



# A Demonic Dominion Destroyed

## Mark 5:1-20

<sup>1</sup> They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. <sup>2</sup> When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him. <sup>3</sup> This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. <sup>4</sup> For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. <sup>5</sup> Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

<sup>6</sup> When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. <sup>7</sup> He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" <sup>8</sup> For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"

<sup>9</sup> Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many."

<sup>10</sup> And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

<sup>11</sup> A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. <sup>12</sup> The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." <sup>13</sup> He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

<sup>14</sup> Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened.

<sup>15</sup> When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. <sup>16</sup> Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. <sup>17</sup> Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

<sup>18</sup> As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. <sup>19</sup> Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." <sup>20</sup> So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

## 1. A Maniacal Demoniac

### ▼ Consider the coming of this man

#### ▶ Note the placing of this miracle

Mark 5:1 They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.

#### ▶ Note the pursuit in this miracle

Mark 5:2 When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him.

### ▼ Consider the condition of this man

#### ▶ He lived in the tombs

Mark 5:3 This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain.

#### ▶ He lived as a terrorizer

Mark 5:4 For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him.

#### ▶ He lived in torment

Mark 5:5 Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

## 2. A Miraculous Deliverance

### ▼ Jesus dealt with the demons

#### ▶ The demons recognized the identity of Jesus

Mark 5:6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. <sup>7</sup> He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" <sup>8</sup> For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"

#### ▶ The demons responded to the interrogation of Jesus

Mark 5:9 Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." <sup>10</sup> And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

#### ▶ The demons retreated at the insistence of Jesus

Mark 5:11 A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. <sup>12</sup> The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." <sup>13</sup> He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

### ▼ Jesus confounded the community

#### ▶ They were amazed by his power

Mark 5:14 Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. <sup>15</sup> When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. <sup>16</sup> Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well.

#### ▶ They were afraid of his power

Mark 5:17 Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

### ▼ Jesus liberated a life and a legacy

#### ▶ Jesus restored the man's health

Mark 5:15 they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind;

#### ▶ Jesus restored the man's home

Mark 5:18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. <sup>19</sup> Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

#### ▶ Jesus restored the man's hope

Mark 5:20 So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

## Messages from the Miracle

1. The devil and demons are real spiritual enemies who steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10) — but Jesus came to destroy the devil's work (1 John 3:8) — so reach out to Jesus for deliverance and freedom in every area of your life.
2. The devil fights believers for control of their lives and destinies (Ephesians 6:12) — but the One who is in you is greater (1 John 4:4) — so be alert (1 Peter 5:8) and refuse to give the devil a foothold in your life (Ephesians 4:27).
3. Spiritual warfare is real and sometimes fierce — so prepare yourself to be victorious in battle by being strong in the Lord and in his mighty power (Ephesians 6:10) — pray, praise, and worship — be filled with the Spirit — be strong in the Word — submit yourself to God — take your stand — resist the devil and he will flee from you (James 4:7).