

# Out of the Crypt and Into the Christ

By Paul R. Blake

Introduction:

- A. Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39
- B. A metaphor for Jesus freeing us from sin

## I. IN THE CRYPT - Mark 5:1-7

- A. Vs. 1 - Gadarenes - from Gadara meaning walls
  - 1. Adam and Eve's sin built a wall; our sins build a wall between us and God; Jesus came to tear down the wall
- B. Vs. 2 - As a result of sin, we live in a tomb
  - 1. Death is our constant companion; cemeteries remind us of physical death which in turn reminds us of spiritual death
  - 2. John 10:10
- C. Vs. 3-4 - No man could bind him
  - 1. Once one is bound by sin, he is unable to unbind himself
- D. Vs. 5 - Inwardly man cries out for help - Psalm 142:1-3
  - 1. Satan gives deceitful help:
    - a. For love, he gives perversion
    - b. For security, he gives religions (Mars Hill - Acts 17)
    - c. For self-worth, he gives self-esteem
    - d. For life, he gives pleasure that leads to death

## II. OUT OF THE CRYPT - Mark 5:8-13

- A. 2Cor. 10:3-6
  - 1. Are you aware that no faithful Christian was ever possessed by a demon, both in the age of miracles and afterward?
  - 2. Why do you think that is true?
- B. Only the authentic power can do this
  - 1. Acts 19:13-17

## III. INTO THE CHRIST - Mark 5:14-20

- A. Vs 15 - At rest and at peace
  - 1. Peace - Isa. 57:20-21
  - 2. Security - Amos 8:11-12
  - 3. Contentment - Isa. 30:15-17
- B. Clothed - Why do you suppose he put his clothes back on?
  - 1. What does the inspired word imply about the connection between being clothed and reasoning clearly?
  - 2. Rev. 3:17, 7:9
- C. Sound mind - 2Tim. 1:7
  - 1. A sound mind is:
    - a. A spiritual mind - emphasis on spiritual values
    - b. A rational mind - making right choices

- c. An active mind - Analytical - not allowing others to do your thinking for you (TV, media, etc.)
  - d. Dedicated mind - Do one thing and do it well - Phil. 3:13-14
- D. Vs. 18-20 - Purpose and practice
- 1. He now had purpose where before he had only existence.
  - 2. The man who could not be restrained by bonds, is now controlled by the word of the Lord

Conclusion:

- A. How does a crazy man who lived among graves and terrorized anyone who came near react when the Lord gives him back his life?
  - 1. He asks the Lord if he can go with Him to help Him; and, when he is told that he should go home and tell his family and friends about the Lord, he does so cheerful and so well the whole region glorifies the Lord
  - 2. He clearly came out of the crypt and entered into the Christ
- B. What does a sane American who lives in a moderately comfortable home and coexists in a relatively safe world do when the Lord gives him eternal life?
  - 1. He only praises the Lord in the church building when he is singing, he is embarrassed when others ask him about his faith, and he often has to be coaxed into being faithful
  - 2. If he keeps it up, he will soon be out of the Christ and back into the crypt. Maybe it would help him to spend a few months living naked in a mausoleum