

I am busy reminding us of this vital message that I quoted a few years ago when I told you about this statement made famous by the great Missionary Hudson Taylor:

“Christ is either Lord of all, or is not Lord at all”

Over the next few weeks I want to look at this statement, and in my final sermon in this series I am going to ask the question: SO WHAT?? If I have managed to convince you of the significance of the quote of Hudson Taylor, WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS.

IN THE FIRST WEEK I asked the question **WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO REALISE THAT JESUS IS LORD OF ALL? - Acts 10**

For Peter it took a VISION FROM HEAVEN

For CORNELIUS it took being introduced to JESUS

For those with Peter from Joppa, it took the image of the coming of the Holy Spirit. PERHAPS GOD HAS SENT THE PANDEMIC TO POINT US TO HIM.

OR MAYBE SOMETHING WORSE IS COMING!!!

LAST WEEK we looked at:

FIVE REASONS WHY I PREACH JESUS IS LORD

- 1. THE BIBLE DECLARES HIM LORD.**
- 2. THE BIBLE SPOKE OF HIS LORDSHIP PROPHETICALLY.**
- 3. HIS LORDSHIP OVERRIDES THE CREATION ORDER AND THE LAW.**
- 4. HIS LORDSHIP GIVES HIM POWER TO SAVE.**
- 5. THE DAY IS COMING WHEN EVERYBODY ELSE WILL CALL HIM LORD!!!**

THIS WEEK I want us to begin to look at specific areas where Jesus is Lord:

JESUS IS LORD OVER DEMONS

Famous Christian Thinker and Author, C. S. Lewis, said this on the subject of demons. “One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors, and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight”

THE BIBLE HAS MUCH TO SAY ABOUT DEMONS

Mark 5:1-20 (NIV) The Healing of a Demon-possessed Man

v1 They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. v2 When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him. v3 This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. v4 For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. v5 Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones. v6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. v7 He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" v8 For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!" v9 Then Jesus

asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." v10 And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area. v11 A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. v12 The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." v13 He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. v14 Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. v15 When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. v16 Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man--and told about the pigs as well. v17 Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region. v18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. v19 Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." v20 So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

1) **FIRSTLY, DEMONS are REAL.**

The word *demon* or *demons* is found about seventy-five times in the New Testament. In no case are they presented as imaginary or fictitious, not even by the Son of God. In our story they are mentioned in v12 *The demons begged Jesus*. Satan, too, is a demon, and he is mentioned numerous times in both testaments, as will be seen below.

IF THEY ARE REAL, WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

They come out of God's perfect creation. Jesus is declared to be the creator of all things in

*Colossians 1:15-16 He(Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. v16 For **by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.***

Jesus created the Angels as those "**things in heaven**" which are "**invisible**", according to the structure mentioned above, "**thrones or powers or rulers or authorities**".

HOWEVER, one of the Arch-Angels, Lucifer, rebelled against God, and was thrown out of heaven. We read about it in *Ezekiel 28:2* "Son of man, say ..., 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "In the pride of your heart you say, "I am a god;""

THEN WE READ IN verse 17 "Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendour. **So I threw you to the earth.**"

AND HE TOOK A THIRD OF THE ANGELS WITH HIM. We read about it in *Revelation 12:3-4* "Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. v4 **His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth.**"

Demons are fallen angels, with all their powers and structures.

DEMONS ARE REAL

2) SECONDLY DEMONS HAVE A LEADER.

1. HE IS KNOWN BY MANY NAMES.

Originally, he was created as an “*Anointed Cherub*” Ezekiel 28:14 begins, “*You were the anointed cherub....*” AND CALLED “*Day-Star*” and “*Son of the Morning.*” These two designations appear in Isaiah 14:12: *How art thou fallen from heaven, O day-star, son of the morning!*

In the NEW TESTAMENT he is called the “*Evil One*” a title found in Matthew 6:13, John 17:15, 2 Thessalonians 3:3 and 1 John 5:18-19. He was also called “*Satan*”, a name that is found over fifty times in the Scriptures and means *adversary*.

