

There once was a man who lived with his wife, his two small children and his elderly parents in a tiny hut.

The man tried to be patient and gracious but the noise and cramped conditions in the tiny hut wore him down.

In desperation he went to the village wise man who asked him if he had a Rooster.

“Yes” replied the man, **“good”** the wise man told him, **“bring the Rooster into the hut with your family and then come and see me again next week.”**

The next week the man returned to the wise man and said that the conditions in their hut were worse than ever and the Rooster was making a terrible mess.

“Do you have a cow”, the wise man asked, the man nodded his head in fear of what would come next, **“Yes we have a cow, good”**, the wise man said **“then bring him into the hut as well then come and see me in another week.”**

Over the next 4 weeks the man returned to the wise man and was given similar advice, bring a goat, two dogs and his brothers children into his hut.

Finally the man could take it no more, he kicked out the animals, his brothers children, leaving him only with his original residents, himself, his wife and two children and his elderly parents...

Suddenly the home seemed spacious and quiet and peaceful...They all lived together happily ever after...

In case you don't know yet, Peace is not the absence of conflict, it is the ability of you to adjust your attitude to the conflict...

☞ **In every conflict** that we have in our life, it is not the other persons fault that you have no peace, it is our fault.

A young girl who had gone to a church since she was a child said to her best friend Jill one day, **“I've lost my joy and my peace and I want it back...”**

Jill asked her, **“Well where did you Lose it”?**

Eventually she did open up and talk about it and admitted that her joy went away the day she moved into her boyfriend's apartment and began a relationship that she knew that the Lord did not approve of...

That will do it every time!

- ⊕ **The reason** we lose our peace, is because of the decisions that we make in our life, that we know are wrong, and that rob us of our peace.
- ⊕ **The reason we lose our peace** is that we look at our situation and become afraid, instead of looking to Jesus.

Mark 4:35-40

35 On the same day, when evening had come, Jesus said to them, “Let us cross over to the other side.”

36 Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him.

37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.

38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, **“Teacher, do You not care** that we are perishing?”

39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, **“Peace, be still!”** And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.

40 But He said to them, **“Why are you so fearful?”** How is it that you have no faith?”

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, “Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!”

The disciples were in a situation that they had absolutely no control over, and what did they do?

- ⊕ **The very first thing** they did is become afraid.
- ⊕ **Even though** Jesus was right there in the boat with them.
- ⊕ **Jesus** is sound asleep, He is not afraid.
- ⊕ **But** His people are.
- ⊕ **Why** isn't Jesus afraid, because He knows who is in control, He is.
- ⊕ **All Jesus said** was “Peace, Be still”.
- ⊕ **Jesus has the power** to rebuke the storms of your life, but you must call upon Him and look to Him, and not your situation.

Ever wonder why is Jesus called **“The Prince of Peace?”** Why not the Prince of Hope or Mercy?

- ⊕ **Because** the one great need that all of us have in our life right now is Peace.
- ⊕ **We were not created** to endure the stresses and difficulties that sin places upon our lives.
- ⊕ **We are not equipped** to handle the stresses that this fallen world puts upon us.
- ⊕ **Someday very soon**, we will never again be afraid of anything.

☞ **We will live** in perfect peace.

But until then, we can do what Isaiah wrote:

Isaiah 26:3

You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

Where is your mind set right now?

- ☞ **Are you dwelling** on and thinking about and worrying about things that haven't even happened yet?
- ☞ **Don't you know** that when the boat of your present life arrives at the storm, that Jesus will be with you there in that boat and will rebuke the storm and calm the waves for you?
- ☞ **Then Why** are you afraid?

Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due.” William R. Inge

Did you know that they did a study about the things that we worry about and discovered that about 99 percent of the things that we are worried about, will never happen the way we imagined they will happen.

Do you know why as a follower of Jesus Christ that you should never worry a day in your life?

