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| **Deliverance From the Devil**  *Promise: Jesus overcomes the works of the devil and his accusations* Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg Isaiah 65:1-9; Psalm 3; Galatians 3:23—4:7; Luke 8:26-39 (2nd Sunday after Pentecost, Pr. 7), 6/22/25)  *Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.* – v. 33  **Lead In –** As Christians we look to Jesus as the Lord and Savior of the world. And it is worth mentioning what we are saved from. He rescues us from sin, death, and the devil. In our Gospel Reading this morning this deliverance is also called being healed. Especially in this reading we witness in dramatic fashion Christ’s power over demons and the rescue this provides for a son of Adam. This salvation has now been provided for all the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve.   1. **Some Things to Note in the Gerasene Demoniac**    1. Social isolation, culture of death, superhuman strength!    2. Recognition of Jesus’ ID along with His authority…    3. Recognition of their destiny in the abyss… 2. **Things to Note in This Particular Deliverance**    1. The man was in a desperately bad situation, a legion…    2. Here Jesus merely appeared before them…    3. Evident propensity to seek embodiment… 3. **A Prelude for What Jesus Would Offer the World**    1. The man was still a sinner who needed sin atoned for…    2. Sharing in our nature He bore our punishment…    3. His work on our behalf is not forced on us…   **Final Word –** When it was all said and done in the Gospel Account, we read that the man formerly possessed by a legion of demons was sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind. Sitting at the feet of Jesus! This is the posture of a disciple, as a student learning from his master. And then we discover that he was willing to follow Jesus anywhere. Anywhere for this disciple was a return to his hometown and there to declare how much God had done for him. That is the ‘anywhere’ I suspect is true in most of our cases. Will we be faithful like this man was? He indeed proclaimed throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him. We have that opportunity in gratitude to do the same. Amen.  **Jn 10:10** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.  **Mk 3:27** But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.  **Mt 25:41** “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.”  **Re 12:12** “Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”  **Mk 1:25-26** But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him.  **Mt 4:10** Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’” | **Luke 8:26-39 ESV**  *Jesus Heals a Man with a Demon*  26Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. 27When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. 28When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me.” 29For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) 30Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Legion,” for many demons had entered him. 31And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. 32Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. 33Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.  34When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. 35Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. 36And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. 37Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. 38The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, 39“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.  **Lk 11:24-26** “When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”  **1Pe 3:18** For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit  **1Pe 2:24** He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.  He came to pay a debt he did not owe because we owed a debt we could not pay.  **Jn 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (cf. He 4:2). |