

Yeshua Delivers the Enslaved

Mark 1:23-28

Mark 1:23-28 GW

(23) At that time there was a man in the synagogue who was controlled by an evil spirit. He shouted,

(24) "What do you want with us, Jesus from Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are-the Holy One of God!"

(25) Jesus ordered the spirit, "**Keep quiet**, and come out of him!"

(26) The evil spirit threw the man into convulsions and came out of him with a loud shriek.

(27) Everyone was stunned. They said to each other, "What is this? This is a new teaching that has authority behind it! He gives orders to evil spirits, and they obey him."

(28) The news about him spread quickly throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Mark 1:21-22 CJB

(21) They entered **Capernaum**, and on Shabbat Yeshua went into the synagogue and began teaching.

(22) They were amazed at the way he taught, for he did not instruct them like the Torah-teachers but as one who had authority himself.

Introduction:

Humanity will continue to face the forces of evil as long as we live in this present dispensation. Why, because the whole world is being manipulated by the power of the evil one, Satan. John tells us in 1 John 5:19.

1 John 5:19 CJB

We know that we are from God, and that the **whole world lies in the power of the Evil One**.

However, this does not mean that believers are doomed to defeat. On the contrary. Because of **whose** we are we are assured of victory.

Because we are of God and the Holy Spirit is **in** us and we are **united** with Yeshua, we are on the **winning side**. Even when we seemingly are defeated, we are still more than conquerors.

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Therefore, it doesn't matter how **powerful the devil's grip** is on a person, Yeshua/Jesus **still** has the power to deliver him.

Paul states very clearly in Romans 8:31 that **our security** is in Yahweh. "**If God is for us**, who can be against us"?

John also informs us in **1 John 4:4** that if we are in Yahweh because of being in union of messiah Yeshua/Jesus we are overcomes. "*Because **he who is in you** is greater than he who is in the world*".

Mark give us **three pictures** in verses 23 thru 28 of Mark chapter one.

I. **Picture 1: (v.23-24).**

The man possessed by Evil Spirits in need of deliverance:
(23) *At that time there was a man in the synagogue who was controlled **by** an evil spirit.*

the words "**by an evil spirit**" (en pneumati akatharto) should be translated "in" (en) an evil spirit.

Because the man was

- **in the grasp** of the evil spirit,
- he was in the **possession of the** evil spirit.
- He was in the **grip** of and **captivated** by the evil spirit.
- He was under the spell, and the will of the evil spirit.

This man was possessed by an evil spirit in the **very same sense** As John said concerning the world when he said "***the whole world lies in the power of the Evil One***".

In other words, the world lies -

- **under the influence,**
- **under** the power,
- **under** the bondage,
- **under** the will,
- **and the grip**

of the evil one, Which is that old serpent the Devil.

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It is in the **very same sense** that this man was possessed by an evil spirit.

Let us take note of a very important fact concerning the where about of this man.

Mark 1:23 CJB

In **their synagogue** just then was a man with an unclean spirit in him, who shouted,

The possessed man was **not standing** on a street corner, or in some private home. He was in **their synagogue; he was in their place of worship.**

I doubt if he came there **specificly** to meet Yeshua, because the evil spirit did not want to face Yeshua. And since the man was being completely controlled by the spirit, he had no say (**or little to say**) over making decisions of any kinds.

The fact is, the evil spirits were not expecting Yeshua to show up that day. It seems that they felt completely **at home** among the other worshippers.

But when Yeshua showed up the **first thing** that came out of their mouth was "*What do you want **with us**, Yeshua from Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?*"

Please **note**, that Mark said he was **in and evil spirit**, **singular**. However, when **the spirit** spoke he used the word **us**, plural, which indicates that that were more than one spirit controlling the man.

So **why** was he there? Did he come **to worship Yahweh?**

Could it be that **this man** had a **few moments** when he was not being manipulated and went to the synagogue hoping to get help? Perhaps the man attended the worship service **regularly** looking for some form of relief. Hoping something would be said or done to help him. **But found no relief.**

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We have **similar** situation today. There are many **congregations** today where men and women can attend services regularly without **being convicted of sin**, or without ever being **helped spiritually**. Many people who attend services each week are still under the control of **evil spirits**. This can be seen in their lifestyle when they are not in the church.

Many sit in church and hear the Word of God **week after week** and **never** make a decision to turn from their evil ways.