- ☞ **Because we have read** the back of the Book and it says:

Revelation 21:1-4

1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

4 And **God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.**”

Revelation 12:11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony

Even right now, Jesus could come for all of us at any moment, so why are we so afraid?

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18

- 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.
- 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.
- 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.
- 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words

We are a strange creation, **we Fight for Peace and we work so that we can have leisure.**

And all that Jesus said was: *“Peace be still...”*

- ☞ **You remember** in our last study in the Gospels that Jesus was in Capernaum teaching the people by the use of parables.
- ☞ **He had stepped out into a boat** and drifted out into the sea of Galilee because the crowds were so large there was no room for him on the shore.
- ☞ **In the study this morning**, Jesus is still in the boat on his way to the other side of the side of the sea of Galilee as Jesus drifts off to sleep in the boat a storm begins to rage:

This story is also found in Matthew 8:23-27 and Luke 8:22-25 because mark seems to give the most detailed account of this story we will follow him:

A sea is made calm

Mark 4:35-41

- 35 **on the same day, (the same day that Jesus was teaching the parable of the sower)** when evening had come, Jesus said to them, "let us cross over to the other side." (**The other side of the sea of Galilee**) to the town of Gergesa (**as you can see on the map.**)
- 36 now when they had left the multitude, they took him along in the boat as he was. And other little boats were also with him.
- 37 and **a great windstorm arose**, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. (with water)



The sea of Galilee or lake Gennesaret as it is also called is 680 feet below sea level, 13 miles long and 7 miles wide. It is surrounded on the east and west by mountain ranges that rise to 2,000 feet above sea level.

- ☞ **Because the lake is 680 feet below sea level** with tall mountains on 2 sides the cool air at times rushes down into the valley the lake is in and within just 10 minutes can turn calm waters into a raging storm with waves tall enough to capsize almost any small boat.
- ☞ **Every fisherman** in these waters knows the reputation of the lake and so never ventures too far from shore once a storm begins they know that once the winds begin they have less than 10 minutes to make it back to shore before their lives are in danger.

Within 10 minutes more the lake could be as smooth as glass again.

- ⊕ **As Jesus and his disciples** leave the shore at **Capernaum** traveling at about 4 miles per hour it would take them about 1 ½ hours to make it across the lake to the town of Gergesa.
- ⊕ **Apparently** when this particular storm **hits they are too far to turn back** and too far from their destination to make it there safely in the storm these men are terrified!

Mark 4

38 but Jesus was in the stern, **asleep on a pillow**. And they awoke him and said to him, "teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"

- ⊕ **True peace** is the kind that Jesus displayed for us here, even in the midst of a raging storm when their lives were in eminent danger, Jesus was at peace.
- ⊕ **The prophet Isaiah describes Jesus** as "*The Prince Of Peace...*" he goes on to say that "*of his government and his peace there will be no end...*" then Isaiah reveals that "everyone who trust in him will live in perfect peace..."

Isaiah 9:6-7

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace**.

7 Of the increase **of His government and peace There will be no end**

How can we have that kind of perfect peace in our own life? More importantly, in the midst of a raging storm listen to what Paul said:

Philippians 4:6-7

6 **be anxious for nothing**, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 and **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

- ⊕ **In other words**, instead of getting stressed out and anxious about the things in your life, pray about them as soon as you feel the temptation to panic.
- ⊕ **Change** your worries into Prayers
- ⊕ **Notice the promise to you** in verse 7: "*Then the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds...*"

Mark 4

39 Then Jesus arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "**Peace, Be Still!**" and the wind ceased and there was a great calm. Can you believe it—he just spoke to it!

40 but he said to them, "**why are you so fearful?** How is it that you have no faith?"

41 and they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey him!"

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- ☞ **There has never been** any man who could just speak the words “**Peace Be Still**” and stop a Raging storm instantly.
- ☞ **There is not one** “so called” Guru, religious leader or self proclaimed Messiah ever born in history that could do what Jesus just did.

