

"You give Jesus your crab apple; He'll give you back a golden delicious. You give Jesus your thorn; He'll give you back an American rose. You give Jesus your acorn; He'll give you back a mighty oak. Give Jesus your Jacob, the schemer; He'll give you back an Israel, a prince with God. Give Jesus a Simon, the cursing fisherman; He'll give you back Simon Peter, a mighty preacher. You give Jesus your Saul, persecutor of the church, He'll give you back Paul, militant missionary apostle. You give yourself to Jesus; you'll be amazed at what He'll do with you. It's amazing what Jesus can do when a life is placed in His hands." Alan Carr

Series: Biblical Gen. Ed.

Title: The 1st Missionary

Topic: Tell others about Christ

Getting up to speed: Mark 4: As they crossed the Sea of Galilee, Jesus was asleep on a cushion in a terrible storm. He then stilled the storm.

Mark 5:1-17

Pigs can actually swim...so why did they drown? Digging deeper revealed that the phrase *were drowned in the sea* in verse 13 grammatically is, one after the other they plunged into the water and were suffocated.

The demons:

First, They know exactly who Jesus is. And by the way, up to this part of Mark, they're the only beings who proclaim who Jesus is. They're the only ones who say, "You are the Son of the Most High God, You are the Son of God." About half-way through Mark the disciples confess He is the Christ. Then near the end of Mark a Gentile Centurion also confesses it

Second, What do they mean by "What do you want with me?", or "What business do we have with each other?"

Do they know that Jesus will be their judge? Do they know He has the power to bind them and send them everlastingly into hell? Do they know there is a final judgment to be rendered on demons? Do they know they are to be bound for a period of time when the earth is renewed and restored in the great and glorious Kingdom of Messiah and then sent to the Lake of Fire?

What they don't understand is the _____. Their eschatology is so good that they know the judgment of demons is related not to Christ's first coming, but His Second Coming.

Two oddities:

1. 14b: *and the people went out to see what had happened.* In fact, in Matthew 8:34, "*The whole city came out.*" Nobody demonstrates anger over the pigs being drowned and nobody sadly demonstrates joy over the maniac being subdued. The issue of the maniac being subdued, and the issue of the pigs being drowned, isn't the issue.

Verse 15: *They came to Jesus and observed the man who had been demon-possessed sitting down, clothed and in his right mind,... and they became frightened (were afraid) (terrified)*

In his right mind: *sophrono* is the Greek verb, it means to be sane, sensible, in control. There he is clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion inside himself. They became frightened.

They're frightened of _____. They now know spiritual, supernatural powers greater than anything they had ever experienced is in their midst.

They're more afraid that God may be in their presence than they are that Satan is in their presence. There's not a word of thanks from anybody for the deliverance from the terror of this violent man. There's not a word of thanks. There's not an expression of joy. There's not a question about who He is and where His power comes from.

"They're more comfortable with Satan than with God. They're more comfortable with sin than holiness. Such is the nature of depravity, that's how all sinners are. It is more comfortable to be in the presence of evil than to be in the presence of righteousness. That's one of the reasons that the world hates Christians. The massive forces of evil are more welcome than the mighty power of God." (emphasis mine) unknown author

Scripture on sin:

John 3:19: *"Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil."*

- There's none righteous, no not one. There's none that does good.
- The preaching of the cross to them is foolishness.
- They're of their father, the devil.
- They're dead in trespasses and sins.
- They walk according to the course of this world.
- They're under the power of the prince of the air.
- driven by the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life."

2. But there's **another surprise** here: Verses 18-20

The townspeople want Jesus to leave. The man who has just been saved wants to be with Jesus. That's what salvation will do for you. When you get saved and your heart is right with the Lord, you will love Him, His house, His Word and His people. Wherever Jesus is, that's where you will want to be too.

It wasn't in God's plan for him to go with Jesus.

The man's salvation:

1. Salvation changed him.
2. Salvation clothed him.
3. Salvation calmed him.
4. Salvation compelled him...to _____ Jesus.

From the moment you were converted, from the moment you were transformed, you inherited immediately the responsibility to _____ the name of Christ.

Transformation changes everything. And he was obedient.

There is no greater testimony in the world than a person who has been saved by grace telling those who are still lost what Jesus can do for them! He weathered the storm on the sea to get to this man. He weathered the storm of Calvary to get to us. How can we not proclaim His Name?