

Mark Chapter 5

- V: 1 Gadara, the land of the Gadarenes, descendants of Gad who along with the tribe of Reuben and the ½ tribe of Manasseh settled on the East side of the Jordan.
- This is the area specifically on the East side of the Sea of Galilee in the area of modern day Ramot & Kursi.
- V: 2 Speaking of an “unclean spirit” referring to demons, unclean is something defiled, less than holy or pure. Matthew refers to 2 men.
- Apart from the blood of Jesus cleansing us, we too are unclean – just like the demons.
- V: 3 “Dwelling”, not living – among the dead.
- Uncontrollable, un-yielded, un-submitted.
- V: 4-5 He’d broken the chains and fetters – powerful, strong.
- Night & day in the mountains, desolate places, tombs, crying – screaming. Somewhere between bondage and torment – never at peace.
 - Cutting himself – self destructive.
- Parallel accounts: **Matthew 8:28-34** **Luke 8:26-40**
- Luke adds that the man was naked.
 - Satan robs men of their peace, their dignity, their sanity, and reduces them to the lowest levels possible.
 - This is all the exact opposite of what Jesus offers each of us:
- Isaiah 61:10** “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me in the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness...”
- 1 Timothy 1:7** “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”
- John 14:27** “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you...”
- Clothed in righteousness, given a sound mind, and a peace that passes all understanding.

V: 6-7 The demons recognized their creator, but there is a big difference between knowing of God, and putting your trust in Him.

James 2:19 “Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.”

V: 8-9 Jesus had given the command for the demons to come out of the man.

- Jesus then asks their name? Why – He already knows who and what they are – so somehow this is for our benefit and instruction.

Jesus gives an admonition:

Matthew 12:43-45 “⁴³When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. ⁴⁴Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. ⁴⁵Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.”

- This demoniac is a picture of a life dominated by sin.
 - Alcohol, drugs, pornography, gambling, promiscuity, life dominating sin... must be replaced with the righteousness of God.
- There is no void, nature abhors a void – if we put something off, then we must put something on.

1 John 4:4 “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

1 Corinthians 3:16 “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

- Jesus wanted us to know that there were many demons in this man, “legion”.
- The man had probably tried over and over again to clean his own house – which apart from Jesus is futile.

V: 10 They begged not to be sent away to be tormented before their time (Matthew) being sent into the “deep” abyss. (**Luke 8:31**)

- The demons know and understand that there is a day of judgment coming – and when it comes their toast. (**Revelation 20**)

V: 11-13 Big heard of swine, about 2,000. Jesus allows the unclean spirits to enter the unclean animals – and they fulfill their desire for death.

John 8:44 “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of our father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning...”

John 10:10 “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

- They ran “violently” – the demons did everything they could do to those pigs prior to their destruction as well.
- There is only one steep place along the shore of Galilee, at Gadera, or modern day Kursi, just below Ramot.

V: 14 The swine herders freaked out when the pigs freaked out.

- Imagine yourself a swine herder, out there enjoying the scenery, watching out for the pigs – and all of a sudden for no apparent reason the pigs start going nuts – and 2,000 pigs stampede!
- They run down the hill, towards the cliff – your trying to stop them to no avail – they all run off the cliff and drown in the sea.
- They were in the midst of a spiritual battle not only with no clue as to what was happening, but also no weapons for the battle.
- While on the subject of swine herders: what are Jews doing herding swine? When their fathers compromised and wanted an inheritance on this side of Jordan as opposed to taking their inheritance as God wanted for them in the land of Canaan – one compromise leads to another. How low they’ve come.
- They presumably went into town to tell their master what had happened, who came out and found the demoniac with Jesus.

V: 15 The man who was formerly possessed of the devils, sitting, clothed, in his right mind.

Sitting: at rest, peace.

Isaiah 26:3 “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”

Clothed:

Job 29:14 “I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem.”

Revelation 19:8 “And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.”

Right mind:

Romans 12:2 “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.”

- How did this amazing transformation take place? Granted Jesus cast the demons out of him – but specifically what transpired?
- V: 8 “For He said unto him...” Jesus spoke: The Word of God delivered this man from his bondage.

Psalm 119:9 “Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word.”

“...and they were afraid”

- When people see us living a transformed life, no longer doing the crazy things of our past – there are many around us who are afraid, we’ve gone over the edge, joined a cult, lost our sense of reality.

V: 16-17 When they heard the testimony they weren’t too excited that a demon possessed man had been delivered from bondage; they saw the economic loss and asked Jesus to leave.

Matthew 7:6 “Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and rend you.”

- Jesus talks about not casting our pearls before swine, and here we see why. Having no capacity for God they chose their pigs, their money, over God so at their request Jesus leaves.

V: 18-19 As Jesus was leaving, the freed man wanted to go with Jesus – very understandable, he wanted to follow Jesus as any of us would.

