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



Spiritual Warfare

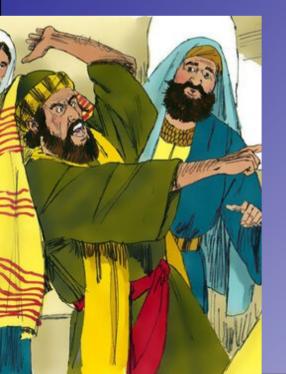
- Definitions of Terms
- The Nature of the Enemy (part 6)
- The Mechanics of Spiritual Warfare (part 1)



- 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

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 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"?

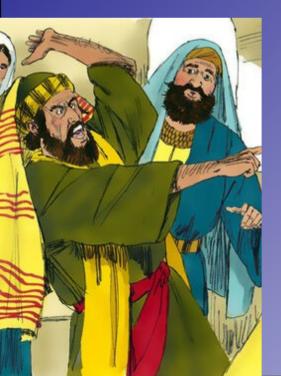




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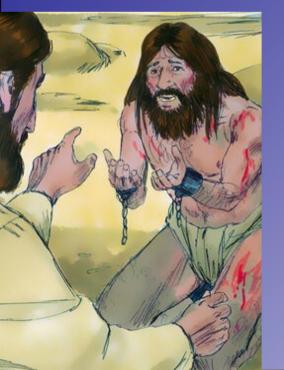
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 And yet, what is its *immediate* reaction upon seeing Jesus in vs. 24?
 What is Christ's response in vs. 25?
 Obviously, the exit of the spirit was extreme and violent in vs. 26, but how complicated was it for Jesus to accomplish, and why? (Hint: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





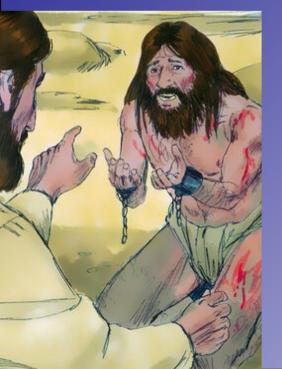
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 Why do you think that one demonic possession seemed to go undercover within the synagogue, but this one was overtly trying to be intimidatingly horrifying to the people in this area?
 What might that suggest about tactics Satan might use in our own age?





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 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)

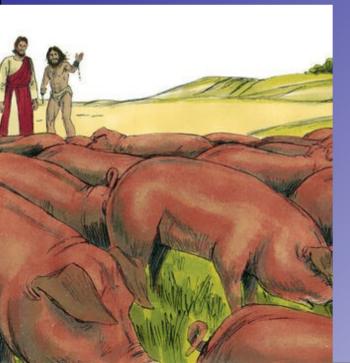




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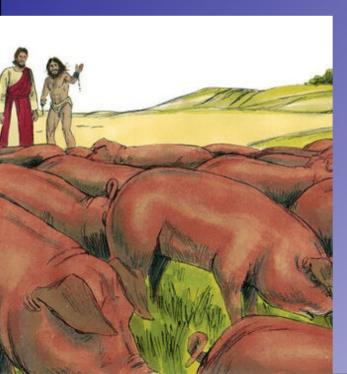
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 So why did the demons beg to be sent instead into a nearby herd of pigs in vs. 11-12?





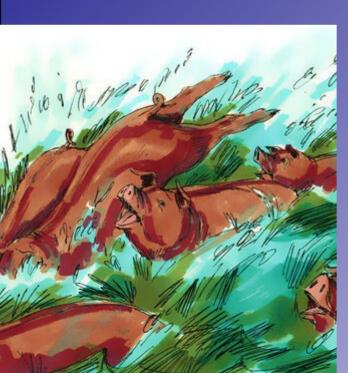
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 - What does that say about demons and their relationship to Christ? Why would He agree to let them infest pigs instead of sending them into the Abyss? (Hint: see vs. 20)



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 - 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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 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 <u>not</u> to tell anyone else?

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 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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 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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 What does it tell us that the demon
 - considered his former victim "olkóv
 - µou" ("oikon mou" or "<u>my</u> house")?
 What does it tell us about how a important it is not to just "dodge a bullet," but to fill our spiritual lives?