This could be because of **three** things:

1. The **congregation is dead**. Void of any spiritually. They are like the congregation of Sardis in Revelation. 3:1 Yeshua said- .. *"I know what you are doing — you have a reputation for being alive, but in fact you are dead!"*

When a congregation does not have the power and discernment of the Holy Spirit lives are not changed.

2. Or the evil spirit has hardened the heart and blinded the eyes of the worshipper so that he cannot **grasp the truth**.

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 4:4 *"They do not come to trust because the god of this world has blinded their minds, in order to prevent them from seeing the light shining from the Good News about the glory of the Messiah, who is the image of God."*

3. Or the worshipper **choose** not to change because he likes what he is doing.

Yeshua said of the Jews in John 5:40 **"you won't come to me in order to have life!"**

Paul warned Timothy in 2 Timothy 3:1-5

(1) .. in the last days will come trying times.

(2) People will be self-loving, money-loving, proud, arrogant, insulting, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,

(3) heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, uncontrolled, brutal, hateful of good,

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(4) traitorous, headstrong, swollen with conceit, loving pleasure rather than God,

(5) as they retain the outer form of religion but **deny its power**. Stay away from these people!

It is this **outer form** of religion that is so prevalent today.

Yahweh said in Isaiah- 29:13-15

(13) .. "these people approach me with **empty words**, and the honor they bestow on me is **mere lip-service**; while in fact they have **distanced their hearts** from me, and their 'fear of me' is just a commandment of human origin —..They work in the **dark and say to themselves**, "Nobody sees us, nobody knows us."

In **acts 7:51** Stephen called those who resist the Holy Spirit-
"Stiffnecked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears!"

Verse 24 says, when the evil spirits saw Yeshua,-

Mark 1:24 CJB

He shouted, "What do you want with us, Yeshua from Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? **I know who you are — the Holy One of God!**"

The **evil spirit** in the synagogue recognized Yeshua and knew their days were numbered. They knew they would have to release their subject, because the **holy one of Yahweh** had come. And he came

According to **1 Jn.3:8**. *"The reason the Son of God appeared was **to destroy the devil's work**"*

In the same way, the persons who **continue** to do wrong know they are to be **judged and destroyed**. However, they **ignore the truth**. They rationalize their action in order to continue in their evil ways.

John said in **1 john 3:8**-*The person who **keeps on sinning is from the Adversary**, because from the very beginning the Adversary has kept on sinning. It was for this very reason that the **Son of God appeared, to destroy these doings of the Adversary.***

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The evil spirit identified Yeshua. He said, “**I know who you are**—the Holy One of God.” He confessed Yeshua as the son of God. However, he did not confess him as his savior. He confessed him out of fear.

As James says the **Devil** knows and believes that God is one.

James 2:19 CJB

You believe that "God is one"? Good for you! The demons believe it too — the thought makes them shudder with fear!

However, knowing that Yeshua is the Holy One of God **is not enough**. A person has to believe in Christ as savior and love Him and live a clean and pure life.

2 Corinthians 7:1 Paul says – “*Therefore, my dear friends, since we have these promises, let us **purify ourselves from everything** that can defile either body or spirit, and strive to be **completely holy**, out of reverence for God*”.

The possessed man **identified Yeshua**. “**I know who you are**—the Holy One of God,” that is, the Holy **Son** of God.

This is significant because one of **the major** purposes of Yeshua **in confronting evil** spirits was to **prove His Messiahship**

II. The second picture (25-26)

The second picture is that of **the power** of Yeshua.

Mark 1:25 CJB

But Yeshua **rebuked** the unclean spirit, "Be quiet and come out of him!"

Yeshua rebuked the evil spirit. Note the words, “Be quiet.” Yeshua did not accept **demonic testimony** to His Messiahship.

The confession that **Yeshua wants**, is the confession of a person who has made a **deliberate decision** to profess Him **as Lord**; a person whose heart has truly been changed by the Holy Spirit.

Yeshua/Jesus **demonstrated his power** in casting the evil spirit out.

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How? **By his Word**, by simply saying, "**Come out of him.**"

When **we** confront the evil spirits of this world, we need to learn to depend upon **the Word** of Yeshua.

Yeshua/Jesus simply spoke **what He willed**. His will was for the evil spirit to come out of the man, and what He willed happened.

Hebrews 4:12 CJB

The Word of God is alive! **It is at work** and is sharper than any double-edged sword — it cuts right through to where soul meets spirit and joints meet marrow, and it is **quick to judge the inner reflections and attitudes of the heart**.

