

Mark 5:1-20 **Demons cast out enter into 2,000 Swine**

¹ Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. ² And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, ³ who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, ⁴ because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. ⁵ And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.

⁶ When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. ⁷ And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me."

⁸ For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" ⁹ Then He asked him, "What is your name?" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." ¹⁰ Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country. ¹¹ Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. ¹² So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them."

¹³ And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.

¹⁴ So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. ¹⁵ Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ¹⁶ And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine. ¹⁷ Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region.

¹⁸ And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. ¹⁹ However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." ²⁰ And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.
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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](#)]
 - ✧ They knew that demons have nothing to do with Jesus.
 - ✧ They knew that Jesus is not on their side, but that they must obey him.

- ✧ They know that there is a set time when He will send them to their place of torment.
- ✧ They 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.

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