

THE MADMAN OF GADARA

Mark 5:1-19

Introduction: This miracle by Jesus reveals at least two things:

- To prove and reveal the truth of why Jesus was there.
- To show what He could do for the souls of people.
- Unbelievers have always tried to attribute the miracles of Jesus to some natural cause or result however two men could hardly drive 20 swine into the sea, much less 2,000.
- The madman was cured of his demon possession and the demons were subject to the command of Jesus.

I. LET US CONSIDER THE EVENTS:

1. Consider the Miracle Performed by Jesus:

- Satan had great power over the bodies of people and a whole legion of his demons had indwelt the man and no restraints could hold him.
- At the command of Jesus, every single demon left the man, begging to be allowed to enter the swine instead of being cast into hell.
- The demons moved into the swine, then sent the 2,000 of them rushing into the sea to be drowned, perhaps in a last resort to bring harm to Jesus from the swine owners?

2. Consider the Results of the Miracle Performed by Jesus:

- Instead of being pleased that the man had been cured and wanting Jesus to come to their homes and do further great works, the swine owners (Gadarans) begged him to leave their area.
- The madman made well wanted to follow Jesus and become His personal servant. Jesus told him to go home to his family and tell them what had happened and who had cured him.

II. BE ASSURED THAT NOTHING HAS CHANGED, EVEN AS OF TODAY

1. Satan Still Has Dreadful Power Over People:

- Although demon possession of people isn't seen as much today, Satan has lost no power over souls.
- All people without exception are subject to Satan's control as much today as then.
- All people without exception are in rebellion against God and follows his/her own will and way.
- Tell people of their accountability to God and they will demand the same thing as the Gadarenes, "leave us alone."
- The madman acted insane and did harm to his body but those who reject Jesus and want Him to leave them alone do more harm as they destroy their souls and all this caused by Satan, who is the "god" of this world.

2. Jesus Still Has Absolute Power Over Satan:

- Look at us! Once we were controlled by Satan, but we, like the madman, have had Satan's control cast off from us. We have passed from death into life. We have come from darkness to light.
- Like the prodigal son, we, too were brought to our senses and called upon the Lord to deliver us and He did.

3. There is Still The Same Rejection of Jesus Christ Today as Then:

- Whenever Jesus delivers someone from Satan's control, it would be assumed that everyone would rejoice and want the same for themselves.
- The opposite is true in every place. The desire of all rank and order of those still in Satan's control is to be left alone. Their demand is the same as the Gadarenes: "Depart from us..."

4. There is Still The Same Desire to Show Thanks By Those Delivered From Satan's Control:

- For all who are delivered from the hand of Satan, there is the desire to thank Jesus somehow.
- There is the desire to go tell others about what has happened to them and who freed them.

CONCLUSION:

1. Those who are still under the control and power of Satan have no desire to change and demand that Jesus not be talked about around them.
 - One doesn't even have to ask about their relationship to Jesus, only to look and listen. Their actions will show who has control of their lives.
 - The demons did acknowledge who Jesus was and begged Him for mercy. They did more than what is being done today by those under Satan's control. Deny who Jesus is and their need of Him.
2. Those who have received deliverance from Satan's power and control need to take a long look at the destiny of the herd of swine and give thanks for the interest of Jesus in them and His power to deliver them from Satan.
 - All of us who have been delivered from Satan need to do what the cured madman wanted to do - follow Jesus and be His devoted servant. Then go do what Jesus told the cured madman to do: go tell others what Jesus did for us.