Jeremiah 23:29 CJB

"Isn't my word **like fire**," asks Adonai Yahweh, "like a hammer shattering rocks?"

The spirit had no choice but to obey. The devil is powerful, but one who is all powerful had step out on the scene.

Mark 1:26 CJB

Throwing the man into a convulsion, it gave a loud shriek and came out of him.

Convulsion is a **violent and irregular motion**, involuntary contraction of the muscular.

The **evil spirit obeyed**. The man had a convulsion, jerking to and fro and crying out with a loud voice.

Y'shua could have **quietly** delivered the man without creating such a violent scene.

However, there could be **two** reasons Why he did not **calmly heal** the man.

1. The **evil and unclean spirits** in the world are powerful forces, who possess enormous power to enslave and **possess humanity**.

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Their power could be more clearly seen in a convulsive and noisy scene. **People needed to know** that the evil and unclean forces of the world are the true enemies of humanity. And these evil forces are **the powerful forces** who enslaved men with their **dirty, intoxicating, and immoral habits.**

2. The convulsion and cry were evidence of the evil spirit's **actually** being **in the man.** Not just **tormenting** him mentally, but actually **in him, controlling him, manipulating him .**

The convulsion and cry **demonstrated** the power and Messiahship of Yeshua. Yeshua was **actually conquering** the force of evil **within** a man, and **only God** had such a power.

When the evil spirit of a man is cast out, when a man **really changes** and is **cleansed**, he undergoes a **convulsive** experience. *Conversion* is always a **convulsive** experience. **Change is convulsive.**

Acts 3:19-20 CJB

(19) "Therefore, repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be erased;

(20) so that **times of refreshing** may come from the Lord's presence; and he may send the Messiah appointed in advance for you, that is, Yeshua.

2 Corinthians 5:17 CJB

Therefore, if anyone is **united with the Messiah**, he is a new creation — the old has passed; look, what has **come is fresh and new!**

III. The third picture [27-28]

The third picture is the impact upon people.

Mark 1:27-28

(27) They were all **so astounded** that they began asking each other, "What is this? A new teaching, one with authority behind it! He gives orders even to the unclean spirits, and they obey him!"

(28) And the **news about him spread quickly** through the whole region of the Galil.

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The people reacted in **three** ways.

1. They were amazed (ethambethesan), **astonished**. What the people had witnessed was unbelievable. Using no charms, no invocations, no exorcising devices, Yeshua simply said, "**Come out of him**"; and the evil spirit was dramatically cast out of the man. The people were shocked and stunned.

2. They **questioned** and buzzed among themselves, "What is this? What new power or revelation (teaching) is this? **What is God showing us?** Is the revelation, the doctrine, the power from and of the Messiah? 'He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him.'"

The people were doing **exactly** what Yeshua had wanted them to do. They were questioning **if** He were the Messiah.

3. They **spread the news everywhere**. Imagine the conversation in the stores, businesses, homes, and streets as people traveled throughout the area and throughout the world.

The impact upon us should be the same. **All three responses** should characterize us as we witness the power of God in changing and healing lives. Yet, so many of us have become harden to the gospel.

Paul told Timothy- in 2 Timothy 2:2 "*And the things you heard from me, which were supported by many witnesses, these things commit to faithful people, such as will be competent to teach others also.*

And peter said in 1 Peter 3:15 "*but treat the Messiah as holy, as Lord in your hearts; while remaining **always ready** to give a reasoned answer to anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you — yet with humility and fear,*

And in john in 1 John 1:3 "*What we have seen and heard, we are proclaiming to you; so that you too may have fellowship with us. Our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Yeshua the Messiah.*

As we focus on the three pictures that mark gave us;

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1. Picture 1: the need of the possessed man.
2. Picture 2: the power of Jesus.
3. Picture 3: the impact upon people.

Just remind yourselves that Yeshua **is still** meeting the needs of people today. He is still **healing** today. He is still **casting out** evil spirits today.

No matter what your situation may be. It may be physical, mental, spiritual, or even demonical oppressed or possession. Yeshua will meet those needs if you will trust him. if you will obey him.

Yeshua's desire is for you to live a **Victorious life** in him. And when you have been set free, when you have been healed, when you have been given victory, tell other about it. **Shout it out.**

It is through "word of mouth" that the good news about our lord Yeshua will spread.