



## YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL!

What God says about what you say

IN Favor video teaching series

### #13. "JESUS SPEAKS TO DEMONS"

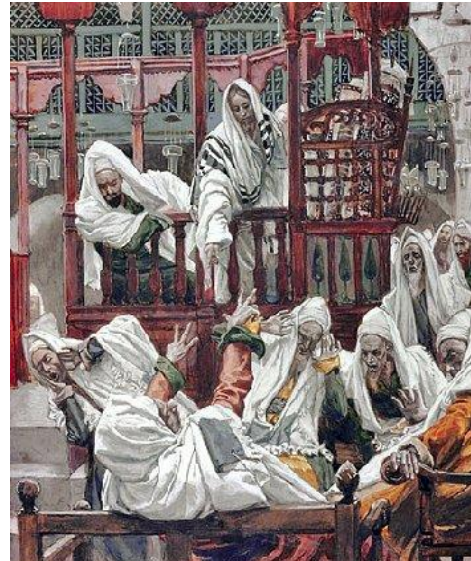
*Mark 1:21 They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. <sup>22</sup> The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. <sup>23</sup> Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, <sup>24</sup> "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" <sup>25</sup> "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" <sup>26</sup> The evil spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. <sup>27</sup> The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him." [Also Luke 4:33-37]*

This is the first time Jesus is confronted by an unclean spirit.

Notice that the demon knows who Jesus is, calling him by name and hometown; he knows that Jesus came to destroy them; he recognizes the uniqueness of Jesus, calling him "*the Holy One of God*"; and when exorcised, he does not go out willingly or quietly.

Jesus speaks simply and sternly to the demon: "Be silenced!" (literally, "Be muzzled!" We might say today, "Shut up!"), and "Come out of him!" *The unclean spirit must submit to the Holy Spirit*; he has to obey Jesus' authoritative words.

In the account in Luke, the astonished people ask, "What is this word?" (4:36).



The demon was powerless before the sovereign command of Jesus. In contrast to contemporary exorcists, who identified themselves by name or by some relationship to some deity or power, who pronounced some spell or performed some magical action, Jesus utters only a few direct words, through which his absolute authority over the demonic power that had held the man captive was demonstrated. <sup>Lane</sup>

In every case where demons confronted Jesus, they lost their power ... They tried every way they knew to break him. Their master, Satan, had tried and failed—the demons would try and fail as well. By including this event in his gospel, Mark was establishing Jesus' credentials, show that even the spiritual underworld recognized Jesus as the Messiah. <sup>LABC</sup>

THINK ABOUT IT ...



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