It is at this point that Jesus and his disciples reach the other side of the sea of Galilee after the storm is calmed:

- ☞ **This account** is also found in **Matthew 8:28-34 and Luke 8:26-39** but we will follow marks account because it contains the most detail.

Jesus continues with his theme of bringing peace where there is no peace, as He even shows to us that He has power over the Demonic Spirit world:

A demon in Gadarenes:

Mark 5:1-20

1 then **they came to the other side of the sea**, to the country of the Gadarenes. Matthew calls the city gergesenes.

Mark says that they came to “Gadarenes”, Matthew say’s it was “Gergesenes” is there a contradiction here?

Matthew 8:28

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men

- ☞ **Actually both of these are cities** on the same side of the lake that Jesus boat has just landed on, but they are about **12 miles apart. (Picture)**
- ☞ **The boat apparently lands** about halfway between these 2 cities. Mark and Matthew had different opinions as to which city they were **closer to**.
- ☞ **It is like the glass of water** that is either half full or half empty, it depends on how you look at it—right.

The great legal Scholar Dr. Simon Greenleaf, who wrote the Legal manual for how evidence is to be examined and determined if it is reliable or not in a court of law, said that this difference between Matthew and Mark is actually an incredible internal proof in the scriptures for their reliability.

- ☞ **Think about it**, if you were going to write a story that you wanted to be accepted as truth, **you would make sure that all the accounts of that story matched exactly**.
- ☞ **The fact** that Matthew says Gergesenes, and Mark says Gadarenes is evidence here, of two different accounts yet telling the same story. This would only happen if they were both really telling the truth.

Mark 5

2 and when Jesus had come out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man **with an unclean spirit**,

Luke says that this man was naked, later Mark says that after this man was healed by Jesus in verse 15, he was found clothed and in his right mind.

Mark 5

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.**

⊖ **The Greek translation** for tame here in verse 4 gives us an idea of how severe this man's situation was.

⊖ **The Greek word for Tame** is "**Damazo**" was usually only used to describe the process of training a wild animal.

James used "**Damazo**" in his letter to describe what it is like to "**Tame**" the human tongue, which he said is like a wild beast, capable of tremendous damage and pain just by the words it can speak.

James 3:8

8 but no man can **tame** "**damazo**" the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

Skip down to verse 9 and notice that Jesus asks this demon his name, he replies "**Legion**", speaking of multiple demons who had taken up residence within the body of this man.

Mark 5

9 then he asked him, "**what is your name?**" and he answered, saying, "**my name is legion;** for we are many."

Notice in verses 3 and 4 he had superhuman strength....

Mark 5

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.**

The ability to pull a chain apart! This kind of superhuman strength is one sign of demonic possession.

Mark 5

5 and always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and **cutting himself** with stones. Also a sign of insanity—for those of you who like to go naked.

6 when he saw Jesus from afar, **he ran and worshipped him.**

⊖ **There is a phenomenon** today that we are experiencing all over the world where people will cut themselves for various reasons.

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- ☞ **Here we can see** that one of the things this demon possessed man did to himself was to cut himself.

There is a strange thing that happens when this man sees Jesus from afar, he runs to Jesus and falls at his feet and “**worships Him.**”

- ☞ **Our English translation** of “*worshipped*” here came from the Greek word “**Proskuneo**” (pros-koo-neh’-o).
- ☞ **Which carries the idea** of kissing the hand of someone, **much like a dog licks his masters hand in submission or in respect** of his authority over him.

This legion of demons was not worshipping Jesus in adoration, love and deep affection for him, the demons inside the man are simply falling before Jesus because of Jesus authority over him.

- ☞ **This is what Paul was speaking of** in the book of Philippians when he said that some day “*every knee will bow to Jesus...*”

[Philippians 2:9-11](#)

9 therefore god also has highly exalted him and given him the name which is above every name,
10 that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, notice and of those **under the earth**,
11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is lord, to the glory of god the father.

