

Luke 8:26-39 The Believer's Supernatural Authority

Followers of Messiah who are true believers operate in two realms simultaneously; the natural realm and the supernatural realm. The natural realm is the world in which we are born into, but the supernatural realm we are born-again into.

The believer's ability to recognize and distinguish between the natural and supernatural realms will determine his/her degree of operating in the two realms. In the natural realm, authority is given by men with authority or individuals usurping the authority of others. In the supernatural realm, authority is given by YeHoVaH.

In this passage of Luke's Gospel, Yeshua's interactions with the man of Gadara and the subsequent outcome demonstrates the ability to distinguish and operate in the two realms and how all true believers must learn and do likewise per Yeshua's Instructions.

In the previous teaching, Yeshua and His Disciples entered a boat to go to the other side of the lake. While crossing, Yeshua took a nap. They encountered a storm, and the Disciples became fearful and woke Yeshua up. He rebuked the storm and questioned them about their faith.

Some people spiritualize that event, taking it out of the realm of possibilities that they are capable of doing.

- Speaking to the storms of life
- Facing your giants
- 1 day out of seven to rest on any day you choose, etc.

When people speak metaphorically and spiritually in relation to actual, literal, Biblical events, they speak mystically or religiously. They spiritualize the event and take it out of the supernatural realm.

Lk 8:26 And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee.

Gadarenes – 1046 Γαδαρηνός Gadarenos {gad-ar-ay-nos'} **Meaning:** Gadarenes = "reward at the end" 1) also called Gergesenes, was the capital of Peraea, situated opposite the south extremity of the Lake of Gennesaret to the south-east, but at some distance from the lake on the banks of the river Hieromax **Origin:** from Gadara (a town east of the Jordan);; adj **Usage:** AV - Gadarenes 3; 3

This place is identified by two names. In Matthew, it is called Gergesenes.

Mt 8:28 And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.

Matthew wrote that two men were possessed by devils; while Luke and Mark state only one man.

Matthew does not mention the name of the demon(s); Mark and Luke mention the name of the demon(s).

Mk 5:1 And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes.

Mk 5:2 And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit,

Mark gives us additional information that reflects natural men's inability to tame, control, or handle the demon possessed man.

Mk 5:3 Who had *his* dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains:
Mk 5:4 Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.
Mk 5:5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.

There are those who try to bind in the natural, but those who operate in the supernatural are given the ability to bind, loose, and cast out unclean spirits.

Men today approach demonic activity as some type of mental issue which they try to control or treat with drugs/pharmaceuticals which are created in a laboratory.

5331 φαρμακεία pharmakeia {far-mak-i'-ah}

Meaning: 1) the use or the administering of drugs 2) poisoning 3) sorcery, magical arts, often found in connection with idolatry and fostered by it 4) metaph. the deceptions and seductions of idolatry

Usage: AV - sorcery 2, witchcraft 1; 3

The events in this passage are a supernatural encounter between Yeshua and a demon who had possessed a man and taken him captive.

The name of the man was not identified, but the name of the demons or devils was.

Lk 8:27 And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in *any* house, but in the **tombs**.

Tombs – **3418 μνήμα** mnema {mnay'-mah}

Meaning: 1) a monument or memorial to perpetuate the memory of any person or thing 2) a sepulchral monument 3) a sepulchre or tomb

Usage: AV - sepulchre 4, tomb 2, grave 1; 7

The demon possessed man lived amongst the dead instead of in a house like normal people.

Luke prepares us for what he revealed later, that the man had devils. The man did not have a devil, he had more than one.

The devils had taken the identity of the man and displayed their behavior cloaked as the behavior of the man.

Lk 8:28 When he saw Yeshua, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Yeshua, *thou* Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not.

When **who** saw Yeshua?

The devils or the man?

Who spoke with a loud voice?

The devils or the man?

Lk 8:29 (For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.)

Luke also reveals that the content of the conversation between Yeshua and the demon occurred after Yeshua had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man.

Lk 8:30 And Yeshua asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him.

