

## Knowing Satan's Agents

Mark 5:1-20

### 1. The Demonic **REALITY** (5:1-2)

a. **Their Origin** - Demons are angels that joined Satan's rebellion (now called "fallen angels").

*II Peter 2:4 - "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment."*

*Jude 6 - "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."*

*Revelation 12:4 - "And his [THE DRAGON'S] tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth..."*

b. **Their Organization**

*Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) - "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."*

**Principalities** (Greek – *arche*) meaning "chief" (Wuest says, "first ones, preeminent ones, leaders")

**Powers** (Greek - *exousia*) meaning "delegated authority," like that of a policeman

**Rulers of the darkness of this world** (Greek - *kosmokrator*) meaning "to seize and take hold of governments for the sake of darkness and evil." *Kosmos* has to do with "an arrangement or order." Wuest says "the world-rulers of this darkness."

**Spiritual wickedness in high places** – Amp – "spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere." Wuest - "the spirit forces of perniciousness in the heavenly places." [NOT in heaven, but the lower atmosphere surrounding this earth]

### 2. Their Destructive **RESULTS** (5:3-9)

**Signs of demonic influence on a person:**

a. complete change of personality.

b. complete change of moral character.

c. tendency toward isolation.

d. self-hatred.

e. supernatural strength.

f. supernatural knowledge but not omniscience.

g. extreme hostility and fear to the Name of Jesus.

### 3. Three Desperate **REQUESTS** (5:10-20)

- a. The Demons' Request (v.10-13)
- b. The Citizens' Request (v.14-17)
- c. The Delivered Man's Request (v.18-20)

## Answers to Some Questions about Demons<sup>1</sup>

1. **Do demons really exist?** Yes. The NT presents overwhelming evidence of demons. Jesus had more to say about demon spirits than He did the Holy Spirit. Read **Mark 5, Matt. 12, Rev. 9, James 2:19**.

2. **If demons do exist, why don't you find the word "demon" in the KJV translation of the NT?** Because the KJV translators rightly thought of demons as "little devils." So they translated the word demon (daimon) as devils (diabolos). For ex. **James 2:19**.

### 3. What are demons like?

**A. They are personalities**, possessing all the traits of personality.

- **will** (**Matthew 12:44** - 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.)
- **emotion** (**James 2:19** - You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble!)
- **intelligence** (See **Mark 5** and **Matthew 12**)

**B. They are perverted** (**Mark 5**)

- They are **vile** (**Mark 5:2** - "unclean spirit"; **Mark 9:25** - "foul spirit")
- They are **violent** (**Mark 5:4** - made the man cut himself and no man could tame him. Also **Mark 9:22**)
- They are **volatile** (or restless - see **Matthew 12**)

**C. They are powerful** (**Mark 5** and **Matthew 12**)

### 4. How Can We Overcome Demons?

- A. Settle the issue of salvation in our lives (**Revelation 12:11, Colossians 2:15, Colossians 1:13**).
- B. Be informed of the devil's strategy (**2 Corinthians 2:11**).
- C. Submit yourself to God (**James 4:7**). The Archangel Michael was no match for the devil and turned him over to God (**Jude 1:9**).
- D. Confess all known sin in your life (**Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:9**).
- E. Do not let the devil gain one foothold in your life (**Ephesians 4:27**).
- F. Destroy objects of the occult around you, such as horoscopes, astrology, forms of magic (**Deut. 18:9-12**).
- G. Break all contacts with mediums. Medium is from the latin Medius, meaning "middle person." Do not patronize palmist, a witch or wizard (**Exodus 22:18, Deut. 18:10**).
- H. Break all forms of demonized religion, like New Ageism. "The untaught and unstable distort... the Scriptures to their own destruction." (**2 Peter 3:16**).
- I. Walk in the fullness and power of the Holy Spirit (**Gal. 5:16-23**).

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from a Bill Bennett handout "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Demons," unpublished.