

Title: Jesus Christ the Victor: His Earthly Validation

Theme: Jesus has shown that we can trust Him by displaying His victorious power over demons, disease and death.

Text: Mark 5

Mark 5:35-36, 40b-43 While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher anymore?”

⁴⁰ ...After he put them all out, he took the child’s father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was.

⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha kum!*” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”). ⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. ⁴³ He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

I. Introduction: Tournaments

A. I enjoy participating in and following tournaments

B. Tournaments were set up to determine a victor or champion

C. Tournament brackets show all vanquished opponents

This is one way we can look at the events in Mark 5

D. In usual tournaments, both opponents have some chance of winning, however small the odds may be

E. In Mark 5 Jesus faces 3 opponents that have no possible chance of defeating Him

This is the first of a two-part series called: Jesus Christ the Victor.

The first message is called: Jesus Christ the Victor: His Earthly Validation

Background: Incredible few days in the life and earthly ministry of Jesus. Just came from Galilee to the eastern side of Sea of Galilee, which is a Gentile area. He had calmed the sea the evening before, which had the disciples question, “Who is this?” Bible is silent on why Jesus went to this area, but as we will see, after His encounter with the demoniac He went back across to the western side of the lake.

II. Jesus Is the Victor over Demons (Mk 5:1-20)

A. The setting

Mark 5:1 They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.
2 When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. 3 This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. 4 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. 5 Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

Mark 5:6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. 7 He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God’s name don’t torture me!” 8 For Jesus had said to him, “Come out of this man, you impure spirit!”

Mark 5:9 Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?”
“My name is Legion,”^a he replied, “for we are many.”

10 And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

Mark 5:11 A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. 12 The demons begged Jesus, “Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them.” 13 He gave them permission, and the impure 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.

Mark 5:14 Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. 15 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.

Mark 5:16 Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. 17 Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

Mark 5:18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. ¹⁹ Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” ²⁰ 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. Man with demons approached Jesus (v 2)

² When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him.

2. Man lived alone outside the city (v 3)

³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain.

3. Man had been bound, but it was no longer effective (v 3-4)

³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. ⁴ 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.

4. Satan and his demons hate the image of God.

a. Man was shaming himself by going naked (Luke 8:27)

b. Man was bound, surely harming others (v 4)

⁴ 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.

c. Man was harming himself (v 5)

⁵ Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

B. Demons as opponents

1. Humans are no match for demons (v 3-4)

³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. ⁴ 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.

2. Demons know they are no match for Jesus; they are subordinate (v 7, 10-12)

a. Pleaded “in God’s Name” not to be tortured by Jesus (v 7)
7 He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God’s name don’t torture me!”

b. Begged Jesus not to send them out of the area (v 10)
10 And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

c. Begged Jesus to send them into a herd of pigs (v 11-12)
11 A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. 12 The demons begged Jesus, “Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them.”

d. The begging and pleading was a response to Jesus’ command to come out of the man (v 7-8)

7 He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God’s name don’t torture me!” 8 For Jesus had said to him, “Come out of this man, you impure spirit!”

e. Demons are terrified of Jesus (Ja 2:19)

James 2:19 You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

C. Jesus Is Victorious

1. He encounters an army of demons (v 9)
9 Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?”
“My name is Legion,”^a he replied, “for we are many.”

a. Legion was a Roman company of soldiers that numbered between 4,000 and 6,000

b. This does not mean that there were necessarily 4,000 or more demons in this man

c. This is possibly the largest host of demons in any one individual in Scripture (usually it states “an evil spirit” or “seven demons” in Mary Magdalene’s case)

d. Mark’s readers understood that this was an “army” of demons

2. Jesus commands the demons with just a few words and they quickly obey (v 8, 12-15)

⁸ For Jesus had said to him, “Come out of this man, you impure spirit!”

¹² The demons begged Jesus, “Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them.” ¹³ He gave them permission, and the impure 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.

¹⁴ Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. ¹⁵ 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.

3. The results of the encounter: Jesus is victorious

a. The pigs were drowned by the demons (v 13)

¹³ He gave them permission, and the impure 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.

b. The man was free from the demons (v 15)

¹⁵ 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.

i. He was clothed (v 15)

¹⁵ 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.

ii. He was in his right mind (v 15)

¹⁵ 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.

iii. He wanted to go with Jesus (v 18)

¹⁹ As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him.

iv. He was probably saved and was witnessing (v 20)

²⁰ 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.

c. The people were not pleased

i. They were afraid (v 15)

¹⁵ 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.

ii. They begged Jesus to leave (v 17)

¹⁷ Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

iii. Jesus did leave

III. Jesus Is the Victor over Disease

A. The setting

Mark 5:24b A large crowd followed and pressed around him.²⁵ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. ²⁶ She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. ²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." ²⁹ Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