- ☞ **The demons know** that Jesus is the creator he is the eternal one who made all things they acknowledge his title and rulership.
- ☞ **These beings must submit** to Jesus authority because He is God, but they are not worshipping Him.
- ☞ **You might not bow your knees today** in worship of Jesus as Savior, but it is for certain that one day soon you will bow your knees to Jesus as Lord.

“Every knee will bow, every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord...Notice Lord, not Savior...”

- ☞ **Today you still have the opportunity** to bow you knees and confess with your mouth that Jesus is Savior of your life.
- ☞ **Better to do it willingly today**, in worship and adoration, that to be forced to do it at the judgment.

[Matthew 21:44](#)

And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder.”

[Mark 5](#)

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." Matthew also calls Jesus the son of god.

- ⊕ **Notice here** that when the legion of demons acknowledge that Jesus is the “Most High God” that Jesus does not rebuke them for calling Him the Most High God.
- ⊕ **This is what we call an “internal evidence”** in the scriptures this type of evidence corrects the skeptics who have said that Jesus never claimed to be god.
- ⊕ **If Jesus was not God**—He would have said so and corrected the demon.

What is a demon, and where did they come from?

- ⊕ **May I say to you**, we don’t really know, at best all we can do is guess and look to a few scriptures for some clues.
- ⊕ **The Bible speaks** of a time just before the flood of Noah where the daughters of men mingles with angels and produced a race of Giants in the 9 to 12 foot tall range.
- ⊕ **We see examples** of these giants all over the Old Testament.
- ⊕ **When the flood came**, we know that no one on the earth survived except Noah and his family.

It is conjectured that the spirits of these fallen angels that occupied the bodies of these giants, were released from those bodies during the flood and continue to dwell on the earth even today.

- ⊕ **That is perhaps the best guess**, but in honesty, we don’t really know where they came from for sure.
- ⊕ **All we know** is that they are most likely **fallen angels, without bodies**, that now take the form of fallen spirits.
- ⊕ **The are under the command** of satan and now do his will until the final judgment by Jesus, where they will all be cast into hell forever.

These demons have power over any person who has not committed their life to Jesus Christ.

- ⊕ **There is no protection** for any human being from being possessed or tormented by a demon or demons at their will.
- ⊕ **We know that demons** are introduced into a human beings life and can ultimately posses a person if that person takes certain steps in their life such as:
 1. Playing ouji boards.
 2. Using Tarot Cards.
 3. Experimenting in Astrology or witchcraft.
 4. Leading a sexually reprobate lifestyle.
 5. Usage of Mind altering drugs.
 6. Participates in the worship of satan or the occult.

For the person who has surrendered their life to Jesus Christ, no demon has any power or control over them whatsoever, it is impossible for a Christian to ever be demon possessed.

1 John 4:4

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

But Jesus said that a person who does not have the Holy Spirit living inside of them as they have surrendered their life to Jesus Christ, **even if that person would have the demon cast out** and be set free from the demon, if they do not then surrender their life to Jesus Christ, then that demon will go out and find many more demons to come and possess the person..

Matthew 12:43 -45

43 “When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none.

44 Then he says, “I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when **he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order.**

45 Then he goes and **takes with him seven other spirits** more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation.

This appears to be what happened to this man who when Jesus asked him his name, he said “Legion” for we are many”.

But Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the Most High God and Creator of all, **takes no lip** from this demon or any demon:

Mark 5

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."

- ☞ **The name here “legion”** comes from the Greek word “leg-ee-ohn”—which is a military term used to **describe a company of soldiers numbering 6,100** foot soldiers and 726 horsemen.
- ☞ **The only other place** in the n/t where legion is used is when Jesus used “leg-ee-ohn” in **Matthew 26:53** he used the word legion to describe the number of angels he could call to help him—12 legions of angels—or 81,600 angels—to assist him when the soldiers came to arrest Jesus while he was in the garden of Gethsemane.
- ☞ **It is possible** there were more than **8,000 demons** within the body of this one man—this is where his tremendous superhuman strength came from.

