

MEN WORSE THAN DEVILS

TEXT: *Mark 5:1: And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes.¹*

Can anything be more horrible than war? Can anything be more heartbreaking than a blasted or betrayed friendship? Is there anything worse than a bleary-eyed drunk? What can be worse than a miserable backslider? Can anything be emptier than a modernistic preacher?

Sad to say – none of these are the stopping place down the broad road.



As one looks down the descending, slippery grade to the caverns of despair, we see men and women worse than the devil that possesses them.

One would imagine the devil to be the worst character of corruption the human mind could fathom. The Word of God shows us that there is still one worse than the denizens of the kingdom of satan. That creature has the possibilities and capabilities of angels, yet can go so low that he is worse than the devil.

In fallen man, Christianity is banished and reason is enthroned. What a mess we are in. The reason of degenerated beings-at-heart will more than degenerate reason. A stream is no better than its source.

Since satan dwells in the soul — the seat of our mind, will, and emotions — there is war in the world. Education without Christ only makes men clever devils. It makes the wise do wrong. The sin and brutality today bear unimpeachable evidence that when we do not have Christ living within us, we are the children of the devil, and unless we are born of the Spirit of God, we are rotten to the core.

John 8:44: Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the

¹Note: Gadarenes, Girgesenes, and Gerasenes — “These three names are used indiscriminately to designate the place where Jesus healed two demoniacs. The first two are in the Authorized Version. (Matthew 8:28; Mark 5:1; Luke 8:26) In Gerasenes in place of Gadarenes. The miracle referred to took place, without doubt, near the town of Gergesa, the modern Kersa, close by the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee, and hence in the country of Gergesenes.” (Bible Gateway)

truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

The Gospel of Christ and Christianity is a great disturber of the sinful pleasure and of the sinful hearts of men and women. The irresistible power of Christ and His Gospel has a paralyzing influence over the works of satan.

When Jesus came into the country of the Gadarenes, immediately there met Him a man with an unclean spirit of fierce countenance. He comes into the presence of the Light of the World and the devil does not like exposure, because he can't stand the thrust of divine light. He would rather work under cover of darkness because it suits more his purpose.



We are told this man was possessed of the devil so that he dwelt among the tombs. No man could bind him. He had been bound by fetters and chains, but he had shaken them off like cobwebs.



He was in the tombs and mountains, night and day, crying out by reason of his



misery – cutting himself with stones. In his suffering and agony, he was a terror of the frightened passersby. Wounded, naked, ostracized, alienated, lonely suffering, possessed of the devil.

This is but a sample case of what the devil would do with every man who lets him have his full sway in him. This is a life-size photograph taken with God's camera. This is all the ugly detail in all its mass of misery of what the devil will do with you and me, except for the grace and mercy of God.

The devil is like God in this respect: he is no respecter of persons. When you see a poor creature at his very worst — in the gutter, vile, filthy in body and spirit, lost — you can say, "I would be there but for the grace of God". The devil delights to ruin and disturb the minds of men, and pervert them until they are worse than demons.

I know there are some who say there is no devil. Well, if there is none, there is much all about us that looks devilish. If you say there is no devil, then you have never really tried to get right with God and live righteously in this present world. If you decide to turn your back on the wrong and do right, you will know there is a real devil.

This man had no one to tame him. There was no power on earth that could subdue him. The brood of demons in him claimed all the right over this man's life. They could cry out, ***"What have we to do with thee..."*** They claim the right to do as they please – personal liberty that knows no restraint. That is why the Gospel stirs the power of hell when preached. "Leave us alone" is the cry of the wretched sinner. "Let us live in sin, without restraint."

Man is worse than demons, for demons declare the existence of God. **Mark 5:7** records the words of a demon speaking to Jesus:

Mark 5:7: And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, Thou Son of the Most High God? I adjure Thee by God, that thou torment me not.

In ***James 2:19: Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.***

Yet man does not like to retain God in knowledge.

Romans 1:25: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

He tries to deny His existence. "There is no God" is quoting the Bible, but not all.

Psalms 14:1: The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God'.

Ever learning, never able to come to the knowledge of the truth, God permits their ignorance to be displayed only to mock them. They do not realize they are worse than demons.

The cry of demons is – ***"Let us alone"***.

The unregenerate always cry out against the instruction of Christ, the Gospel of salvation through His Blood. To cry against the Light of the Gospel is the

nature of demons. They hate the light and love the darkness, because their deeds are evil.

