

The City That Rejected Jesus

Matthew 8:28-24, v.34

Intro:

- A. **We read of many individuals and groves that rejected Jesus.**
 - 1. The rich young ruler.
 - 2. The scribes, Pharisees, etc.

- B. **We seldom think of the cities that rejected Him.**
 - 1. Jerusalem, for religious reasons.
 - 2. Here, the city of Gerga, for economic reasons.

- C. **The rejection of Jesus knows no boundaries.**
 - 1. Individuals, groups, cities, tribes, nations.
 - 2. Each may have its own peculiar reason.
 - 3. They all stem from fear and selfishness.
 - 4. They all result in the same thing, judgment.

I. The Power And Reality Of Evil.

- A. **The reality of evil. V.28**
 - 1. "There met him two possessed with devils."
 - 2. possessed = διαμονιζομενοι = "demon possessed"
 - 3. There is an evil power in our world. It is as real as good. We can deny the existence of neither.

- B. **The power of evil.**
 - 1. Evil caused this man to be exceeding fierce.
 - 2. fierce = χαλεπος = "heavy," "difficult", "furious"
 - 3. exceeding = λιαν = "much," "very"
 - 4. Evil made this man have a furious temper. Sin was a heavy burden, making life difficult for him and for others. Mark 5:5

II. The Evil And Evil One Fear Jesus.

- A. **These demons knew Jesus. v.29**
 - 1. "Jesus, thou son of God..."
 - 2. They are poles apart in purpose..." "What have we to do with thee..."

3. They know that He will end their rule on this earth..." "art thou come to torment us before our time?"
4. torment = βασανίζω = "to rub upon the touchstone, the lapis Lydius for trying metals, (on which when gold is rubbed it leaves a peculiar mark) hence, "to put to the test", "to examine closely, to put to the torture rack."
5. Fallen angels will be judged.
6. Paul said His church would be involved n this process.

B. Jesus postponed their judgment. V.30-32

1. The demons besought Him.
2. Their proposal.
3. The request was granted.
4. The unpredicted results.
5. Mark 5:9 - There were 6,000 demons. (legion = 3,000 footmen and 3,000 horsemen)
6. Mark 5:13 - There were 2,000 swine.
7. They perished in the sea.

III. The Reaction Of The City.

A. The keepers told the city what had happened. V.33

1. "...went their ways into the city..."
2. "...and told everything."
3. They told them what had happened to the swine, their great investment.
4. They told them what had happened to the man demon possessed. Mark 5:15-16

B. The city besought Jesus.

1. Not to stay and teach them.
2. Not to stay and let them serve him.
3. "...that he would depart out of their coasts."

V.34

IV. The Commission Of The Delivered Man.

A. The desire of the man freed.

1. He wanted to be with Jesus. Mark 5:18
2. A natural emotion and desire.

B. The desire of Jesus. Mark 5:19

1. "Go home to thy friends..."

2. "tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee.."
3. "...and had compassion on thee."

C. **The man did what Jesus requested.** Mark 5:20

V. The End Of Evil. Revelation 20:1-3, 7-10

A. **The sealing of Satan.**

1. He is sealed in the bottomless pit.
2. He must be loosed a little season.

B. **The end of Satan.**

1. He is cast into the lake of fire and brimstone.
2. He is tormented forever.

