

## Characteristics of demonic

Mark 5:1-20 Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. 2 And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, 4 because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. 5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones. 6 When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. 7 And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me." 8 For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" 9 Then He asked him, "What is your name?" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." 10 Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country. 11 Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. 12 So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them." 13 And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea. 14 So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. 15 Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. 16 And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine. 17 Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region. 18 And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. 19 However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." 20 And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.

### Other principles

- Many types of demons: "legion"(vs. 9), possible to have multiple bondages, problems.
- Demons manifest through human behavior and weaknesses
- Our motivation for deliverance is Compassion (vs. 19)
- Count the cost: You may be rejected  
"Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region." (17)

### Ways people receive deliverance

- Salvation
- Calling out to God (Joel 2:32)
- Word "And He cast out the spirits with a word" (Matthew 8:16)
- Spirit "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. (Matthew 12:28)
- Repentance: turning from sin
- Responding to altar call
- Direct confrontation & commands

### How to keep your deliverance

- Testify of your victory  
"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony" (Revelations 12:11)
- Stop doing what opened the door to the devil in the first place
- Repent when you sin, speak the blood of Jesus.
- Don't allow the devil talk you out of your deliverance (Galatians 5:1)
- Continue to be filled with the word and the Spirit (Luke 11:24-26)
- Continue to go to church

### Characteristics of demonic activity:

1. **Unclean behavior:** sexually immoral/pornography/bondage/loose language (vs. 2).
2. **Obsession with death, afterlife** “among the tombs”(vs. 3,5): horror books, movies.
3. **Supernatural strength, ability** (vs. 3,4)
4. **Lack of control:** Illegal and abused prescription drug use, alcohol, binge drinking.
5. **Counseling or professional help is not working.** “No one could bind him...; neither could anyone tame him” (vs. 3,4)

As a point of balance some issues are not demonic, but the flesh that needs to be crucified. But, if you have tried everything you can to get free and it is not working then it is beyond your control and needs some outside spiritual intervention to break this off of your life. As a believer you cannot be possessed, but you can experience levels of oppression that can hold you in bondage.

5. **Avoidance** (vs. 5): Isolation, fear of people, denial, running from issues. Leaving church and relationships when confronted by an issue.
6. **“Crying out”** (vs. 5): Depression, inner pain, self-pity.
7. **Distraction** (vs. 5), Bringing attention to self, away from Jesus (example: people who interrupt services with noise, humor, excessive movement).
8. **Self-destruction** (vs.5): Suicide.
9. **Cutting of body** (vs.5): Tattoos, body piercing.
10. **Religious spirit:** “He ran and worshiped Him” (vs. 6) False worship excessively loud, attracting attention to them self rather than to Jesus. (May even lift hands, shout praise to God, fast, and appear to give a word from the Lord!)

a. Acts 16:16,17

11. **Loud Confrontation** (vs. 7): “What have you to do with me?”
  - a. Extreme defensiveness. Devil doesn’t like to give up his territory (vs. 10)
  - b. Question’s your authority, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?"
  - c. Wants to make a scene, embarrass you.
  - d. Person Act like you are the problem and blame you for tormenting them.
  - e. Wants you to back off. “ I implore You by God that You do not torment me."
12. **Not functioning mentally** After deliverance he was “clothed and in his right mind” (vs. 15)
  - a. Example: being distracted; glossed over eyes.
  - b. Irrational behavior or comments.
  - c. Bizarre mood swings.
  - d. “Five French fries short of a happy meal”.

\*Please note: sometimes not a demon, but a lack of caffeine. A double mocha will often restore full use of brain cells.

13. **Lack of clothing** (vs. 15)