



YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL!

What God says about what you say

IN Favor video teaching series

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

Matthew 8:16 When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick.

Jesus cast them out *with a word*, a contrast to the techniques characteristic of contemporary exorcists, but characteristic of Jesus (cf. v. 8) and indicative of his supreme power. ^{Morris}

The "word" of Jesus stresses his authority over the demonic realm. With just a word, Jesus could eliminate sickness and evil spirits. ^{LABC}

Matthew 8:28 When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. ²⁹ "What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?" ³⁰ Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding. ³¹ The demons begged Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs." ³² He said to them, "Go!" So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water.

³³ Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. ³⁴ Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region. [Also Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39]

This is an especially vivid story, with such a tragic ending: the demonized men were delivered, but the townspeople chose to remain in their bondage. When we add the details from Mark and Luke to



Matthew's account, the story goes like this: 1) After the storm, they land on the other side; 2) Jesus is met by demonized men who are wild, fierce and strong; 3) they immediately cry out to Jesus, "What do you want with us?" 4) Jesus had told the spirit to come out, and he now asked for its name; 5) they reply "Legion, for we are many"; 6) they beg Jesus to send them into a nearby herd of pigs; 7) Jesus says to them, "Go!" 8) the spirits come out, enter the pigs, and about 2,000 rush down into the sea and drown; 9) the herdsmen flee into the city and tell everything that happened; 10) the townspeople see the man clothed and sane

and are afraid; 11) they beg Jesus to leave; 12) Jesus refuses to let the delivered man come with him, asking him to stay and tell others.

Jesus' simple command, *Go!* showed the extent of his authority over the demons. One word was enough. He did not need to perform a lengthy exorcism. God limits what evil spirits can do; these demons could do nothing without Jesus' permission. ^{LABC}

The main points are first that Jesus exercises God's almighty power over the demons, and secondly that human beings are of much more value than a herd of pigs. Yes, God's ultimate authority over Satan is vested in this man. This is what the story underlines. ^{BST}

THINK ABOUT IT ...



Website: infavorresources.com Facebook: facebook.com/infavorresources
YouTube channel: IN Favor Resources Email: infavorresources@gmail.com

Copyright Dr. Jim Taylor Jr. IN Favor Resources LLC
This material not to be used without permission