2. HE HAS A GOAL.

WHICH IS TO BE A “*Destroyer, Abaddon, Apollyon*”, which appears in Revelation 9:11: *And they had a king over them, the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in Greek his name is Apollyon. Abaddon (Hebrew) and Apollyon (Greek) mean Destroyer.*

HE DOES HIS WORK BY BEING A *Roaring Lion*. 1 Peter 5:8 says, ... *your adversary, the Devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking someone he may devour;*

3. HE ACHIEVES HIS GOAL BY BEING:

1) *The Tempter*. Found in Matthew 4:3 and 1 Thessalonians 3:5, this designation shows Satan as the one who entices people to sin.

2) *The Deceiver*. This designation is found in Revelation 12:9, in which Satan is called, *the deceiver of the whole world*, showing him as the one who, by deception, deceives the great mass of humanity into rejecting God and His ways.

3) *The Angel of Light*. Found in 2 Corinthians 11:14, this designation shows that Satan carries out the work of deception by offering appealing counterfeits of true moral and spiritual understanding.

4) *The Devil*. *Devil* means *Accuser* or *Slanderer* and declares the chief way he seeks to cause division between God and His people, and between God's people.

5) *The Accuser of the Brethren*. Revelation 12:10 designates Satan as the accuser of believers.

So far we have seen:

DEMONS ARE REAL

DEMONS HAVE A LEADER

3) **THIRDLY DEMONS UNDERSTAND SPIRITUAL TRUTH.**

1. **DEMONS UNDERSTAND THE TRINITY.**

As Jesus approaches the man, we read in *v7 He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God*

ON ANOTHER OCCASION we read in *Luke 4:33-34 'In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an evil spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, v34 "Ha! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are--the Holy One of God!"'*

While the world around Jesus had no idea who Jesus truly was while he walked the face of earth, **THE DEMONS KNEW.**

2. **DEMONS UNDERSTAND AUTHORITY.**

As Jesus approaches the man, we read in *v6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.*

ON OTHER OCCASIONS we read in

Mark 3:11 'Whenever the evil spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."

Mark 7:25 'In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an evil spirit came and fell at his feet.'

The word for worship means "TO BEND THE KNEE" or sometimes translated as "TO KISS THE HAND", implying bowing down before someone in **AUTHORITY.**

What a great joy to know: **DEMONS ARE ALSO UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS AS LORD.**

So far we have seen:

DEMONS ARE REAL

DEMONS HAVE A LEADER

DEMONS UNDERSTAND SPIRITUAL TRUTH

4) **FOURTHLY DEMONS OBEY JESUS.**

As Jesus approaches the man, we read in *v8 Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!" v9 Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." v10 And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area. v11 A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. v12 The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." v13 He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.*

1. **DEMONS FEAR JESUS.**

v7 He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!"

2. **DEMONS COULD ONLY ACT WITH PERMISSION.**

v13 He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs.

We read about the same permission in the story of Job

Job 1:8-12 Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil." v9 "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. v10 "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. v11 But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face." v12 The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger." Then Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

DEMONS DO NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO DO WHAT THEY LIKE!

3. **DEMONS ARE DESTROYED BECAUSE OF JESUS.**

v13 He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

The pigs were already considered ‘unclean’, and Jesus removed 6000 demons into 2000 pigs.

The fall of Satan began while Jesus was on earth. *Luke 10:17-18 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, **even the demons submit to us in your name.**" v18 He replied, "**I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.**"*

These demons knew their ultimate fate. We read the following in the Matthew 8:29 *"What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "**Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?**"*

SO FAR WE HAVE LEARNED THAT

DEMONS ARE REAL

DEMONS HAVE A LEADER

DEMONS UNDERSTAND SPIRITUAL TRUTH

DEMONS OBEY JESUS.

SO WE CAN CONFIDENTLY DECLARE JESUS IS LORD OVER DEMONS

IS JESUS LORD OF YOUR LIFE?

This man’s healing is clear testimony of **John 10:10** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.