

Mark



Lesson 5-Rebuking Devils and Healing Women

Focus: Mark 5:1-43

1. **Jesus encounters a wild demon possessed man (v.1-5)** *As Jesus went to the other side of the sea, he came across a demon possessed man who had gone crazy. Demons that possess certain people often make them go crazy. There are many people sitting in Psycho hospitals these days, who are drugged out of their minds for some supposed mental illness, when in actuality, they have been possessed by demons. These horrible fallen angels often lead people to destroy themselves.*
2. **The evil spirits recognized Jesus and begged him not to be cast out into nothingness (v.6-13)**
 - a. **The evil spirits are actually fallen angels** (Luke 10:17-19; Revelation 12:7-9,12) *who used to be good angels in heaven. However, they turned against God to follow selfishness and evil. They were cast out of heaven for their wickedness. **These spirits do not seem to have some habitable bodily form of their own these days.** They like to inhabit something (perhaps a person if possible; or in this case, they got special permission from Jesus to enter into the pigs).*
 - b. *These devils cannot just possess anyone they choose. There are rules to this Spiritual warfare which we are surely in (Ephesians 6:12). They “begged” Jesus for permission to go into these pigs. They could not go there without special permission. The Devil is always limited by God’s power and restricted from doing what he’d really like to do—which is to destroy us, and to bring more heartache to God, whom he has taught himself to hate. (ref. Job 1:9-12; 2:3-6). Devils often get the ability to possess people who have given up their minds to Satan’s power by playing around with drugs, alcohol, witchcraft, Satanic music, etc. Often, a combination of these things will leave people wide open to Satan’s influence and even to the overpowering force of his demons.*
 - c. *Modern cases of demon possession are still a big reality in our world. It is commonly seen among those who play around with spiritualistic things (which are all classed as Satanic, biblically). It happens on streets of sinful modern cities, in third world countries, openly (with those who’ve left room for the devil), and among those in the Psycho hospitals of more developed countries.*
 - d. **(v.13) The Devil would like this if possible.** *The demons exalt in suicides and all evils. They love to see self-destruction (whether by cutting, as in v.5, over-eating, smoking, drinking, drugs, etc. The demons want to destroy people just like that pack of pigs that ran to their deaths.*
3. **The results of and the response to Jesus’ work of freeing this man from possession (v.14-20)**
 - a. **(v.14)** *We can see that Jesus has healed this man and restored his right mind! **Jesus heals and restores. He makes people to be calm and “in their right minds.”** (The Devil does the opposite by making them crazy and wild). **The religion of Christ is calm and rational;** while the religion of the devil is wild and frenzied. This happened anciently on Mount Carmel with Elijah (the true prophet) verses all the false prophets (ref. 1 Kings 18:24-39).*
 - b. *(v.17-20) These people were not yet ready to receive Christ. Many had been thinking about their money, and the price of the pigs rather than for this dear soul who’d been rescued from Satan’s power. Out of gratefulness **this man** wanted to follow Jesus. But, Jesus would not allow him to come along and do so at this time. **Christ had a work for him to do among those who’d known him before.** He had a witness of his personal experience with Jesus that he needed to share with others. (This we should do as well—share our personal story about Jesus—What has Jesus done for us?) The work given to this man was very important!! It prepared people’s hearts and minds to later receive Jesus and be open to His teachings of truth. A pre-work needed to be done, before they would be willing to listen to Jesus—this man was to do that work! (and he did it!)*

4. **A young girl was sick to the point of death—Jairus (the ruler of the local synagogue) came to Jesus to request His help (v.21-24)** *The man was essentially praying that Jesus would come and heal his daughter before she died. He had faith and trust in Jesus as the only one who could save his little girl. The Bible teaches us that we should pray for the sick, if perhaps God will heal them (if it be to His righteous glory for the time). James 5:14-18. God knows best in every case and will do or allow as He sees fit (yet if we ask not, then surely, we will have not—James 4:2).*
5. **On the way to the young girl's home, Jesus came across another who was seeking healing (v.25-24) How long did this old woman have an issue of blood? (v.25) ____** *This woman was drained of everything while seeking help from all those who could not truly help her condition. The physicians were unable to cure her condition. **All earthly sources and means of help had failed her! Then, when she learned of Jesus, HOPE returned to her heart! (v.27).** In FAITH she reached out to touch Jesus, and she was healed! (v.28, 29). Jesus recognized the specialness of this touch of faith!! It was not like any other touch in that crowd for sure. As she told her whole story (v.33), you can imagine that perhaps Jairus was getting nervous and anxious about his daughter's condition.*
6. **Jesus continued on his way to see the young girl (v.35-43)**
 - a. (v.35,36) *It was not time to give up hope at all—but only to hold on to hope. When it may have looked like all was lost, it was still time to hold on to hope and faith with Jesus. (v.37) Christ brought His close inner circle of disciples with him—Peter, James, and John.*
 - b. (v.38-40) **Jesus talked according to faith (but the crowd was not thinking on that level—all appeared hopeless to them—so, they laughed!).** *Jesus did not concern himself with their laughter or mockery. He simply went about His work—knowing full well what God (the Father) was about to do through Him.*
 - c. *At the command of Christ, this young girl arose to life—this was a testimony of Christ's power over even death! The young girl was resurrected from the dead.*
 - d. **How old was this young girl? (v.42) ____** *That means that she had been born the same exact year when the old woman had been diagnosed with the life-threatening issue of blood. Every year as this young girl was growing in strength the old lady had been getting weaker and sicker. The old woman came to Jesus and found healing before she ever died. The young girl had fallen sick quickly and died just before receiving healing—However, Jesus was able to bring her back too.*
 - e. **How is this story an example of the people of God and their salvation through Christ?** *The number 12 is associated with God's church—12 Tribes of Israel in the Old Testament; 12 Apostles in the New Testament. The symbol of a woman is often used in the Bible to represent God's church or people as a whole. **The Old woman was bleeding for 12 years!!! Until she met Jesus, and she was healed of her disease.** After the Old woman was healed, **the young woman** was found dead for a time, but then was brought to **New life!! JESUS MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE!!!** Think about this; the church of God in the Old Testament also had an "issue of blood." They offered animal sacrifices after animal sacrifices, year after year after year!! (Hebrews 10:1-7). The blood was always shed (Heb. 9:22). But, when Jesus came, He put a stop to that—**Jesus healed the issue of blood**, because He is "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). **Then there was a "great disappointment"** over the young girl's death, while Jesus was on His way to save her. Likewise, the disciples of Jesus were greatly disappointed by Jesus' death because they didn't expect to see it happen—yet, Jesus resurrected to life and **he started His young and New Testament church on her course of new life.** She then continued to live and was "fed" (v.43) at the command of Jesus—and so His church is to be fed by His word (Matthew 4:4; John 21:15-17).*

Question (s) for the Heart:

Will you pray to have more faith and trust in Jesus—the great Healer from sin and every illness?_____