

Jesus confronts the ‘*other*’ kingdom

“I saw Satan fall from Heaven...” Luke 10:17-20

“..for this purpose was the Son of God manifested... to destroy the works of the devil” 1 Jn 3:8

< Demoniac of the Gaderenes: *Mark 5:1-20* (Matt 8:28-34, Luke 8:26-37)

- : Jesus knew (and was known by) demonic forces (just for fun, Acts 19:11-20)
- : Jesus appealed to the will in the person, the guy ‘underneath all that’
- : Our will, in line with God’s, trumps any power of darkness
- : Takes one to know one! Jesus provided him the best story—his own! Vs 19
- : Faith always, every time, works by love (vs 19 again, and Galatians 5:6). No other motivation can ever work and make a change in a human being.
- : Maintenance matters: Matt 12:43-45—(a) sweep and (b) re-stock

Q and A

- Q. Do you shy away from spiritual confrontation (treat symptoms)?
- Q. What is the value of your (sanctified) will in defeating the enemy?
- Q. Do you shy away from telling your story, and would rather tell others’?
- Q. What is your motivation for ministry to other people? How effective are you, and how does compassion play into that?
- Q. Do you overlook the obvious when there is no other, logical explanation?

<< Jesus & the boy with seizures: *Mark 9:14-29* (Matthew 17:14-21, Luke 9:37-42)

- : Jesus was able to differentiate the demonic from other sources
- : Involved spiritual oppression, mental illness *and* physical limitations (see Matthew)
- : He/they identified self destructive tendencies in the boy
- : All of the above were determined to be the work of demons in the boy
- : Jesus identified disciples’ lack of results with lack of faith
- : Mark 9:22, 23—People equated the solution with Jesus’ ability to deliver, “*if you can.*”), but Jesus responded “*if you can believe.*” He is never the problem
- : Jesus calls it out by name, “you deaf and dumb spirit”

: One more teachable moment—“this kind requires prayer and fasting”

Q and A

Q. When you pray, do you address symptoms or origins? That is, healing vs deliverance, chemical imbalance VS diet-induced, injury vs genetic, etc.....

Q. Regarding our faith VS His ability, do we understand the problem?

Q. When you pray, are you able to call it by name? Do you ask for discernment as to what you are dealing with?

Q. Do you team up prayer and fasting?

Prayer minus fasting = prayer, but just prayer.

Fasting minus prayer = hunger strike.

Prayer PLUS fasting = Isaiah 58:1-9 “to loose the imprisoned, lighten burdens, remove chains”