- Mary Magdalene was granted that privilege, Jesus drove 7 demons out of her. (Luke 8:2) she followed Jesus to the end.
- Jesus told this man “no” – and sent him back to his family and friends to testify of what great things God had done for him.
- There were three prayers in this last scenario:

1. The demons – **V:10** Answer: “yes”
2. Gadarenes – **V: 17** Answer: “yes”
3. Restored Men – Mark 5:18-20 Answer: “no”

V: 20 God just told this new believer “no” in answer to his prayer. How did this new believer respond?

1. He got mad and left the church.
2. He pouted and stayed home, vowing never to trust God again.
 - He expressed his love and gratitude, and genuine conversion through his obedience to Jesus’ command.

John 14:15 “If ye love Me, keep My commandments.”

- Jesus equipped this man for his ministry, it was simple – testify!
- This man had 1st hand experience and simply, obediently spoke of what he knew.
- His life was a train wreck, a scrambled mess – and Jesus made him whole.
- God’s progressive work in our lives.

Philippians 1:6 “Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ;”

The story doesn’t end here:

- The restored men were sent home to be a witness. Ministry starts at home!
- Jesus later returned to this area – **Matthew 14:34-36**

Matthew 14:34-36 ³⁴And when they were gone over, they came into the land of Gennesaret. ³⁵And when the men of that place had knowledge of Him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto Him all that were diseased; ³⁶And besought Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.”

- Jesus received a warm welcome back due to the testimony of this man, and many were healed and believed – because Jesus said “no.”

Isaiah 55:8-9 ⁸For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

God is awesome!

- Review 1st part of chapter 5 – **map** – geography.

V: 21 Jesus passed over again, returning to Capernaum.

- Jesus is received by a large group awaiting His arrival.

Pictures:

- 1 Ariel view / relationship between Peter's house & synagogue.
- 2 RCC built over top of Peter's house.
- 3 Excavations / ruins of Capernaum.
- 4 More of same
- 5 Ruins of 1st century synagogue – looking out door toward Peter's house; proximity.
- 6 Interior partially restored.
- 7 Interior partially restored.
- 8 Artist conception of 1st century synagogue based on ruins / excavations.
- 9 Excavation below 1st century synagogue showing ruins of ancient synagogue of Jesus' time.
- 10 Same – note color distinction between 1st century and prior.
- 11 Ariel view again showing perspective & proximity.

V: 22 Jairus; a ruler, one of the chief Rabbis – stature & power.

- Jairus: Greek transliteration of Hebrew name meaning “Jah will enlighten” or “whom God will enlighten.”
- The chief ruler of the synagogue was responsible to select the readers or teachers in the synagogue, to examine the discourses of the public speakers, and to see that all things were done with decency and in accordance with ancestral usage.
- This powerful man humbled himself at Jesus' feet because he valued his daughter more than his position.

Psalm 51:17 “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”

- Matthew's account says that this man “worshipped” at Jesus' feet:
- “Worshipped” – this particular word is only used in reference to worshipping God. The same as the leper in **Matthew 8:2**.

“**Worshipped**” (G4352) proskuneo, pros-koo-neh'-o; to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand; to fawn or crouch to, i.e. (lit. or fig.) prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore), worship.

V: 23 This is not a casual request, this is a desperate plea for help – Jairus was begging Jesus to come and help.

- Jairus believed that Jesus could heal his daughter; “she shall live”.

Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

V: 24 “And Jesus went with him...” Jesus had compassion on this humble man, this desperate father.

- Jesus had been met by a large group of people who now continue to follow Jesus as He changes direction and heads towards Jirus’ house.

Mark 3:10 “For He had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon Him for to touch Him, as many as had plagues.”

V: 25-34 Parenthetical break in the description of this event: the woman with an issue of blood.

V: 25-26 This woman had an issue of blood for twelve years – 12 years of bleeding or hemorrhaging.

Leviticus 17:11 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood...”

- For 12 years the life had been flowing out of this woman. She’d tried all the conventional things all to no avail – and was worse off.
- Similar to the demoniac, they had tried to bind him and do everything humanly possible – all to no avail.

Zechariah 4:6 “... this is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.”

Comparison:

Luke 8:42 “For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying.”

- 2 opposites: 12 years of good times suddenly turning for worse.
12 years of bad times and a sudden turn for the better.
- As Mark draws our attention to these two individual we see some other comparisons:

1. Jairus was probably one of the most well known people in their community, the woman was completely anonymous.
 2. Jairus, because of his position was wealthy; the woman was destitute having spent all that she had.
 3. Jairus was a leader, one of the chief rulers of the synagogue, the synagogue was his 2nd home; the woman was defiled because of her condition and dared not set foot inside the synagogue.
 - One was a “Godly” man, righteous, clean in the world’s eyes, but in desperate need.
 - The other, an unclean woman, but just as desperate.
- Both seemingly meet at the feet of Jesus, both required prayer and the power of God.

