

Rediscover Jesus, 24: “Jesus and Demons”**Luke 8:26-39**

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Respond to Jesus’ saving power and sovereign authority by proclaiming, “See how much Jesus has done for me!”

I. The army of demons responded with defiance against Jesus (vv.26-33)**Luke 8:26-29 (ESV)**

²⁶ Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

Luke 8:27-29 (ESV)

²⁷ When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me.” ²⁹ For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.)

- Demons are evil spirits and servants of Satan who stand against God’s purposes and His people.¹ So, they know precisely who Jesus is and what he can do.

Luke 8:30 (ESV)

³⁰ Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Legion,” for many demons had entered him.

- Demons use their power and authority to torment and destroy life. Jesus uses his power and authority to intentionally seek out and save the lost, broken outcast.

Luke 8:31-33 (ESV)

³¹ And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³² Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came

¹ For more on Satan and demons, see <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/satan-and-demons/>

out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

- Jesus granted the demons permission, proving that he is sovereign over evil and that judgment day will come when Satan and demons will be defeated once and for all.

II. The eyewitnesses responded with dread of Jesus (vv.34-37)

Luke 8:34-37 (ESV)

³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ³⁶And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned.

- All the people who witnessed Jesus' power and authority fearfully concluded that Jesus was a threat to them more than he was a liberator. Even when Jesus performs miracles and wonders, a heart that is unwilling to submit will ultimately reject Jesus.

III. The restored man responded with deep desire for Jesus (vv.38-39)

Luke 8:38-39 (ESV)

³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

- The man does not receive what he requested, but he faithfully submits to Jesus' sovereign authority. His desire for Jesus is expressed in his willingness to obey the commission to proclaim Jesus to the very people who once rejected him and Jesus.

Life Application

- 1) Take comfort in Jesus' power to save you and in his pursuit to know you.
- 2) Consider & confess the areas of life where you are defying or dreading Jesus.
- 3) Craft a personal testimony of how much Jesus has done for you.