

The Demoniac and Deviled Ham **Mark 5:1-20**

Demons make life miserable for a man and the townspeople. 5:1-5

- ◆ This is the Bible's most detailed exorcism. This minor character answers the disciples' question in 4:41 and will prove to be more spiritually alert.
- ◆ Also: There were two, and they attacked people, Matt. 8:28, Acts 19:16. They were naked and had escaped from guards, Lk. 8:27,29.
- ◆ What kind of influence does Satan surely seek to have? Matt. 17:14-18.

Deliverance for the man means death for a herd of pigs. 5:6-13

- ◆ Recall the demon's response in 1:24—plus plea for an oath, Acts 19:13. See Matt. 8:29 (*Before the time*), Lk. 8:31 (*the abyss*)—Rev. 9:1ff.
- ◆ The surprising request to enter 2K pigs is granted . . . because *Legion*?
- ◆ What are the moral implications here? Who really killed the poor pigs?

Distraught townspeople place more value on pigs than people. 5:14-20

- ◆ Ironic twist: the Demoniac is calm but the townspeople are now afraid! How should they be responding? Recall disciples' fear in 4:41!
- ◆ Question: Why not let this man follow Jesus? Matt. 10:5,6. Note this turns from a miracle story to a missionary story.

What should the huge change in the demoniac's life suggest to us?

What "demons" might we be facing today?

What should Jesus' instructions to this rescued man suggest to us?



