

FROM HOSTAGE TO LIBERATOR

Mark 3: 22-30

3: 22- 30 – Theoretical Teaching

Satan has a kingdom, it is an organized kingdom. He is compare to a strong man. Who keep plunder in his house-(Like a band of riders that would go to a city and destroyed its people, taking with them their goods – See I Samuel 30)

The OT Scriptures would tell about the fall of man

- The struggles of Job in a unknown spiritual warfare between God and Satan
- Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 (Satan's beauty and the pride of his heart)
- Zachariah 3: 1 – “Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan^[a] standing at his right hand to oppose him.’

Mark 5: 1-20 – Practical Training

Jesus is taking the disciple to an area out-side of the religious realm, to a gentile and pagan region. A place unclean for a Jewish Rabi and for a religious Jew.

- a) Jesus wanted them to know what Satan could do to a human being
- b) How the demonic world would act
- c) How its power affects creation

1. THE VICTIM

V. 2 A man from Gadara – We do not know how he got to be in that situation. He had a family. He was among apostates and pagans.

- i. Satan would not respect ages. Jesus had cast a demon from a boy

Mark 9: 21 “Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered. ("from his infancy")

- ii. Satan does not respect sex

Luke 8: 2 “And the twelve were with Him, and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and ^[b]infirmities—Mary called Magdalene, out of whom had come seven demons”

- a) His habitat – The tombs (place of the dead)

A situation that I saw in my ministry; I received a call for a woman who told me: “My husband is alone. He has not talking to me or to the children for days. He seems more like a zombie. I went to see him and he was demon-possessed. I asked his name and the evil spirit said: “I am hatred.” Few hours later he was delivered and became a blessing servant of Jesus (He was abused as a child and had a lots of bitterness and unforgiving in his heart).

b) His spiritual condition – Insane, like a wild animal (Dan. 4: 25 “ They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen.)

c) His physical conditions – He was destroying himself with self-inflicted wounds.

It could be with drugs, suicide attempt, hatred, unforgiveness, and bitterness.

Depression. Self-inflicting through unnecessary surgeries.

A woman that I visited in one of our missionary trip (almost one year in bed, she hardly could talk, no strength even to walk few steps, 16 bottles of prescribed drugs in her closet, the husband left his work to be with her 24/7).

We prayed for her and that night the Holy Spirit guide me to call the demonic power that was oppressing that woman. As I called the demon, I told him that Jesus rebuked him and the evil spirit with other spirits had to leave that woman’s body.

I had in my mind the book of Jude that said:

“But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not himself dare to condemn him for slander but said, “The Lord rebuke you!” (Jude 1: 9)

THE QUESTIONS –

- What could have brought such madness to a man?
- How a human could became a maniac?
- Would there be any healing for such madness?
- What would be the cause of this fate?

2. V. 9 JESUS WILL REVIEW THE CAUSE (THEY SAW THE EFFECT SOMETHING UNKOWN TO THEM) THE INTRUDERS (INVASORS)

- Their number - A Legion (A Roman legion was made up of 6.000 men) (Marie had 7 demons)
- V.13 - Their destructive power – They killed 2.000 pigs (John 10: 10)

THE DANGER OF OUR TIMES

Our society became too sophisticated. For many Christians this type of situation just happened in Jesus's time and in the medieval age.

- **Ephesians 6: 12** *“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of ^[c]the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

3. V. 15-17 JESUS REVIEW THE VALUE OF MEN X GOD'S VALUE

They gave more importance to their pigs, than to the man.

Luke 16: 15 “What people value highly is detestable in God's sight.”

4. V. 18-20 JESUS RESTORED THE MAN'S IDENTITY.

From a lunatic to an evangelist – **FROM A HOSTAGE TO A LIBERATOR**

5. V. 6-8 JESUS REVIEWED TO THE DISCIPLE HIS POWER OVER THE EVIL WORLD

- Mark 16: 7 “ And these signs will follow those who ^[d]believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;
- Luke 10: 19 “⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you

FROM A PRISONER TO A LIBERATOR

1. YOU MUST BROKEN SPIRITUAL PACTS AND RENOUNCE IT

Acts 19: 18-19 “And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver.

- **Witchcraft is an open door to demon possession**

Spiritualism, Necromancy, New age practices, Drugs, Horror movies, idols, Eastern religious practices – Hinduism, Buddhism, (Pharmakos – Rev. 22: 15)

- In New Year's Eve of 1998 I got home 1:30 AM. When I listened to my messages in my answering machine that was a mother screaming for help. Her son was demon-possessed. I drove to her house with my wife. As soon as I saw a terrible scene; broke glass, furniture and the family in despair. The demon asked me what I went there for and in replied I asked the spirit how he possessed the teen He pointed to his father. His father had a great collection of new age literatures and the boy a shoe box full of cards with demonic faces and mantras). This shoe box was revealed to me days after his deliverance in a dream. The Lord showed me the colour and the place in his room where it was. (Today the family attend a gospel church and are faithful Christians)
- Another situation happened when my mother became Christian. She was still very depressed and sick. I asked her if she had been part of witchcraft. She confessed of a visit with my father to a witchcraft doctor and a ritual with the blood of a chicken was done. After she renounced the pact, mom was completely delivered and healed from depression

2. HUMILITY AND GODLINESS

James 4: 4-7 “ Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”?⁶ But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.” ⁷ **Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

Worldliness and pride - Some Christians became too proud and became their own authority. They despised their spiritual leaders God had placed in their lives, therefore for lack of obedience and submission the devil would not flee from them. They are arrogant and at the same time oppressed.

3. FAITH

***1 Peter 5: 8-9** “ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.*

4. READYNESS

Mk. 9: 29 “So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.”

Athletes have to train to win his opponents before the competition. A Christian has to be preparing before the battle. How? Two important disciplines: PRAYER AND FAST.

Of course, if you are not physically well to fast, you can think in abstain from lets say: TV or Internet for few days. Or even avoid some food that you really like (See Daniel 10: 1-2)

The Lord came to set you free.

The Lord did not save you to be in bondage, but to be a liberator.