

***Spiritual Warfare***  
***The Devil, and How to Stand Against His Schemes***



# ***Spiritual Warfare***

- *Definitions of Terms*
- *The Nature of the Enemy (part 6)*
- *The Mechanics of Spiritual Warfare (part 1)*



# *The Nature of the Enemy*

- What do we actually know about Satan's actions and abilities from Scripture?
  - How does Satan interact with humans?
    - We talked before about Satan being like a hungry, desperate lion, stuck on Earth with the rest of us
    - So what kinds of stuff does he *do* here with us?
      - Deviling
      - Sataning
      - Straight-up demon-possessioning
        - Read Mark 1:21-27
          - So why is this “unclean” thing hanging out in the synagogue?
            - And yet, what is its *immediate* reaction upon seeing Jesus in vs. 24?
              - How does that jive with Mark 3:11?
              - And why does this singular, solitary “unclean” thing assume that Jesus came to *destroy* a plural “*them*”?



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            - And yet, what is its *immediate* reaction upon seeing Jesus in vs. 24?
            - What is Christ's response in vs. 25?
              - Obviously, the exit of the spirit was extreme and violent in vs. 26, but how *complicated* was it for Jesus to accomplish, and why?  
(Hint: what did witnesses conclude in vs. 27?)





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        - Read Mark 5:1-7
          - So this is *another* “unclean” spirit thing—this time in a predominantly *Gentile* area
            - Why do you think that *one* demonic possession seemed to go undercover within the synagogue, but *this* one was *overtly* trying to be intimidatingly horrifying to the people in this area?
              - What might that suggest about tactics Satan might use in our *own* age?



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          - So this is *another* “unclean” spirit thing—this time in a predominantly *Gentile* area
          - Why do these spirits worry that Jesus had come to “torture” them?
            - Note that Matthew 8:29 adds, “Have you come here to torture us *before the appointed time?*”
            - So what do all of these demons seem to be immediately afraid of when they see Jesus?  
(Hint: read Luke 8:31)





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            - So why did the demons beg to be sent instead into a nearby herd of pigs in vs. 11-12?



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          - So this is *another* “unclean” spirit thing—this time in a predominantly *Gentile* area
          - Why do these spirits worry that Jesus had come to “torture” them?
          - Read vs. 13-15, and think about the details
            - They begged Jesus, and He gave them permission
              - What does that say about demons and their relationship to Christ?
              - Why would He agree to let them infest pigs instead of sending them into the Abyss?  
(Hint: see vs. 20)





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          - Read vs. 13-15, and think about the details
            - They begged Jesus, and He gave them permission
            - Think about how the man's life was described in vs. 3-5, and think about how these pigs *immediately* responded to the demons in vs. 13
              - How horrific must it be to be tormented by demons like this?



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    - So this is *another* “unclean” spirit thing—this time in a predominantly *Gentile* area
    - Why do these spirits worry that Jesus had come to “torture” them?
    - Read vs. 13-15, and think about the details
    - So why does Jesus *always* seem to stop what He's doing in order to rescue people from such demons and “unclean” spirits—even when it doesn't immediately help His overall ministry 'cuz He tells them not to tell anyone else?





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        - Read Mark 5:1-7
        - Read Matthew 12:43-45
          - Technically, Christ's point here wasn't about the physics of demon possession (it's about the judgment coming on this "generation")

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**SAFETY  
FIRST**





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          - Technically, Christ's point here wasn't about the physics of demon possession, but what can we still learn from this?
            - I don't know what "arid places" refers to here, but what's the mental image here about the nature of a demon?
              - How does that reflect what Proverbs tells us about "evil men" in Proverbs 4:16?
              - Does this maybe help explain why the demons begged to at least torment some pigs?

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            - I don't know what "arid places" refers to here, but what's the mental image here about the nature of a demon?
            - What does it tell us that the demon considered his former victim "οἶκόν σου" ("oikon mou" or "*my house*")?
            - What does it tell us about how important it is not to just "dodge a bullet," but to fill our spiritual lives?

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