

## A DEVOTIONAL SERIES ON THE GOSPEL ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

### COME OUT OF HIM!

Mark 1:25 “Be silent, and come out of him!”

There is much evil in the world. The evidence is overwhelming, isn't it? There were 10 murders and 61 people shot in the city of Chicago the weekend of July 7, 2021. Wherever you live, your 10:00 p.m. news will regularly report killings, road rage, muggings, etc. Violent child abuse seems to occur on a much too frequent basis. The list of evil occurring in the world is endless.

There are many, including even theologians, that deny these occurrences are the result of evil. Sociologists and psychologists try to give scientifically or sociologically based answers as to the cause and also to provide solutions. The fact is, Satan and his allies take hold of the hearts and minds of people to lead them into all kinds of evil behavior.

In Mark 1:23ff, Jesus came upon a man who was, the Bible says, “possessed by an evil spirit.” The evil spirit immediately recognized Jesus. He said, “I know who You are—the Holy One of God!” Jesus “rebuked the evil spirit and said, ““Be silent, and come out of him!” The people in the synagogue were amazed, “He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him.”

Once again, the Gospel records Jesus speaking with authority. His simple command caused the evil spirit to obey Him. This should not seem strange to you because you know there are a number of incidents recorded in the four Gospels of the New Testament where Jesus caused evil spirits to leave those they had possessed. There is yet another reason you should not be surprised because the Bible says of Jesus, He is “all in all.” (Colossians 3:11) While on earth He not only removed evil spirits, He also healed the sick, restored sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf. He even raised back to life individuals who had died.

How does Jesus commanding an evil spirit to leave a man apply to you and your life? You live in a world filled with evil and your life is adversely affected by it. He who has authority and power to overcome it, exercises His power and authority in your behalf. All Evil ones must obey Jesus. Jesus says to You as you daily face evil, “I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know

the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. . . I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again.” (John 10:14-15,18) John writes, “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He (Jesus) that is in you, than he (the evil one) that is in the world.” (1 John 4:4)

Prayer: (Fear Not prayer from Psalm 56:1-4) Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me; all day long an attacker oppresses me; my enemies trample on me all day long, for many attack me proudly. When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

From evil, Lord, deliver us; The times and days are perilous.  
Redeem us from eternal death, And, when we yield our dying breath,  
Console us, grant us calm release, And take our souls to You in peace.

Amen, that is, so shall it be, Make strong our faith in You, that we  
May doubt not but with trust believe That what we ask we shall receive.  
Thus in Your name and at Your Word We say, “Amen, O hear us, Lord!”  
(LSB 766, vv 8-9)