

No Chains He Cannot Break!

Mark 5:1-20



Kursi cliff view to north



Gadara harbor area aerial



Kursi slope from north

1. The Enslaving Power of Sin & Satan (2-5)

- **2** - "When He got out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met Him."
- **3a** - "he had his dwelling among the tombs."
– Cf. 15, 16, 18 – "the demonized man."
- **3b** - "And no one was able to bind him anymore, even with a chain."
- **4a** - "because he had often been bound with shackles and chains."
- **4b** – "and the chains had been torn apart by him and the shackles broken in pieces, and no one was strong enough to subdue him."

1. The Enslaving Power of Sin & Satan (2-5)

- 5 - "Constantly, night and day, he was screaming among the tombs and in the mountains, and gashing himself with stones."
- Ps. 107:10-12 - "There were those who dwelt in darkness and in the shadow of death, Prisoners in misery and chains, Because they had rebelled against the words of God And spurned the counsel of the Most High. Therefore He humbled their heart with labor; They stumbled and there was none to help."

2. The Freeing Power of Jesus (6-13)

- 11-12 - "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.""
- 13 - "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."

2. The Freeing Power of Jesus (6-13)

- 6 - "Seeing Jesus from a distance, he ran up and bowed down before Him."
- 7 - "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!""
- 8 - "For He had been saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!""
- 9 - "And He was asking him, "What is your name?" And he said to Him, "My name is Legion; for we are many.""

3. The Opposing Responses to Jesus (14-20)

- A. The Typical Response of Unbelievers (14-17)
 - 14 - "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."
 - 15 - "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."
 - 16 - "Those who had seen it described to them how it had happened to the demon-possessed man, and *all* about the swine."
 - 15b, 17 - "they became frightened...and they began to implore Him to leave their region."

2. The Freeing Power of Jesus (6-13)

- 10 - "And he *began* to implore Him earnestly not to send them out of the country."
 - Cf. Matt. 8:29 - "And they cried out, saying, "What business do we have with each other, Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?""
 - Cf. Luke 8:31 - "They were imploring Him not to command them to go away into the abyss."

3. The Opposing Responses to Jesus (14-20)

- B. The Typical Response of those Jesus has freed (18-20)
 - 18 - "As He was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed was imploring Him that he might accompany Him."
 - 19 - "And He did not let him, but He said to him, "Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and *how* He had mercy on you."
 - 20 - "And he went away and began to proclaim in Decapolis what great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed."
 - Cf. Luke 8:39 - "So he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him."



Implications...

- 1) The infinite value of human life over animal life.
 - Cf. Matt. 12:12 - "How much more valuable then is a man than a sheep! So then, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath."
- 2) The international scope of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- 3) The priority of personal evangelism as the tool for that message's spread.
- 4) The true identity of Jesus.

Implications...

- 5) The main point
 - Jesus has the power to free from any slavery.
- 6) A Call to Remember.
 - Mark also intends that we who have been freed, remember...
 - "What great things the Lord has done for you, and *how* He had mercy on you."