

EPISODE NO. 243

Mark 5:1-20

The Man with Demons inside Him

1 Jesus and his followers came to the other side of the lake, the land where the Gerasene people lived. 2 When Jesus was getting out of the boat, immediately a man with an evil spirit met him. This man came from the graveyard. 3 His home was among the tombs. No one was able to bind him with chains anymore. 4 His hands and feet had been bound many times, but he would always break the chains apart and smash the shackles. No one was strong enough to tame him. 5 Day and night, he was always in the hills or among the tombs shouting and cutting himself with sharp stones. 6 When this man saw Jesus far away, he ran to Jesus and bowed down. 7-8 While Jesus was saying this to him, “Evil spirit, come out of this man!”, the man shouted loudly, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In the Name of God, I beg you, don’t punish me!”

9 Jesus asked him, “What is your name?”

He said to Jesus, “My name is Legion, because we are many.” 10 The man started to beg Jesus for many things. He didn’t want Jesus to send them out of the country. 11 At that hill there was a large herd of pigs feeding. 12 They begged Jesus, “Send us into the pigs; we could go into them!” 13 Jesus allowed them to do so. So, the evil spirits came out of the man and went into the pigs. (There were about 2,000 pigs.) The herd ran down the cliff and into the lake. They drowned.

14 Some men had been taking care of the pigs. They ran away. They told the story in the fields and in the town. The people came to see what had happened. 15 They came to Jesus and saw the man sitting there. The man had clothes on and he was in his right mind. This man did not have a legion of evil spirits anymore. The people were afraid. 16 There were men who had seen what Jesus did to the man who used to have demons. They told all about the pigs. 17 The people began to beg Jesus to leave their area.

18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who no longer had demons continued to beg Jesus; he wanted to stay with Jesus. 19 But Jesus would NOT allow him to do this. Instead, Jesus said to him, “Go home to your family. Tell them what the Lord has done for you. He has shown you mercy.” 20 So, the man went back to the area of Ten Towns, and began to proclaim what Jesus had done for him. Everyone was amazed.