Mark 5

10 also he begged him earnestly that he would not send them out of the country. Luke describes how the demon begged Jesus not to send them into the “**abyss**” in Hebrew—the “**Abusso**”

- ☞ **The “Abusso”** in the Greek—is the final destination of every fallen angel who rebelled against god—along with lucifer.
- ☞ **“Abusso” in the Hebrew language** is “a very deep bottomless place” specifically in the center of the earth.
- ☞ **Because the earth rotates** on it’s axis at 1,000 miles per hour, a person or being falling into the center of the earth through this shaft, would technically never hit bottom **because the earth rotates faster than gravity allows them to fall.**

Mark 5

- 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 the people of the city 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. (**You are bad for business Jesus!**)
- 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.**"

Someone once said that they had a real problem with Jesus casting the demons into the herd of pigs because this was inconsistent to the Humble and gentle Jesus that we see in the New Testament.

- ☞ **First of all**, remember where we are, we have crossed over the Sea of Galilee and the border of the Jordan river.
- ☞ **We are now on the East side** of the Jordan River, near “**Gadara**”, which came from **the tribe of Gad**, one of the tribes that remained on that side of the Jordan river and chose not to cross over when Joshua took them across.
- ☞ **The Jordan River** represented for us, crossing over and entering into all that God has for us.
- ☞ **Those tribes** that stayed on the East side of the Jordan river was like saying, *no God I am comfortable right where I am, I will stay here.*

These tribes that didn’t cross over the Jordan and enter all that the Lord had planned for them, were the first to go into the worship of other gods.

- ☞ **Here we find them** raising a herd of pigs, which God strictly forbid them to eat.

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- ☞ **And now** they are so far from the Lord, that they care more about their business and their money than they do loving and pleasing the Lord.
- ☞ **Listen**, when you start moving away from the Lord, you will just go farther and farther away **until you will be doing things that you never thought that you would do.**

Secondly, Jesus is the Lamb of God here in the New Testament, because He came this first time to lay down his life as a servant for all of us.

- ☞ **But when Jesus returns**, He will be not be coming as the “**Lamb**” but as the “**Lion**”, and He will rule this earth with a Rod of Iron.
- ☞ **Jesus won't put up** with any of the foolishness of Governments or the evil of men's lives.
- ☞ **Every knee will Bow** to Him and every tongue will confess that He is Lord...
- ☞ **And all men and all** governments on the earth will do righteousness and no one will hurt or destroy any more...

And He will speak to this earth, just as He did to the sea of Galilee, “**Peace Be still**”, and it will be still forever and forever...**AMEN!**

This was the final study that I did in this series “The Harmony of the Gospels”

These 44 studies in the four Gospels were born out of the three most difficult years of my life.

During this period of time; my wife passed away in a single day, just one year later my Father went home to be with the Lord, then just two months later my Mother also passed away suddenly.

While in this period of Grieving, I lost the friendship of many close friends, and watched as the church I loved so much, struggled to exist.

I learned in this intense period of suffering, grief and Loss that the Lord is Faithful, Loving and Merciful. He sustained me and set me back on the path of blessing once again.

Although this was the most difficult time of my life, it was also a moment in time with the greatest spiritual growth and revelation of God's Word to me.

I learned that the present suffering of this world are nothing to be compared with the Glory with shall be revealed in us when we make it to Heaven.

This is not a complete commentary on the full Harmony of the Gospels, nor was it intended to be. It is simply the results of the work that the Lord was doing in my

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own heart in an intense period of suffering. These 44 studies are the result of
that period of time.

May the Lord encourage you as much as He did me in the time I spent in
fellowship with Him preparing these messages.

Pastor Rob Robinson