



## desert breeze community church

**Teaching Notes:** Ray Davis  
April 26, 2009  
**Jesusology**

(Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ)

Mark 5:1-20 **“Overcoming Evil”**

This is the most vivid detailed account in the Bible of an exorcism. What is ultimate evil? What is ultimate good? (Luke 18:17-19; James 1:16-17) Is it possible to confuse evil with good? (Pro. 14:12, 16:25)

If God is ultimate good than anything that keeps me from Him or hinders His work in and through me is evil. (John 10:10; Gal. 5:22-23; Ps. 1)

### TO OVERCOME EVIL I MUST...

Mark 5:1-20

#### AVOID PAT ANSWERS: WHY?

- 1) The Integration of Body, Soul, and Spirit. (1 Th. 5:23)
- 2) The Integration of Sin, Society, and Satan. (Eph.2:1-3)
- 3) The Complication of all of the above making my problems uncompromising and difficult to remedy. Problems are double and triple locked.
- 4) If you don't embrace its complexity it will defeat you. (Mark 9:14-29)

#### RECOGNIZE ITS PROCESS:

- 1) Beware of a false sense of security. vv15, 16, 18  
Demon possession = Gr. Demonized - on a scale 1-10 a demon can oppress you all the way to possess you.
- 2) The difference between the demon possessed and us is not quality (either/or) but of quantity (how much). V3 “No one could bind him anymore.”

Giving the Devil a foothold:

1 Sam. 15:23 Rebellion/Pride/Idolatry; 1 Cor. 7:5 Sexual sin; Eph. 4:26-27 Bitterness; 1 Tim. 4:1-2 False Religions & Teaching; 2 Cor. 11:1-4 False Jesus'; Eph. 5:8-21 Foolishness/Drunkenness; 1 Tim. 5:11-15 Idle gossip &

Busybody; Jn 8:44 Lies/Murder/Suicide; Acts 5:16 Torment; Matt. 12:22-23 Physical Injury; Acts 8:9-23 False miracles; Rev. 12:10 Accusation.

- 3) The same process is at work in our lives as in this demon possessed man. vv 3-5 (Rom. 6:15-23)
  - Empowering – anything I make a pact with (centering my heart on) will initially bring a measure of success.
  - Enslaving – outer empowerment but inner enslavement. Whatever it is controls and consumes your life as your master.
  - Entropy - a process of degradation that ends in the tombs cutting yourself and wondering how did I get here?

#### CONNECT TO THE ULTIMATE POWER: JESUS

**CHRIST!** Jesus Christ is the ultimate power source to defeat evil. What Jesus does here is unprecedented and absolutely astounding. No struggle whatsoever!

vv 6-7

- 1) Healing is sometimes instant, but most times gradual – no one size fits all. V13 (Eph. 6:10-20)
- 2) All the wealth in the world is not worth one human soul. (Matt. 12:26)
- 3) The line between good and evil goes right down the middle of every human heart. (Jer. 17:9; Pro. 4:23; Rom. 3:11-18; Mark 7:14-23)
- 4) To the degree my life is centered on Christ is to the degree the power of evil is broken in my life. v15 He was clothed (Righteousness) and in his right mind (overwhelming joy). (Rev. 12:11; 2 Pet. 1:3)
- 5) Seeing, savoring and showing the infinite cost Jesus paid to defeat evil defeats evil in your life. vv18-20 (Col. 1:13, 2:13-15; 1 John 3:8, 4:4)



# Growing

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1) This is the most vivid detailed account of an exorcism in the Bible. What stands out to you in this account? What is ultimate evil and ultimate good? (Luke 18:17-19; James 1:16-17) What are some examples of confusing evil and good? (Pro. 14:12, 16:25)

2) In dealing with evil why should pat answers be avoided? What does it mean that problems are double and triple locked? How can failing to embrace the complexity of evil defeat you?

3) What does it mean that the difference between the demon possessed and us is not quality but of quantity? What are the many doorways of evil into our lives? Describe the process of evil working in a person's life? What does the process look like if a person centers their life on their looks, career, money, family, etc.?

4) What does Jesus do that is unprecedented and absolutely astounding? What does this tell us about Jesus' power? What does it mean that the line between good and evil goes right down the middle of every human heart? (Jer. 17:9; Pro. 4:23; Rom.3:11-18; Mark 7:14-23)

5) What happened to this man after his encounter with Jesus (v15)? How does centering my life on Christ ultimately break the power of evil? What was the man's response to Jesus and what was Jesus' final instruction to Him (vv18-20)? Pray that your life also, will see, savor and show the glory of Jesus Christ!