

Jesus Casts Out Legion (Mark 5:1-20)

Sunday, March 5, 2023

Let's look at the context of the story – what happens before and after.

Three Stories:

Mark 4:35-41	Mark 5:1-20	Mark 5:21-43

Main Theme:

The whole theme of this story, along with the previous and following events, is that Jesus has come to establish His heavenly kingdom on earth in the heart of every believer. Jesus demonstrates his power and purpose in those three stories starting at Mark 4:35 through Mark 5.

Let's read the account of Mark 5:1-20.

What about them pigs?

Here's what we know...

1. Demons hurt but do not _____ the man
2. Demons do not want to leave the _____
3. Demons recognize that Jesus can send them to the _____ (final judgement in Hell)
4. Demons ask to go to the _____
5. Jesus gives them _____
6. Demons go into _____ pigs
7. Pigs rush down the steep bank into the _____ and _____

We can reasonably conclude that Jesus is not the active agent of sending the pigs down the cliff.

Big Question: Did the demons drive the pigs into the sea or did the pigs rush into the sea against the will of Legion?

Two Perspectives:

- Either way the designs of the demons are _____.
- Both lead to the ultimate _____ of the demons.
- Jesus _____, demons _____.

New Perspective:

The demons unintentionally drive the pigs mad. They go over the cliff and die in a frenzy. The demons are no longer able to dwell in the area as they had before.

Old Perspective:

The demons intentionally kill the pigs in the sea because they are fleeing and seeking refuge. But no refuge is found.

Using Allegory to Illuminate the Text:

The literal has primacy over the spiritual. The spiritual illuminates what the literal communicates.

- Don't make things up, and don't discount the literal.

Making Connections Between Exorcism and Justification/Baptism...

Mark 5:1-20	
Literal Sense of the Text	Allegorical Sense of the Text