Legion – **3003 λεγιών** legion {leg-i-ohn'}

Meaning: 1) a legion, a body of soldiers whose number differed at different times, and in the time of Augustus seems to have consisted of 6826 men (i.e. 6100 foot soldiers, and 726 horsemen)

Origin: of Latin origin; TDNT - 4:68,505; n f

Usage: AV - legion 4; 4

The unclean spirit initiates a negotiation with Yeshua as to where to send them.

Lk 8:31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.

Lk 8:32 And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them.

Mark informs us it was about two thousand swine in the herd.

Mk 5:13 And forthwith Yeshua gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, **(they were about two thousand;)** and were choked in the sea.

Lk 8:33 Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were **choked**.

Choked – **638 ἀποπνίγω** apopnigo {ap-op-nee'-go}

Meaning: 1) to choke 1a) to suffocate with water, drown

Usage: AV - choke 3; 3

This event lets us know that demons can enter animals, at least in this case, swine.

In the garden of Eden, the devil spoke through the serpent.

Lk 8:34 When they that fed *them* saw what was done, they fled, and went and told *it* in the city and in the country.

Lk 8:35 Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Yeshua, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Yeshua, clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.

After legion had been cast out, the normal man began to do normal things. The man got dressed and begin to speak in his right mind.

Lk 8:36 They also which saw *it* told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed.

Lk 8:37 Then the whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear: and he went up into the ship, and returned back again.

Yeshua was asked to leave, and He left the region, but He also left a powerful witness. The man testified and preached to the people who knew him and had witnessed the power of the Most High's deliverance in him.

Lk 8:38 Now the man out of whom the devils were departed besought him that he might be with him: but Yeshua sent him away, saying,

Lk 8:39 Return to thine own house, and show how great things God hath done unto thee. And he went his way, and published throughout the whole city how great things Yeshua had done unto him.

Show – 1334 **διηγέομαι** diegeomai {dee-ayg-eh'-om-ahee}

Meaning: 1) to lead or carry a narration through to the end 2) set forth, recount, relate in full, describe

Usage: AV - **tell 4**, declare 3, show 1; 8

Published – 2784 **κηρύσσω** kerusso {kay-roos'-so}

Meaning: 1) to be a herald, to officiate as a herald 1a) to proclaim after the manner of a herald 1b) always with the suggestion of formality, gravity and an authority which must be listened to and obeyed 2) to publish, proclaim openly: something which has been done 3) used of the public proclamation of the gospel and matters pertaining to it, made by John the Baptist, by Yeshua, by the apostles and other Messianic teachers

Usage: AV - **preach 51**, publish 5, proclaim 2, preached + 2258 2, preacher 1; 61

Yeshua said the works He did, we can do also.

Jn 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

Casting out the demons, in the man in this passage of Luke, was only one instance of the works of Yeshua.

- Yeshua in the previous teaching spoke to a storm.
- Yeshua spoke to a fig tree.
- Yeshua spoke to a dead person who had just died.
- Yeshua spoke to Lazarus who had been dead several days.
- Yeshua multiplied bread and fish.
- Yeshua walked on water.
- Yeshua healed the sick.
- Yeshua cast out unclean spirits.

These were supernatural works manifested in the natural realm to be seen, witnessed, beneficial, and declared by men to other men.

To the natural minded men, these supernatural works make no sense.

Yeshua gave His Disciples, and us, the authority and power to cast out demons.

Mt 10:7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Mt 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Mk 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Mk 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mk 16:17 And **these signs shall follow them that believe**; In my name shall **they cast out devils**; they shall speak with new tongues;

Mk 16:18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover

The keys of the Kingdom and the ability to bind and loose.

Mt 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Mt 18:18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

The Two Men

The Two Images

When we put on the new man, we take on the image of YeHoVaH.

Col 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Col 3:3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Messiah in God.

Col 3:4 When Messiah, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Col 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Col 3:6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

Col 3:7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

Col 3:8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

Col 3:9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

Col 3:10 And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Col 3:11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Messiah *is* all, and in all