man away, forcing him to live alone or with others like himself. Evil spirits often destroy a man by making him live as if he were among the dead. This is seen in this man being forced to live among the tombs of the dead.

¹ <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/luke4-9-im-lbw.htm>

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

8:28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not. These demons recognized Jesus right off (immediately). They knew who He was and what His great power could do to them.

4. Evil spirits are enraged against the Lord. They knew that Jesus was the Son of the Most High God. They also opposed Him and feared Him, crying out with a loud voice as he fell down before Jesus. The voice cries out "*What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high?*" This is really not the man speaking to Jesus, but these terrible spirits in the man. And they didn't want to be tormented by Jesus.

8:29 (For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.) Demons, Satan's messengers are powerful and destructive. There were many evil or unclean spirits or demonic possession and they are real today. Oftentimes in this man, they repeatedly caught him and taken hold of him. Even when people were able to bind him with chains and shackles, he broke loose, and the demon took control driving him into the wilderness. Jesus had to command the unclean spirit to come out of the man. This shows that Jesus' power is very much real and more powerful over demonic possession, unclean and evil spirits even today.

5. Evil spirits seize men. Their influence and unrestrained nature seem to come and go, to lie calm and then to break forth in violence.
6. Evil spirits hate restraint and cause men to mistreat and oppose others. They drive men to live wild and loose lives, to do as they please. They cause men to become unclean, sullen, violent, and malicious.
7. Evil spirits take away a man's name, his identity, and his recognition. They deprive a person of purpose, meaning significance. They destroy his self-image and his public image.

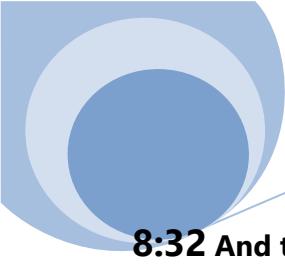
II. A FREED MAN 8:30-33

8:30 And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him. Usually, Jesus won't allow the demon spirit to talk, but in this instance it's different. Now, Jesus asked the man's name.

8. Evil spirits are numerous and formidable. The evil spirit cried out within the man that his name was Legion. "Legion" refers to the Roman military legion which included over six thousand men. This definitely indicates that the man's case was desperate. The evil spirits in him were formidable (terrible), just as a military legion was formidable (terrible). In Mark 16:9 Mary Magdalene had been possessed by seven devils. And Jesus freed her.

8:31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.

9. Evil spirits desire a body to inhabit for the purpose of working evil. The evil spirits are said to be the ones speaking here, entreating Jesus that He not command them to go into the Abyss. They knew it would be all over for them on earth. Apparently, they didn't want to be sent out of the region.



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

8:32 And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them. So, the evil spirits begged as an alternative, that they might be sent into the pigs instead of the Abyss. They knew that they could not stay in the man, so, Jesus allowed it.

8:33 Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked. And thereby coming out of the man, Jesus gave the devils permission to go into the pigs. The herd went madly, running violently down the steep slope into the lake and drowned.

10. Evil spirits are subject to the Lord's power. The devils power may be great, but the Word of Christ is Omnipotent (all powerful), for all power belongs to Him! His Word has the power to free us.

III. A DELIVERED MAN 8:34-36

8:34 When they that fed them saw what was done, they fled, and went and told it in the city and in the country.²The men who kept the swine had witnessed the whole transaction; and as the Master uttered the word "Go," they saw a change in a moment pass through the vast herd. A wild panic seemed to seize the creatures, something: had filled them with a great fear. The herdsman fled, telling all they would meet; and all that would hear them in the city and in the country of this occurrence.

8:35 Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid. Soon the crowd came out to see for themselves. They saw the man that had been in the tombs who had seven devils depart out of him. He was seen sitting at the feet of Jesus with his clothes on, and in his right mind. And this frightened them. Can you imagine, the people seeing someone in his right mind and clothed sitting at the foot of Jesus brought fear to them, more than the seeing the man with devils in him?

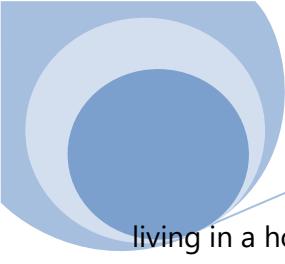
8:36 They also which saw it told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed. But these herdsmen who saw how Jesus had sent the demons out of the man began to explain to others by what means that the one who was possessed of the devils had been healed; and in this instance "saved or delivered."; not full salvation but delivered and made whole.

SUMMARY:

Jesus and His disciples arrived in the country of the Gadarenes, across from Galilee. Time He set foot on the land, Jesus met a certain man of the city possessed by devils a long time; having no clothes on and not

² <http://biblehub.com/luke/8-34.htm>

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

living in a house, but residing in the tombs. The man possessed with devils knew that Jesus was the Son of the Most High God and cried out and fell at Jesus' feet, saying with a loud voice that they didn't want to be tormented by Jesus. Jesus had to command the unclean spirit to come out of the man, for the demon would have the man brake his chains after being bound and drive him into the wilderness. The enemy wants you bound to destruction. He comes to steal, kill, and yes to destroy you (**8:26-29**).

Jesus asks the man's name, and the reply was Legion, meaning many devils had entered him (about 6,000). The devils pleaded with Jesus that He not command them to go into the Abyss; that He not send them to go into the bottomless pit. They knew when Jesus commands, it would be all over for them on earth. So, the evil spirits begged as an alternative, that they might be sent into the pigs instead of the Abyss. They knew that they could not stay in the man, so, Jesus allowed it and they went madly, running violently down the steep slope into the lake and drowned (**8:30-33**).

Those tending and feeding the pigs (the herdsman) saw what had happened, and ran off and reported this in the town and the countryside. And the people soon came out to see what was talked about. They saw the man that had been in the tombs who had seven devils depart out of him. He was seen sitting at the feet of Jesus with his clothes on, and in his right mind. And this frightened them. But, they told others how this man no longer had evil spirits in him, but was healed (**8:34-36**).