Mark 5:30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

Mark 5:31 "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'"

Mark 5:32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. ³³ Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet

and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. ³⁴ He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

1. The people got their wish as Jesus immediately went back to the western shore of the lake

2. A synagogue ruler came to Jesus to ask him to heal his sick daughter and Jesus went with him (v 21-24a)

3. Woman had been bleeding for 12 years (v 25)
²⁵ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years.

4. Doctors’ treatments were not effective (v 26)
²⁶ She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse.

5. Woman was unclean and socially and religiously isolated for the entirety of her bleeding (see Leviticus 15:25)

6. This probably explains the woman wanting to touch Jesus and not draw attention to herself (v 27-28)
²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.”

B. Disease as opponent

1. Doctors cannot heal anything

a. They don’t have healing power, they have healing knowledge

i. They know what to prescribe

ii. They know how to operate

b. God has made our bodies to naturally heal themselves when the doctors perform their tasks

c. God sometimes supernaturally heals us

2. Medication prescriptions and regimens are limited

3. Illness lasted 12 years and grew only worse over that time (v 26)

²⁶ She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse.

C. Jesus Is Victorious

1. The woman's faith (v 28, 34)

²⁸ because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

³⁴ He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

a. Her faith was placed in Jesus (v 28)

²⁸ because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

b. There is no action without faith

c. Action proves faith (James 2:20-22)

James 2:20. You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? ²¹ Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.

2. Jesus' power

a. Jesus' power (not the woman's faith) overcame the disease (v 30)

³⁰ At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

b. Jesus fully and instantly healed her (v 28-29)

²⁸ because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” ²⁹
Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

3. Jesus defeated the disease without even speaking a word (v 28-29)
²⁸ because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” ²⁹
Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

4. The results of the encounter: Jesus is victorious

a. The woman was fully healed and ceremonially clean (v 29)
²⁹ Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

b. The woman was free from her suffering (v 29)
²⁹ Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

c. The woman believed in her heart that Jesus could heal her (v 28)
²⁸ because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” ²⁹

d. The woman confessed in humility the truth about her need and Jesus’ power (v 33)
³³ Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.

e. The woman was healed physically and spiritually by Jesus (v 34)
³⁴ He said to her, “**Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.**”

f. The synagogue ruler would be encouraged

IV. Jesus Is the Victor over Death

A. The setting

Mark 5:35 While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher anymore?”

Mark 5:36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.”

Mark 5:39 He went in and said to them, “Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep.”⁴⁰ But they laughed at him.

After he put them all out, he took the child’s father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was.

⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha kum!*” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”).⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished.⁴³ He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

1. Jairus, the synagogue ruler, came to Jesus to ask him to heal his sick daughter and Jesus went with him (v 21-24a)

2. Jairus would be encouraged

a. He witnessed Jesus’ power over disease (v 29)

b. The woman was sick for 12 years and his sick daughter was 12-years old (v 25, 33, 42)

c. His daughter has died yet Jesus says to believe (v 35-36)

³⁵ While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher anymore?”

³⁶ Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.”

B. Death as opponent

1. No one had ever defeated this opponent

2. The toughest opponent yet—death is so final

3. Jesus was completely confident in His ability to raise the dead (v 36)

³⁶ Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.”

C. Jesus Is Victorious

1. The girl was raised with just the words of Jesus (v 41)

⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha koum!*” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”).

2. The results of the encounter: Jesus is victorious

a. The girl was alive, walking around and eating (v 42)

⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished.

b. The people were astonished (v 42)

⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished.

c. A family fully believed in the power of Jesus

d. The disciples realized they could fully trust the Lord Jesus

V. Applying the Word

A. Jesus is the victor in every circumstance of our lives

1. We have no need to fear demons. Our society is plagued with demons and the results of the sinful flesh of mankind—Jesus has it under His control

2. We have no need to fear disease. Coronavirus pandemic (and all diseases)—Jesus has it under His control

3. We have no need to fear death. We all will die, but those in Christ will be with Him forever

B. These three miracles are a picture of our eternity

1. We will live all eternity free from the influence and presence of sin and the devil

2. There will be no more sickness and disease in heaven for all eternity

3. Death is the separation of people from God. We will never be separated from the Lord through all of eternity. There will be no more death.

C. Jesus has power over all. If you do not know Jesus as your personal Savior, we would love to show you, from the Bible, how to know for certain that you will be forever with Him in His kingdom. You can live with the peace of Christ. Please contact the church and we will be happy to walk through it with you.

D. These three miracles show us that we can fully trust the Lord Jesus to be Who He says He is. No one has ever risen the dead in their own Name. Jesus is the victor over all, our champion for ever and ever.