

THE BONDAGE BREAKER

February 17, 2013 Luke 8:26-39 by Bob Branch
Freedom Fighters, part 1

MAIN IDEA: Today, **What** can we expect from our adversary, **how** it might impact us, and **how** Jesus makes all the difference.

²⁶ They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. ²⁷ When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. **Luke 8:26-27**

Q: Can a Christian be demon-possessed?

Q: What impact can demons have & which pertain to Christians?

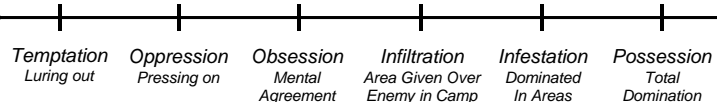
TRADITIONAL VIEW:

- **Temptation** (against all including believers)
- **Full-On Domination** (against non-believers)

EXPANDED VIEW:

- **Garden Variety Temptation**— Gen. 3; Matt. 4; Mat. 26:41, James 1:13-15
- **Oppression**—**Battle for/in the mind!** (2 Cor. 10:1-6; Eph. 6)
- **Affliction**—A **thorn** in the flesh (2 Cor. 12:7-10)
- **Speaking Through Believers**— (Matthew 16:23; Mk. 8:33).
- **Demon-Induced Physically Illness**—(Luke 13:10-13)
- **Obsession**—Demas,... (indirect: Col. 4:14; 2 Tim. 4:10)
“people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.” **2 Peter 2:19**
- **Being Devoured**— (1 Pet 5:8-9)
- **Full-On Demonic Domination**— (Matt. 8:28-34)

DEMONIC ACTIVITY CONTINUUM



^{27b} For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. **Luke 8:27**

1. **Demonic influence can DISTORT us.**

²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don’t torture me!” ²⁹ For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. **Lk 8:28-29**

2. **Not all deliverance-encounters are power encounters, but they all are CHRIST -encounters.**

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work. **1 John 3:8** (see John 8:36)

^{29b} Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places. **Luke 8:29**

3. **Demonic influence may be characterized as INTERMITTENT, compulsive, seemingly uncontrollable, self-destructive behavior.**

Can be difficult to contain by strictly HUMAN MEANS.

Usually will have an ISOLATING effect. (Mt. 10:16)

³⁰ Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” “Legion,” he replied, because many demons had gone into him. **Luke 8:30**

4. **No matter how big the bondage, Jesus is the BONDAGE BREAKER!**

³⁴ When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, ³⁵ and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus’ feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed [demonized] man had been cured. ³⁷ Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left. **Luke 8:31-37**

5. **Jesus is the one who RESTORES YOUR MIND, your sanity!
The enemy brokers in fear & anxiety.**

³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ “Return home and tell how much God has done for you.” So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

6. **PURPOSE: He frees you and wants you to SPREAD THE WORD!**