

Healing Man with Unclean Spirit

Mark 1:23-28

Luke 4:33-37

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Texts:

Mark 1:23-28,

23. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out,

24, “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!”

25. “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!”

26. The evil spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

27. 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”

28. News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

Mark 4:33-37,

33. In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an evil spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice,

34. “Ha! 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!”

35. “Be quiet!” Jesus said sternly. “Come out of him”! Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

36. All the people were amazed and said to each other, “What is this teaching? With authority and power he gives orders to evil spirits and they come out!”

37. And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area.

Commentary:

I. A man who was in the synagogue and who had an “unclean” spirit cried out loudly:

- A. confessing/declaring Jesus to be the Holy One of God.
- B. stating that evil spirits and unclean demons were disassociated with Christ.
- C. Asking if Jesus were then and there going to destroy the demon before the expected time.

II. What about demon possession?

- A. Demon possession does not appear to be comparable to any disease known to medical science.
- B. Some of the symptoms produced involved seizures, aberrant behaviors, blindness, loss of speech and deafness.
- C. Jesus addressed demons as distinct from the person possessed.
- D. Has demon possession ceased or is it present in our time, but now unrecognized?
- E. Acts 16:16-18, Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I

command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her.

F. The Pharisees claimed Jesus and demons were in league with each other.

1. Mark 3:11, Whenever the evil spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the Son of God.”

2. Mark 3:22, And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, “He is obsessed by Beelzebub! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.”

G. The devil mustered every possible weapon in his arsenal against Jesus including his angels, the demons.

H. The demons’ days are limited!

1. Matthew 8:29, “What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?”

2. James 2:9, You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that- and shudder.

III. Jesus commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man.

A. Jesus commanded the evil spirit not to speak. The demon did not say another understandable word.

B. The demon cried aloud, uttered a loud wail, tore the man, and came out.

C. “Tearing him” is rendered by Luke, “had thrown him down.” “Tearing” can be translated as “convulsed.”

IV. The synagogue audience was greatly impressed/amazed by what they had seen!

A. They were puzzled by what they had seen.

B. They recognized that Jesus was a teacher of new things.

C. They saw that Jesus had great authority that extended even to the spirit world.

V. The news of this great revolutionary Teacher quickly spread throughout Galilee by rumor, person to person.

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Questions

1. A man in the _____ who was _____ by an _____ suddenly cried out.

2. The _____ cried out at the _____ of their _____, "What do you want with us, _____ of _____? Have you come to _____ us? I know you are the _____ of _____!"

3. Jesus said _____, " _____ " " _____ of _____!"

4. The _____ the man _____, _____ him down and came out of him with a _____ without _____.

5. The people were all _____. They said, "He even gives _____ with authority to _____ and they _____ him, _____.

6. News of this _____ over the _____ of _____.

7. Are some people demon possessed today? Give reasons for your answer. _____

Finished exam can be mailed or dropped off at:

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