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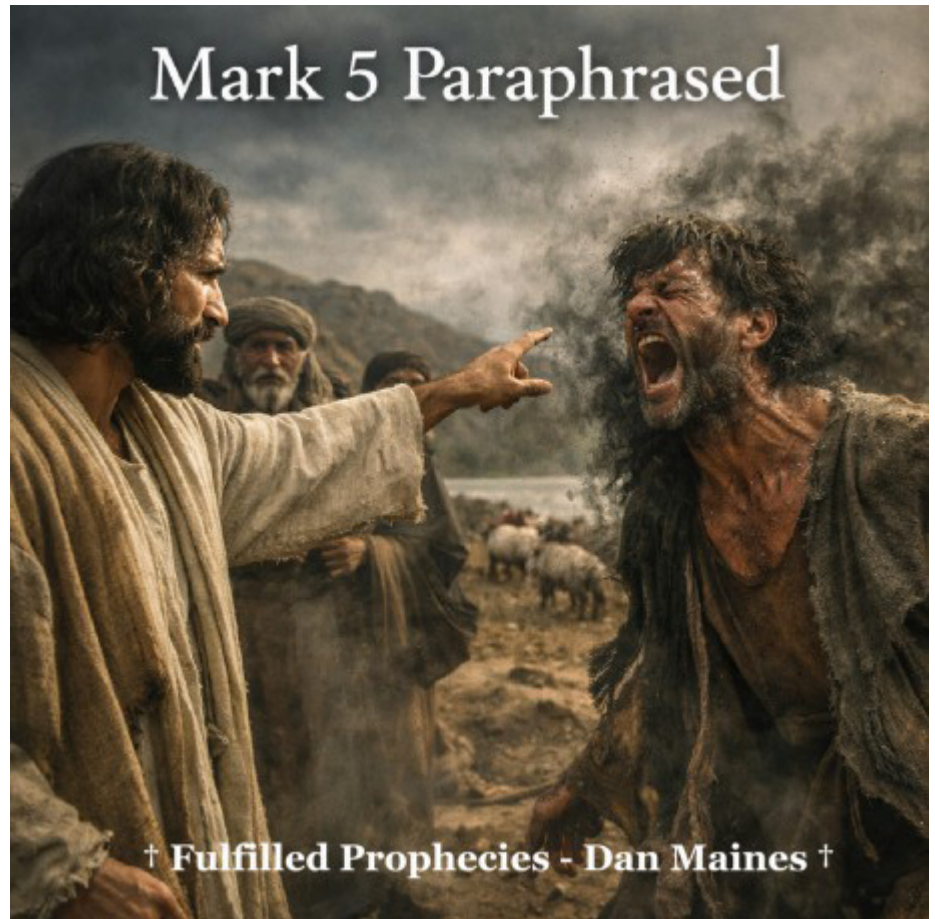
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Mark 5 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

Mark 5 Paraphrased

Introduction

† Mark 5 reveals Christ's authority over demons, sickness, and death.

† These events happened during the final covenant age when Israel was under judgment and the kingdom was being revealed through Jesus.

† The chapter shows that nothing can resist the authority of the Son of God.

Mark 5:1

They came to the other side of the sea, into the region of the Gerasenes.

† This area was largely Gentile territory, showing Christ's authority extended beyond Israel (Isaiah 49:6).

† Crossing the sea echoes earlier moments when God showed His power over the nations (Psalm 65:7).

† Jesus intentionally entered this region to confront spiritual darkness.

Mark 5:2

As soon as Jesus stepped out of the boat, a man with an unclean spirit came out of the tombs and met Him.

† Living among tombs symbolized uncleanness and separation under the Law (Numbers 19:16).

† The man's condition shows the destructive bondage of demonic oppression (Luke 11:20).

† Christ immediately confronts the power controlling him.

Mark 5:3

The man lived among the tombs, and no one could restrain him anymore, not even with chains.

† Human strength was powerless against the spiritual forces tormenting him.

† This shows how helpless people are without God's intervention (Romans 7:24).

† The scene emphasizes the severity of the man's condition.

Mark 5:4

He had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he tore the chains apart and broke the shackles into pieces, and no one was strong enough to subdue him.

† Demonic influence gave him unnatural strength.

† Evil always brings destruction and chaos (John 10:10).

† No one in the region had the power to restore him.

Mark 5:5

Night and day he cried out among the tombs and on the mountains and cut himself with stones.

- † The torment shows the misery of spiritual bondage.
- † Self destruction often accompanies demonic oppression.
- † The man was completely isolated from society.

Mark 5:6

When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before Him.

- † Even demons recognize Christ's authority (James 2:19).
- † The spiritual realm knows exactly who Jesus is.
- † His authority is immediately acknowledged.