There is no design of grace for satan. He knows the power of Christ and he wants to have liberty to drive men to despair, to darkness, to lawlessness, to desecration of the Lord's Day. Satan is thrown into confusion and cries out when the Master appears.

DEMONS DECLARE THE DEITY OF CHRIST

“Jesus, Thou Son of the Most High God!” Modernistic demon-inspired preachers have tried to pawn off on us a salvation-less Gospel by denying the virgin birth and the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ! They chatter extravagantly about the good man, Jesus — a moral yardstick, our example — but not our Saviour. We need more than an example; we need a Deliverer, a Saviour.

We need One to deliver us from the power of satan. Satan is the disguised enemy in the camp driving men in a cruel and heartless way to their destruction. Yet demons declare Jesus to be the Son of the Most High God. They know He is all of that – and more.

You can always tell a real born-again Christian by the way he speaks of Christ, and glorifies the Lord Jesus and His Deity.

A man came up to the minister after a message on Christ, our only Saviour. He reproved him for such a sermon of a bloody religion. “You should preach Christ our Example, more.”

The minister asked, “Would you be willing to follow His example after I preached so.”

“Yes, I would.”

“Then, take the first steps: ‘Who (Jesus) did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth’. Can you take the first step?”

“No, for I have sinned”, replied the man.

“Then you need a Saviour,” the minister replied. “Jesus alone can save men from their sins, for He came to seek and to save that which was lost”.

Men, under the influence of satan, cry out whenever Christ comes near to them. They are afraid of an awakening conscience. Many are trying to drown the cry of conscience by worldly pleasures and amusements. Others plunge into business.

Others turn to drink and debauchery which has sold many into slavery – corrupted more politicians – ruined the virtue of more girls – sent more to prison and a Christ-less grave – and cursed more homes, made more cripples and paupers, and more tears and broken hearts than anything else with which the devil is mean enough to destroy men’s souls. Anyone that encourages or enables the drunkenness of another is in league with the devil, and is helping to destroy precious souls in eternal doom.

DEVILS WORSHIP CHRIST

Mark 5:6: But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped Him.

Men choose to worship money, pleasure, and every dumb idol will stick under their noses – even their own bellies.

DEVIL DECLARES BELIEF IN THE FUTURE LIFE

Matthew 8:29: And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, Thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

Little peanut-brained man, with a thimble full of more nonsense than sense, and a little Vaseline on his hair, rears back and begins to spew off what he does not believe in.

DEVIL CONFESSES THE LOVE OF GOD

Mark 5:7: And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, Thou Son of the most high God? I adjure [asking with a demanding tone] Thee by God, that thou torment me not.

The love of God is felt, even by demons.

DEMONS DECLARE TORMENTS OF HELL NOT IN THIS LIFE

They know the punishment is fixed and inevitable.

Matthew 8:29: And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, Thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

DEVILS CONFESS AND KNOW THERE IS A FUTURE PLACE AND TIME OF PUNISHMENT FOR THE WICKED

Anyone declaring there is no hell is the devil's advocate and WORSE THAN DEMONS. The one who judges that the punishment of the wicked is light is the devil's advocate, for what he is saying is contrary to Scripture:

Revelation 20:10: And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Hebrews 9:27: And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Matthew 25:41-46:

⁴¹ Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

⁴² For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me no drink:

⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took Me not in: naked, and ye clothed Me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited Me not.

⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto Thee?

⁴⁵ Then shall He answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me.

⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Mark 9:34: But they held their peace: for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest.



To deny future punishment of the ungodly is clearly misrepresenting Jesus and making Him out a liar.

This demon-possessed man, when liberated from demons by the Lord Jesus Christ, begged to sit at Jesus' feet.

After the demons who knew they are subject to Jesus' directions got the word to leave the man, they asked to go into the herd of swine. Jesus gave them leave to go. And when they were cast out, the hogs ran violently down into the sea — committed suicide.



Now, what a changed man! He has deserted the tombs. He is now clothed and in his right mind. To live without Christ is insanity of soul — soul murder.

Men, under the influence of satan, are not willing to pay the price of salvation. Like the hog owners, they are more worried about their loss than the salvation of a lost soul. They dread the change. They love sin and its pleasures. They cry out, “Depart from our coasts – out of our country!” They do not desire a change, for they know Christianity will take them out of their wicked ways and will make a new creature out of them.

Man in his lost condition says, “Educate your way out.” However, the Lord says:

Luke 13:3: . . . but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

Isaiah 55:7a: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts . . .

Acts 2:21: Whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.

This is so. Jesus is the Deliverer of your soul from satan, sin, and Hell. Jesus is the ONLY remedy.

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