

When at the Bottom  
Mark 5:1-20

- I. Setting
  - A. Gadara and Gergesa
    - 1. Gergesa is a small village closer to the shore.
    - 2. Gadara is a larger town that is central to the area.
  - B. Bluffs of sandstone with holes or caves in many places a short distance from shore.
  - C. Mountains there (explanation).
- II. The Man (That We Call Legion).
  - A. Possessed of an unclean spirit (Luke 8 – had devils long time).
  - B. Lived in tombs – caves to bury the dead.
  - C. Wore no clothes (Luke 8)
  - D. Could not be bound (He would break the fetters and chains with which he was bound).
  - E. He was known to cry (scream) in the mountains and tombs night and day.
  - F. He would cut himself with the stones.
  - G. No man could tame him. (He was impossible to control.)
- III. His Position
  - A. He was an OUTCAST from home, family, community, society, and any comfort and goodness.
  - B. He was OUT OF CONTROL. Others could not control him, and he could not control himself.
  - C. He was OUT OF HOPE. Being alienated from every good thing leaves anyone without hope of a better day.
- IV. BUT (indicates a change of fortune, events, or situation). Verse 6
  - A. He saw Jesus afar off.
    - 1. This man physically saw Jesus.
    - 2. John 20:24-29 Thomas (Verse 29 “Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.”
    - 3. Acts 8 with Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch.
    - 4. We see (realization, recognition, or perception of) Jesus by faith.
    - 5. If a person cannot perceive Jesus Christ they are worse than this man.
  - B. He ran (came to him).
    - 1. Jesus said “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28
    - 2. Isaiah 1:18 “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”
    - 3. Revelation 22:17 “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”
    - 4. If we do not come to Jesus, we are worse than this man.
  - C. He worshipped him.

1. Worshipped – Greek “proskuneo” (pros-koo-neh’-o) meaning literally to prostrate oneself in homage.
  2. He recognized:
    - a. That Jesus was God in the flesh
    - b. That he was a sinner in need of forgiveness
    - c. That he was totally dependent upon God for that forgiveness.
  3. The person that will not worship Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour is worse than this man.
- V. The Results (after the demons are cast out). Verse 15
- A. He was sitting (at the feet of Jesus- Luke 8) No longer running, screaming, cutting himself.
  - B. He was clothed. (No longer naked physically nor spiritually).
  - C. He was in his right mind. (No longer a mad man).
  - D. He began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him (Verse 20).
- VI. Summary
- A. If you are on the bottom with no hope of breaking loose of the situation that you are in, look for Jesus.
  - B. If you are there, look for Jesus Christ, and if you look for Him, you will find Him with forgiveness, help, strength, and all that you need.