

## Luke 8:26-39 **Legion & 2000 Swine**

<sup>26</sup> Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!" <sup>29</sup> For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?"

And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. <sup>32</sup> Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. And they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup> Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed.

<sup>37</sup> Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned.

<sup>38</sup> Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> "Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him. NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

- ✚ After the Storm was stilled they reached the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee. [[Mark 5:1-2](#), [Matthew 8:23-28](#), [Luke 8:26-39](#)]
- ✚ At the top of the hill they met a demon possessed man. [[Matthew 8:28](#), [Mark 5:1-17](#), [Luke 8:26-37](#)]
- ✚ The demons were able to give the men supernatural power and ferocity, so much so, that people could not pass that way.
  - ✧ It is interesting how the demonic forces cause people to focus on the dead, so the man lived among the tombs.
  - ✧ Today the same powers draw the young people, as well as adults, to have a fixation on horror images, costumes, toys, books, cartoons, movies, and video games etc.
- ✚ The demons knew Jesus, and that He is indeed the Son of God. [[Mark 5:6-7](#), [Matthew 8:29](#), [Luke 8:28](#)]
  - ✧ The demons knew that demons have nothing to do with Jesus.
  - ✧ The demons knew that Jesus is not on their side, but that they must obey him.
  - ✧ The demons know that there is a set time when He will send them to their place of torment.
  - ✧ The demons know that Jesus is the One Who has the say over their destiny.

✠ Jesus is the head of all principalities and powers in Heaven and on earth. [[Colossians 2:8-16](#), [Ephesians 1:15-23](#)]

Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him. [[1 Peter 3:21-22](#)]

✠ The primary residents of the country of the Gadarenes (Gergesenes) were Gentiles.

✧ They were from among the peoples who were brought in to the land of Israel from other countries, after the northern kingdom of Israel had been carried captive by the Assyrians. [[2 Kings 17:5-41](#)]

✧ The Gadarenes were living in a part of the land that Moses had given to the tribe of Manasseh after the defeat of Og, king of Bashan. [[Numbers 32:39-42](#), [Deuteronomy 3:13](#)]

✠ Being a land with heavy Gentile population, the raising of swine was a common business, even though swine were forbidden for the Children of Israel to eat.

✧ For that reason it is not surprising to find a large herd of swine at that location.

✠ Being unclean and forbidden for the Children of Israel to eat, and being in the land God had given Israel as an inheritance, Jesus found no problem in allowing the demons to enter the swine.

✧ The demons who had inhabited the man, have sufficient force to drive 2,000 swine out of their minds and cause them to drown themselves in the Sea of Galilee. [[Matthew 8:30-32](#), [Mark 5:13](#), [Luke 8:32-33](#)]

✠ When the people of the city heard about it, they came en-masse, and asked Jesus to leave their region. [[Mark 5:14-17](#), [Matthew 8:33-34](#), [Luke 8:34-37](#)]

✧ Their income from the swine, was far more important to them, than the deliverance of the man from demon possession.

✧ Jesus valued the man far above the value of the swine.

✠ Today people of the world value animals far above people.

✧ Abort the infant, but save the whale, eagle, spotted owl, grizzly bear, wolf, dog, cat, or any other animal that catches the attention of animal activists and news media.

✠ Jesus must be deeply grieved at our value system.