



# REIGNITING YOUR PASSION FOR CHRIST

A Study of the Gospel of Luke

## THE EXORCIST LUKE 8:26-39

**INTRODUCTION:** What are demons and do they exist today? If yes, is it possible for Christians to be “demon possessed?” How can Christians best combat demonic influence in their lives? We find answers to all of those questions in Luke’s account of Jesus’ encounter with the demonically controlled man living in the Gerasenes.

### I. **Jesus Encounters A Demonized Man (Luke 8:26-27)**

Luke 8:27 “And when He had come out onto the land, He was met by a certain man from the city who was possessed with demons; and who had not put on any clothing for a long time, and was not living in a house, but in the tombs.”

#### A. **The Origin of Demons (Revelation 12:4a; Matthew 12:24; Revelation 12:7)**

**Revelation 12:4a** “And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and threw them to the earth.”

#### B. **Attributes of Demons**

1. Demons possess **intelligence**
2. Demons possess **emotions**
3. Demons possess a **will**

**C. The Work of Demons**

1. Satan and his demons are opposing God's **plan**.  
(Revelation 12:4b; Matthew 16:21-23)

Revelation 12:4b “And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.”

2. Satan and his demons are opposing God's **people**.  
(Mark 9:20-22; John 8:44)

**D. Can Christians Be Possessed by Demons? (Luke 8:27; Ephesians 1:13)**

1. The Meaning of Luke 8:27

Luke 8:27 “And when He had come out onto the land, He was met by a certain man from the city who was possessed with demons; and who had not put on any clothing for a long time, and was not living in a house, but in the tombs.”

2. Demon possession versus demonic influence

Ephesians 1:13 “In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation— having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,”

Matthew 16:21-23 “<sup>21</sup>From that time Jesus Christ began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, ‘God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You.’ <sup>23</sup>But He turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God’s interests, but man’s.’”

**II. The Demons Respond To Jesus (Luke 8:28-33)**

Luke 8:28 “And seeing Jesus, he cried out and fell before Him, and said in a loud voice, ‘What do I have to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me.’”

Luke 8:29 “For He had been commanding the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had seized him many times; and he was bound with chains and shackles and kept under guard; and yet he would burst his fetters and be driven by the demon into the desert.”

Luke 8:30 “And Jesus asked him, ‘What is your name?’ And he said, ‘Legion’; for many demons had entered him.”

Luke 8:31 “And they were entreating Him not to command them to depart into the abyss.”

2 Peter 2:4 “For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;”

Luke 8:32 “Now there was a herd of many swine feeding there on the mountain; and the demons entreated Him to permit them to enter the swine. And He gave them permission.”

Luke 8:33 “And the demons came out from the man and entered the swine; and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake, and were drowned.”

### **III. The Reactions To Jesus’ Action (Luke 8:34-39)**

#### **A. The Reaction of the People (Luke 8:34-37)**

Luke 8:34-35 “<sup>34</sup> And when the herdsmen saw what had happened, they ran away and reported it in the city and out in the country. <sup>35</sup> And the people went out to see what had happened; and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting down at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they became frightened.”

#### **B. The Reaction of the Man (Luke 8:38-39)**

Luke 8:38-39 “<sup>38</sup> But the man from whom the demons had gone out was begging Him that he might accompany Him; but He sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> ‘Return to your house and describe what great things God has done for you.’ And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.”

#### **IV. Four Principles For Defeating Demons**

##### **A. Receive Christ as Your Savior (1 John 5:4-5)**

1 John 5:4-5 “<sup>4</sup> For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup> And who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”

##### **B. Refuse to Participate in Any Occult Practices (Colossians 1:13)**

1. **Divination** (Deuteronomy 17:1-7)
2. **Magic** (2 Timothy 3:8)
3. **Spiritism** (Leviticus 20:6-7)

##### **C. Renounce Satan and His Work (Acts 19:19)**

##### **D. Resist Satan (James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8-9)**

James 4:7 “Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

1. Be prepared for Satan’s **attacks**.

1 Peter 5:8 “Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

2. Be aware of your **weaknesses**.
3. Be armed with spiritual **weapons**.
4. Be encouraged that victory is **possible**.

1 John 4:4 “You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.”

Conclusion