

Stories From the Sea of Galilee: Casting Out the Legion



Scripture

- **Mark 5:1-17**

They came to the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gerasene's. When he got out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met Him, and he had his dwelling among the tombs. And no one was able to bind him anymore, even with a chain; because he had often been bound with shackles and chains, and the chains had been torn apart by him and the shackles broken in pieces, and no one was strong enough to subdue him. Constantly, night and day, he was screaming among the tombs and in the mountains and gashing himself with stones. Seeing Jesus from a distance, he ran up and bowed down before Him. and shouting with a loud voice, he said, What business do we have with each other, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God, do not torment me!" For He had been saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" And He was asking him, "What is your name?" And he said to Him, "My name is Legion; for we are many." And he began to implore Him earnestly not to send them out of the country. Now there was a large herd of swine feeding nearby on the mountain. The demons implored Him, saying, "Send us into the swine so that we may enter them." Jesus gave them permission. And coming out, the unclean spirits entered the swine; and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, about two thousand of them; and they were drowned in the sea. Their herdsmen ran away and reported it in the city and in the country. And the people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and observed the man who had been demon-possessed sitting down, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the "legion"; and they became frightened. Those who had seen it described to them how it had happened to the demon-possessed man and all about the swine. And they began to implore Him to leave their region.

Other Scriptures

- Matthew 8:23-27
- 2 Corinthians 12:2
- 2 Corinthians 10:5
- 1 Peter 5:8
- Matthew 7:10-11

Main Points

- People who are filled with darkness are attracted to death.

Questions

1. Describe the setting for this event in Jesus' life. What things stand out to you?
2. Did the demons try to deny who Jesus was?
3. What were the demons driving this man to do? As Rabbi described his own experiences with demon possession in Africa, what does this teach you about activity by demons today?
4. Why did Jesus send them into pigs? If the demons seek flesh and blood to inhabit, then, what do we believers need to be aware of concerning demonic activity?
5. Rabbi cautioned us to not fear the supernatural because God is supernatural and to know Him, we must be open to the supernatural. Is God speaking to you today concerning a deeper supernatural experience with Him. Write about this and your response to Him today.