

# *Dark & Sinister Forces*

## The Gospel of Mark Series – Part 15

Scripture text – Mark 5:1-20

### Introduction

- We're all feeling a bit constrained and can't wait to \_\_\_\_\_ out and return to some normalcy.
- This is a great lead-in to a very important and revealing passage of Scripture.
- What makes this story unique is that Mark provides considerable \_\_\_\_\_.

### Enslaved

- This man's life was a living \_\_\_\_\_. The townspeople had no choice but to \_\_\_\_\_ from their town.
- "Cutting" is a coping mechanism for extreme \_\_\_\_\_, extreme emotional \_\_\_\_\_, and extreme self-\_\_\_\_\_. A study found \_\_\_\_\_ college students practice some form of self-harm.
- Sinclair Ferguson: "Not all men are demon-possessed; yet, by nature, all men are \_\_\_\_\_ by dark and sinister forces. In this sense, [the demoniac] vividly illustrates the terrible plight of the human condition."
- The truthfulness of this statement is found in personal \_\_\_\_\_.
- Its truthfulness is also found in the \_\_\_\_\_ (see Ephesians 2:1-3).
- However, for believers, the Bible speaks in the \_\_\_\_\_.

### Set Free

- The demoniac is both \_\_\_\_\_ to and fearful of Christ.
- Notwithstanding the tension this creates, it's important we recognize this about Christ & God.
- Why into pigs? 3 reasons:
  1. To demonstrate to the demoniac that the demons were truly \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. To demonstrate to the townspeople their \_\_\_\_\_ priorities.
  3. To demonstrate to us his \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ to set us free from the dark & sinister forces that threaten us.

## A Story to Tell

- The now-former demoniac wanted to remain with Jesus, but Jesus sent him out to \_\_\_\_\_ his story.