



Recap: Mark's Big Question - "Who is this man?"

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,

Recap: Mark's Big Question - "Who is this man?"

1. Authority in teaching
2. Authority over demons
3. Authority to forgive sins
4. Authority over nature

Today's Sermon: "*Crossing Boundaries*"

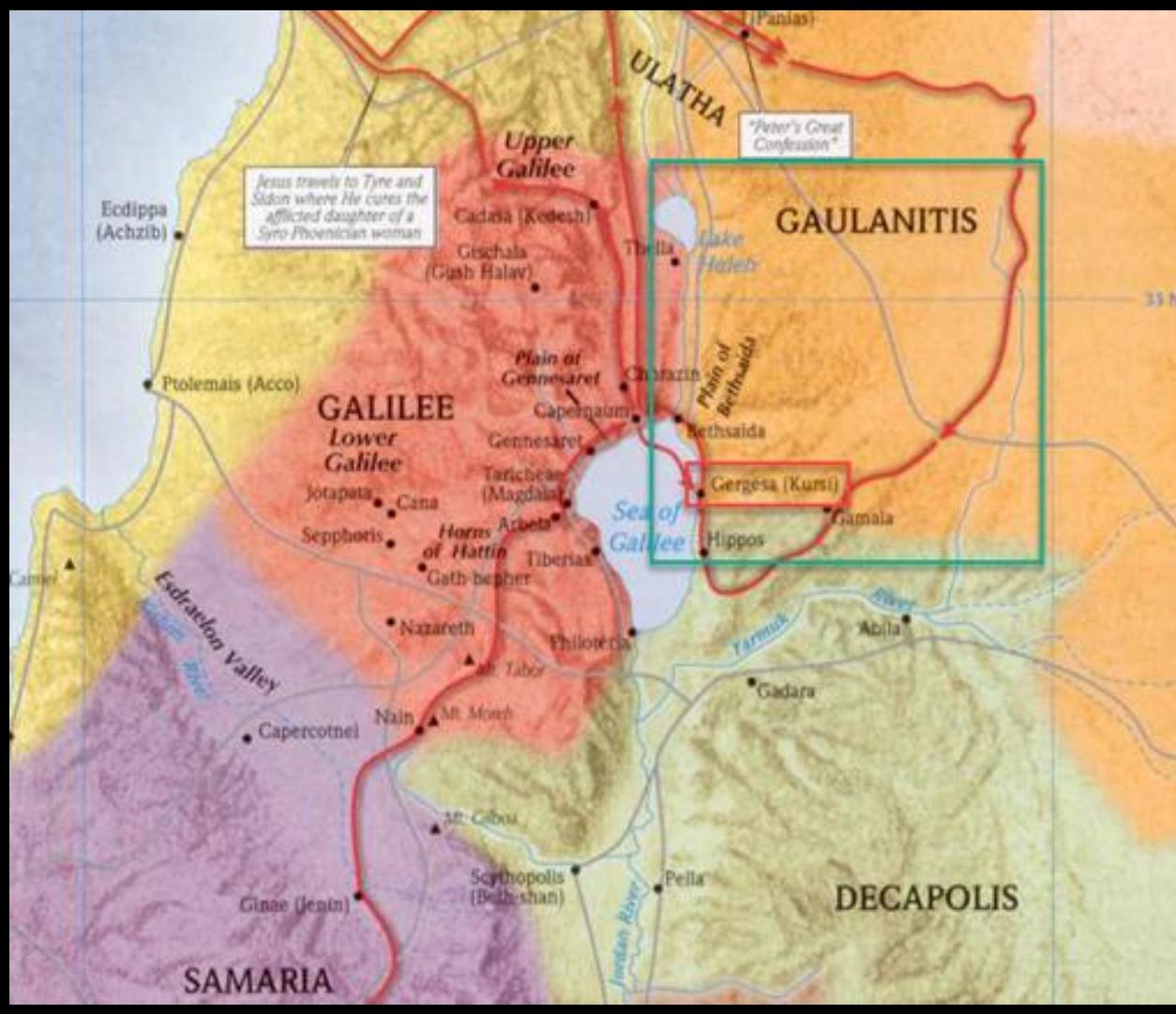
Mark 5:1-20

I. Crossing Boundaries

Mark 5:1-20

They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. ² And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. ³ He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, ⁴ for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him.





