



"HE BEGGED HIM THAT HE MIGHT BE WITH HIM"

MARK 5:14-20

"In his right mind";

ROMANS 12:3

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with *sober judgment*, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

TITUS 2:6

⁶ Likewise, urge the younger men to be *self-controlled*.

1 PETER 4:7

⁷ The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and *sober-minded* for the sake of your prayers.

The juxtaposing of power and meekness;

ISAIAH 40:10-15

¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ *He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.* ¹² Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? ¹³ Who has measured the Spirit of the LORD, or what man shows him his counsel? ¹⁴ Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? ¹⁵ Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.

The conversion of the demonized man;

ROMANS 10:13-17

¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." ¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent?...¹⁷ *So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.*

—The dramatic change in the man—

The immediate, complete, and uncontested obedience of the man;

JOHN 14:15

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

JOHN 15:10

¹⁰ "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love..."

LUKE 6:46

⁴⁶ "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?"

—The reaction of the townspeople—

A strong reaction;

LUKE 8:37

³⁷ Then *all the people* of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned.

The enslaved will never celebrate the freeing of other slaves;

JOHN 9:16

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them...²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”

For those whose spiritual eyes remained unenlightened, they look to God and can only fear and revile Him;

EPHESIANS 1:18-19

¹⁸ ...having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might...

To the unconverted, the conversion of others represents and unpleasant conviction;

1 JOHN 4:16-19

¹⁶ So we have come to know and to *believe the love that God has for us*. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ *By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment*, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ *There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.* ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us.

—The surprising denial—

Never presume that we fully understand the infinite God;

ISAIAH 55:8-9

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

God's granting of human requests is not always to the benefit;

ROMANS 8:28

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

The prayers of the converted are sanctified by the Lord;

ROMANS 8:26-27

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. *For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.* ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

PROVERBS 14:12

¹² There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

The previously demonized man is the recipient of all the spiritual promises;

DEUTERONOMY 31:6

⁶ Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. *He will not leave you or forsake you.*”

MATTHEW 28:19-20

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, *I am with you always, to the end of the age.*”

In all situations, trust that God will always do what is right;

GENESIS 18:25

²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! *Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?*”

—The effect of the man’s conversion—

Legitimate testimony begins among those who know us best;

ACTS 1:8

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses *in Jerusalem* and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

MATTHEW 10:5-6

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶ but go rather *to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.*”

JOHN 9:25

²⁵ He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. *One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.*”

The church in Philadelphia;

REVELATION 3:7

⁷ “And to the angel of *the church in Philadelphia* write: “The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.

Many in the region have heard and are now watching for the great Healer;

MARK 7:31-32

³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in *the region of the Decapolis.* ³² *And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him.*

Time well-spent;

ISAIAH 55:11

¹¹ So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; *it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*