

Jason Palermo
PO Box 3513, Little Rock, AR 72203
Phone 501-366-557
Email jason.palermo@capitolcom.org

The Divinity of Christ (Mark 5)

Introduction

This message is entitled: “Three Dramatic Miracles Authenticate the Divinity of Christ”

Mark Chapter 5:1-43. This message was written, and delivered by Pastor and Seminary Professor R. Brian Rickett, during our Monday evening fellowship dinner and prayer meeting, at the Arkansas State Capitol.

The Central Claim: Mark 1:1 “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”

The rest of the book provides authentication/argumentation for this reality. Observe the outline of the book through Chapter 5.

- I. **Witness of John the Baptist (Mark 1:1-8);**
- II. **Witness of the Father at the Baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11);**
- III. **Witness of His Character**
 - A. Satanically Tested (Mark 1:12, 13; cf. Matt 4:1-11)
 - B. *Authoritative* Godly Message
 - Urged hearers to “repent” & “believe” (i.e. confronted sin, urged submission to God in faith 1:14, 15)
 - Emphasized Gospel preaching (1:15; 17; 38)
 - Explained spiritual realities (4:1-33)
- IV. **Witness of Miracles & Signs to Christ’s Lordship**

- A. Lordship & *Authority* Over Spiritual Forces (1:21-28; cf. especially v. 27; 32, 34, 39; 3:11)
- B. Lordship Over Physical Ailments
 - 1. Fever (healing of Simon Peter’s mother in law; 1:29-31)
 - 2. Many ill
 - 3. Demon possessed (1:32-34; 39; 3:11)
 - 4. Leprosy (1:40-45)
 - 5. Paralysis, healed and forgiven *w/authority* (2:1-12)
 - 6. Withered hand (3:1-5)
 - 7. Various afflictions (3:10)
- C. Lordship of the Sabbath
 - 1. Clarification of Sabbath law (2:23-26)
 - 2. Explanation of Sabbath’s purpose (2:27, 28)
 - 3. Declaration of Lordship over Sabbath (2:28)
 - 4. Healing on the Sabbath (3:1-6)
- D. Lordship to Commission & Delegate Authority to Representatives (3:14, 15)
- E. Lordship Over Physical Elements
 - 1. Lord over wind and sea (4:41)
 - 2. Lord over legions of demonic forces (5:1-13)
 - 3. Healer of spiritually/physically desperate—many others tried & failed (5:14-20)
 - 4. Lord over life and death—religious leader Jairus’ daughter (5:21- 43)

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5. Lord over debilitating health conditions—many physicians tried but failed (5:25-34)

Chapter 5

- **Three Major Movements, Three Dramatic Miracles**
- Chapter 5: Observe the place of Chapter 5 in the overall flow of Mark's record of the authentication of "the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."
- Notice in each case, the miracle performed by Christ is contrasted with the failure of others to effect the needed result.

Chapter 5 Outline

- I. The Gerasene Demoniac (1-20)
 - II. The Woman with the Issue of Blood (5:25-34)
 - III. Jairus' Daughter (5:21-43)
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- I. **The Gerasene Demoniac: The Man From the Tombs (1-20)**
 - A. **The Man and The Spiritual Affliction (5:1-5)**
 - We are immediately confronted with the reality of unrestrained, victorious evil in the life of this human being.
 - Resulted in his isolation/separation/estrangement from social & civil life

- Complete Inability to function normally
- Self-destructive—causing harm to himself
- Tormented soul
- This man is demon possessed
- In bondage—both physically & spiritually, literally & metaphorically
 1. Often been bound. Note: the spiritual bondage has resulted in the effort of community members to restrain him
 2. Constantly crying out & bruising himself w/stone. Shows how his spiritual condition has resulted in misery/anguish/self-mutilation—little doubt that if he had the means to do so, he would have attempted suicide.
 3. No mere psychological problem: This is a spiritual problem—a problem with a direct & immediate source clearly evidenced by unnatural behavior and supernatural capacity.
 - There is a hint that he had terrorized the people of the place. "Often..." "...all the people"

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- The man's condition was so well established in the community that news of his restoration evoked amazement & terror at the report that one had healed him.

B. The Messiah and the Meeting (5:6-13)

C. The Messiah and the Message (5:14-20)

C. The Messiah and the Message (5:41-43)

II. The Woman in the Crowd: The Woman with the Issue of Blood (5:25- 34)

10 verse parenthetical note that took place on the way to Jairus' house

A. The Woman with the Physical Ailment (5:25-28)

B. The Messiah and the Meeting/Woman and the Healing (5:29-33)

C. The Messiah and the Message (5:34)

III. The Official in His Home: Jairus' Daughter (5:21-43)

A. The Official and his Loss (5:35- 38)

B. The Messiah and the Meeting/Girl returns to Living (5:39, 40)



Our fellowship dinner, devotional, and prayer meeting meets Monday evenings at 6:00 – 7:30 PM, at the AR State Capitol, House RM 19, take the elevator to the Lower Lobby, exit left from either elevator and you cannot miss it. See you there!