Mark 5:7

He shouted with a loud voice and said what do You want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God, I beg You by God do not torment me.

- † The demons openly confess Jesus' identity.
- † They fear the coming judgment (Matthew 8:29).
- † Their plea shows they are subject to His authority.

Mark 5:8

Jesus had already said to him come out of the man, you unclean spirit.

- † Christ speaks with absolute authority over the spirit world.
- † No ritual or struggle was needed.
- † His word alone has power (Hebrews 4:12).

Mark 5:9

Jesus asked him what is your name, he replied my name is Legion, because many demons are inside me.

- † A Roman legion could contain thousands of soldiers.
- † The name shows the extent of the man's torment.
- † It also reflects the oppressive environment of the Roman

world.

Mark 5:10

The demons begged Him repeatedly not to send them out of the region.

† Demons appear to operate within certain territories.

† Their begging shows they cannot act without permission.

† Christ holds full authority over their fate.

Mark 5:11

A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside.

† Pigs were considered unclean animals under the Law (Leviticus 11:7).

† Their presence confirms the Gentile setting.

† This becomes the setting for the next event.

Mark 5:12

The demons begged Him saying send us into the pigs so we may enter them.

† Demons seek a host to inhabit.

† Even in this request they acknowledge Christ's authority.

† They cannot move without His permission.

Mark 5:13

Jesus allowed them, and the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, about two thousand of them, and they drowned.

† The destruction of the pigs shows the destructive nature of demonic influence.

† Christ's authority forced the spirits to leave the man.

† The event demonstrated visible power over the spiritual realm.

Mark 5:14

Those feeding the pigs ran away and reported it in the city and countryside, and people came to see what had happened.

† News about Jesus spread quickly through the region.

† His actions forced people to confront His authority.

† Crowds often gathered after such miracles.

Mark 5:15

They came to Jesus and saw the man who had been possessed sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they became afraid.

† Christ not only removes evil but restores the person completely.

† The transformation was undeniable.

† The people were overwhelmed by the power they witnessed.

Mark 5:16

Those who had seen it explained what happened to the demon possessed man and about the pigs.

† Witnesses confirmed the miracle.

† This testimony spread throughout the region.

† Events like this built Christ's reputation.

Mark 5:17

The people began begging Jesus to leave their region.

† Instead of celebrating the miracle they feared His power.

† People often reject truth when it disrupts their lives (John 3:19).

† Fear can lead people to push away God's presence.

Mark 5:18

As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed begged to go with Him.

† Deliverance produced gratitude and loyalty.

† The healed man wanted to remain with Christ.

† His life had been completely changed.

Mark 5:19

Jesus did not allow him but said go home to your people and

tell them what the Lord has done for you and how He had mercy on you.

† Jesus sent him as a witness to his own community.

† Personal testimony is powerful.

† The man's story would spread throughout the region.

Mark 5:20

He went away and began telling in the Decapolis what Jesus had done for him, and everyone was amazed.

† The Decapolis was a group of Gentile cities.

† This shows the message spreading beyond Israel.

† Christ's work reached many people through this testimony.

Historical References

† Josephus recorded accounts of demonic possession and exorcism in the first century, showing such events were widely recognized, Antiquities of the Jews Book 8.

† Irenaeus wrote that Christ demonstrated authority over demons and sickness as proof He was the promised Messiah, Against Heresies 2.32.

† Eusebius recorded early testimonies that Christ's miracles were widely known in Judea, Ecclesiastical History 3.39.

† Clement of Alexandria described Christ's miracles as demonstrations of divine authority and compassion, Stromata Book 6.

How It Applies To Us Today

† Christ's authority over demons reminds us that evil is not equal to God and cannot overcome Him (Luke 10:19).

† The healing of the woman shows that faith in Christ brings restoration beyond what human systems can provide (Hebrews 11:6).

† The raising of Jairus' daughter reminds us that Jesus holds power even over death (John 11:25).

† These events confirm that Jesus is the promised Messiah who brings life and freedom.

Q & A Appendix

Q Why did the demons recognize Jesus immediately?

A The spiritual realm knew His identity even when many people did not (James 2:19).

Q Why did Jesus allow the demons to enter the pigs?

A The event revealed the destructive nature of demons and Christ's authority over them (Luke 8:32).

Q Why did the people ask Jesus to leave their region?

A Fear and disruption of their lives caused them to reject His presence (John 3:19).

Q Why did Jesus say the girl was asleep?

A He used the language of sleep to describe death when resurrection was about to occur (John 11:11).

Q Why did Jesus sometimes tell people not to spread news of miracles?

A He controlled the timing of public recognition to fulfill God's plan (Matthew 16:20).

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Mark 5

† Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

† Clement of Alexandria, Stromata

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