

# Mark 5

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 8:00 AM

## **JESUS' AUTHORITY OVER ALL**

And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." For he was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" **(Mark 5:6-8)**

At the end of Chapter 4, Jesus Calms a storm, in the next chapter Jesus heals the man with a demon, and then heals a woman and Jairus's daughter.

When Jesus healed diseases and restored broken bodies, He provided a glimpse into the kingdom where there would be no sickness or deformity. When He cast out demons, He gave a preview of the kingdom where there would be no demonic activity. When He raised the dead, He previewed the kingdom where there would be no death. Mark adds to an already convincing presentation of Jesus as the Servant sent by God by showing Christ's awesome power over the natural realm, over the supernatural realm, over sickness, and even over death. **(MacArthur)**

Demons want to inhabit human bodies for the same reasons a vandal wants a spray can, or a violent man wants a gun. A human body is a weapon that a demon can use to attack God. Demons also attack men because they hate the image of God in man. They attack that image by debasing the man and making him grotesque — just as they did to this man in the country of the Gadarenes. Demons have the same goal in Christians: to wreck the image of God. But their tactics are restricted toward Christians because demonic spirits were "disarmed" by Jesus' work on the cross **(Colossians 2:15)**. Yet demonic spirits certainly can both deceive and intimidate Christians, binding them with fear and unbelief. **(Guzik)**

Notice the reaction of the man delivered from demons. The man who had been set free by Jesus just wanted to be with Jesus. This man didn't want only what Jesus could do for him. The true change in his heart was shown by his desire to be with Jesus. Jesus did not allow this because He knew that the man had a more important ministry with his own family and community. Sometimes we have a hard time understanding the ways of God. The people of the city made an evil request. They began to plead with Him to depart from their region, and Jesus answered their prayer. The man who had been demon-possessed made a godly

request. That he might be with Him, and Jesus said no to that prayer.

This is a gospel we should all be able to preach. The man set free did because he departed and began to proclaim... all that Jesus had done for him. His story showed the value of one life to Jesus because this was the only reason why Jesus came to this side of the Sea of Galilee. His story also showed that with Jesus, no one is beyond hope, because if this man could be changed then anyone could.

Lord, You have authority over all creation, seen and unseen. In You, I no longer have any reason to fear sickness, disease, demons, deformity, tragedy, or even death. I place my trust in you even when my answer to prayer is no because you know what's best for me and you.