

WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



Who Do You Say He Is?
Mark 5:1–20

They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. **2** And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. **3** He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, **4** for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. **5** Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones. **6** And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. **7** 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.” **8** For he was saying to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!” **9** And Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion, for we are many.” **10** And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. **11** Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, **12** and they begged him, saying, “Send us to the pigs; let us enter them.” **13** So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.

14 The herdsmen fled and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. **15** And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right

mind, and they were afraid. **16** And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs. **17** And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region. **18** As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. **19** And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." **20** And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.

1- No situation is too much for Jesus. (vv. 1-5)

They came to the other side of the sea, to the region of the Gerasenes. As soon as he got out of the boat, a man with an unclean spirit came out of the tombs and met him. He lived in the tombs, and no one was able to restrain him anymore—not even with a chain— because he often had been bound with shackles and chains, but had torn the chains apart and smashed the shackles. No one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains, he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones.

- **Nothing else had worked. This man was in desperate need.**
- **Do you approach dark situations like Jesus is with you?**

2- The name of Jesus does something to people. (vv. 6-13)

When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and knelt down before him. And he cried out with a loud voice, "What do you have to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you before God, don't torment me!" For he had told him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" "What is your name?" he asked him.

"My name is Legion," he answered him, "because we are many." And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the region. A large herd of pigs was there, feeding on the hillside. The demons begged him, "Send us to the pigs, so that we may enter them." So he gave them permission, and the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs. The herd of about two thousand rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned there.

A Theology of Mark's Gospel, David E. Garland:

"The man in their clutches cries out with a loud voice, as did the demon in verse 24, "What do you want with us?" They vainly attempt to place Jesus under their control by pronouncing his name, "Jesus, Son of the Most High God." By pronouncing his name, they are huffing and puffing, 'We've got your number!' Then, then invoke the name of God to compel the Son of God not to torment them."

- **Even the demons know what Jesus can do.**

James 2:19 -- "You believe that God is one. Good! Even the demons believe - and they shudder."

- **How often do you say the name of Jesus to others?**

3- People must know about Jesus! (vv. 14-20)

The men who tended them ran off and reported it in the town and the countryside, and people went to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the man who had been demon-possessed, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. Those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and told about the pigs. Then they began to beg him to leave their region. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged him earnestly that he might remain with him. Jesus did not let him but told him, "Go home to your own people, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and how he has had mercy on you." So he went out and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and they were all amazed.

- **Fear**
- **Worship**
- **How can you testify to all that the Lord has done for you?**

Revelation 12:11- "They conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony."