

# SERMON NOTES

**Preacher:** Kevin Hardy

**Date:** September 1, 2024

**Text:** Mark 5:1-20

**Title:** Jesus Over Evil

**Big Idea:** Jesus has authority over the spiritual realm.



## I. THE POWER OF EVIL (vv. 1-5)

A picture of despair:

- The man lives among the tombs (5:1–3a)
- No one can keep him chained (5:3b–4)
- Self-destruction. He constantly screams out and cuts himself with stones (5:5).

“The goal of demons is to destroy the person created in the image of God.”<sup>1</sup>

This man is isolated, has this superhuman strength, hurting himself – clearly demonized, clearly in trouble, clearly in need of saving.

## II. THE POWER OF JESUS (vv. 6-13)

v. 7 – they address Jesus.

In chapter 1, we saw another man with an unclean spirit who calls Jesus “the Holy One of God” (1:23-24), but here they call Him – “THE SON OF THE MOST HIGH GOD” (v. 7).

*“The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.” (1 John 3:8)*

We see the power of Jesus. He is greater. He is stronger. He is the only one who can rescue.

## III. THE IMPACT OF JESUS’ MINISTRY (vv. 14-20)

The pig owners and townspeople come running out to see what has happened:

- They see the former madman now sitting, clothed, and in his right mind! (5:14-16)
- They all urge Jesus to go away and leave them alone! (5:17)

“But Jesus has just used his authority to restore a troubled man to full and free humanity! Whenever we keep our distance from Jesus and live our way rather than his, we’re making a tragic mistake—fearing that Jesus’ authority is a threat to our wellbeing and so failing to realize that Jesus’ authority secures our wellbeing.”<sup>2</sup>

*And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled. (Mark 5:20)*

How will you respond to the authority and power of Jesus?

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<sup>1</sup> *ESV Study Bible*

<sup>2</sup> Griffith-Jones, *Explore Mark*

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

*To be used for personal reflection and/or sermon-based small group discussion.*

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### READ Mark 4:35-41

Is there anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question you would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord?

Where is Christ in this passage? How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character or work of Christ? Luke 24:44 says all of Scripture is about Christ. So, how does this passage help you see more of who Christ is, what He has done, or allows you to love Him more?

Why were the demons so terrified of Jesus? (v. 7) In Mark 4:41, the disciples asked, "Who is this?" How does this passage answer that question? (v. 7)

Why do you think Jesus allowed the demons to go into the pigs? (v. 11-13)

Discuss the reaction of the Gerasene people to Jesus' healing of the demoniac. Why do you think they were afraid of Jesus? How do you think you might have reacted under similar circumstances?

Jesus did not permit this Gentile who had been possessed by demons to follow Him (v. 19). Can you think of any reasons why Jesus would not want this man to join those who were following Him?

Compare Jesus' command to the former demoniac (v. 19) with what the man actually did (v. 20). How can this serve as an example for us?

### PRAY