I. Crossing Boundaries

II. The Strong Man Enters

Mark 5:1-20

² And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. ³ He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, ⁴ for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. ⁵ Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones.

Mark 3:27

²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

- I. Crossing Boundaries
- II. The Strong Man Enters
- III. Greater is He

Mark 5:1-20

⁶ And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. ⁷ And crying out with a loud voice, he said, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.” ⁸ For he was saying to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!” ⁹ And Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion, for we are many.”

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight.”

~ C. S. Lewis *The Screwtape Letters*

- I. Crossing Boundaries
- II. The Strong Man Enters
- III. Greater is He
- IV. What's with the Pigs?

Mark 5:1-20

¹⁰ And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. ¹¹ Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, ¹² and they begged him, saying, “Send us to the pigs; let us enter them.” ¹³ So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.

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What chains do you need to show/give to Jesus?

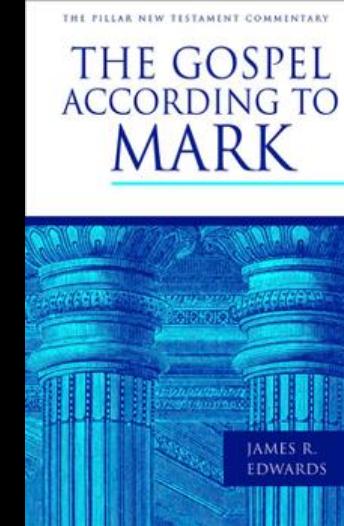
Jesus broke chains that no one else could!

What chains do you need to show/give to Jesus?
What have been ways you have tried to break those
chains on your own?

Questions from this Event

1. Why were the Pigs there?

If the swineherds were supplying the Roman legions with pork, then the raising of unclean food for the detested Roman occupation was doubly offensive. Thus Jesus meets a man with an unclean spirit living among unclean tombs surrounded by people employed in unclean occupations, all in unclean Gentile territory.



Edwards, J. R. (2002). *The Gospel according to Mark* (p. 155). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: Eerdmans; Apollos.

Questions from this Event

1. Why were the Pigs there?
2. What about the compensation for the pigs?

What these events tell us about Jesus

1. One person is worth more than thousands of pigs.

What these events tell us about Jesus

1. One person is worth more than thousands of pigs.
2. You can't be too far removed from Jesus for him to set you free.

A tortured wife.
A one-armed man.
An uninvited guest.
The chase begins.

HARRISON FORD IS THE FUGITIVE

AUGUST 6



I DON'T CARE!

- I. Crossing Boundaries
- II. The Strong Man Enters
- III. Greater is He
- IV. What's with the Pigs?
- V. More Afraid: Part II

Mark 5:1-20

¹⁴ The herdsmen fled and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. ¹⁵ And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ¹⁶ And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs.

Mark 5:1-20

17 And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region. 18 As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 And he did not permit him but said to him, “Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.

“The devil cannot but be our enemy, since we are against him with God’s Word, wherewith we destroy his kingdom. He is a prince and god of the world, and has a greater power than all the kings, potentates, and princes upon earth; wherefore he would be revenged of us, and assaults us without ceasing, as we both see and feel. We have against the devil, a great advantage; powerful, wicked, and cunning as he is, he cannot hurt us, since ‘tis not against him we have sinned, but against God.”

“Therefore we have nothing to do with that archenemy; but we confess, and say: “Against thee, Lord, have we sinned,” etc. We know, through God’s grace, that we have a gracious God, and a merciful Father in heaven, whose wrath against us, Christ Jesus, our only Lord and Savior, has now appeased with his precious blood.”

Now, forasmuch as through Christ we have remission of sins and peace with God, so must the envious devil be content to let us alone, in peace, so that henceforward he can neither upbraid nor hit us in the teeth concerning our sins against God's laws, for Christ has cancelled and torn in pieces the handwriting of our consciences, which was a witness against us, and nailed the same to his cross; to God be everlasting honor, praise, and glory in Christ Jesus, for the same. Amen."



~Luther *Table Talk*

Gospel Application

How do we respond to Jesus?

Awe - Fear - Faith - Resistance