V: 27 She came in the press behind, and touched His garment.

Leviticus 15:19-30 The issue of blood made this woman “un-clean”.

- The woman was un-touchable, an outcast – she was breaking the rules to move through the crowd to approach Jesus.
- **Matthew 9:20 / Luke 8:44** “Touching the hem of His garment.”
- Hem of the garment represented power and righteousness, and it’s low to the ground. You can’t touch it without bowing down – an act of humility.

James 4:6 “... God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.”

V: 28 “Trigger of faith”

Acts 5:15 “Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing my might overshadow some of them.”

Acts 19:11-12 “¹¹And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: ¹²So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.”

V: 29-33 “straightway” – “immediately” – action Gospel.

- Did Jesus really not know? He was drawing something out – a testimony that would give glory to God.
- Real deliverance & salvation involve humility – never arrogance.

- She humbly gave testimony, and in so doing she gave glory to God!
- V: 34 “*Daughter...*” = relationship.

“... *thy faith hath made thee whole.*”

Hebrews 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”

- “**Whole**”: (G-4982). sozo, sode'-zo; “saved” (93x’s), deliver or protect, heal, preserve, be (make) well or whole.

Ephesians 2:8-9 “⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹not of works, lest any man should boast.”

- Could also read “... thy faith has saved you...”

“**Whole**” (2nd) (G-5199). “hugies”, hoog-ee-ace'; healthy, well (in body), whole; figuratively, used as a metaphor to mean true in doctrine, sound doctrine, teaching that does not deviate from the truth.

- Relationship – based on faith, whole / salvation – peace – healing, sound doctrine.
- She was healed of her physical ailment, but more importantly she was healed of her spiritual condition – separation from God, but now she has a personal relationship with God – she’s a daughter!

V: 35 turning back to Jairus and his daughter:

- Jairus has come pleading with Jesus to come and heal his daughter – then the “interruption” and the delay.
- “*While He yet spake*” – as He was speaking – an interruption:
- News arrives that Jairus’ daughter has died.
- What they are saying is that it’s gone beyond any man’s ability to remedy...

Matthew 19:26 “But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

- Reading into their statement a little bit: obviously they don’t believe that Jesus can do anything at this point, it’s almost like they are trying to draw him back in a sense into the synagogue before he gets into trouble, “come back into the fold”.

V: 36 Jesus quickly re-assures Jairus – “... *don't be afraid, only believe.*”

- Don't focus on the trial, or the obstacle – focus on the One who can overcome it, focus on the Lord!

1 John 4:18 “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”

- How do we regain our focus on the Lord if through fear or some other means the enemy has distracted us?

Prayer, worship, God's word, ministry.

V: 37 Only a select few were to be witnesses – it wasn't to be a “show”.

V: 38-40 “Tumult – wept & wailed greatly”

- Besides those who would naturally be grieved over a death in the family it was common for people to hire professional mourners. The greater the lament, the greater the person...
- Someone in the household had probably already hired these mourners, or seizing on the opportunity they initiated it themselves in expectation of payment.

V: 39 Jesus again refers to “sleep”, the death of a believer is only temporary, He may be speaking of her future salvation in the present tense due to what He knows will take place because of a believing father.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 “But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.”

- “Laughed” – not very sincere mourners.
- “Scorn” – resistance, ridicule.

V: 41 He took her by the hand – “defiled” by dead body, but not really dead.

- 3 times Jesus raised someone from the dead, this is the 1st.
- *Each time Jesus raised someone from the dead, He spoke directly to them.*

1 John 1:1 “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life.”

- “Tali tha cumi” = “little lamb, wake up, I say”

V: 42-43 She moved, demonstrated that she was alive.

Luke 8:55 “And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and He commanded to give her meat.”

- 3 raised from the dead:

1. Jairus' daughter – **Matthew 9, Luke 8:55** – came to life hungry.
2. Widow's son – **Luke 7:15** – came to life speaking.
3. Lazarus – **John 11:44** – came to life walking.

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

- **2 Corinthians 5:17**, new creatures alive in Jesus should be **HUNGRY** for the Word, **SPEAKING** the truth of Jesus, and **WALKING** with Jesus, no longer bound by death / sin!

This chapter portrays 3 different miracles with a common denominator:

1. The demoniac couldn't be controlled or restrained by men, left in a living death in the tombs, naked, crying out – out of his mind:

V: 8 Jesus spoke: then V: 15 the same man sitting, at rest, peace, clothed, and in his right mind.

2. The woman with the issue of blood, defiled, unclean, life ebbing out of her.

V: 34 Daughter, thy faith hath saved thee, go in peace, be healed – again the Word of God at work.

3. Jairus' daughter – dead already:

V: 41 “And He took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her.”

- Again the word of God brought life to that which was dead.

What would the answer to our problems be?

The word of God mixed with faith.