MARK: New Authority Reloaded 4.27.08

35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." 36 And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. 37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. 38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" 39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. 40 He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" 41 And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey him?" 1 They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. 2 And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. 3 He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, 4 for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. 5 Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and bruising himself with stones. 6 And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. 7 And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." 8 For he was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" 9 And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." 10 And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. 11 Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, 12 and they begged him, saying, "Send us to the pigs; let us enter them. 13 So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out, and entered the pigs, and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and were drowned in the sea. 14 The herdsmen fled and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. 15 And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. 16 And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs. 17 And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region. 18 As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.
Mark 4:35-5:20 ESV

"just as he was" "other boats" This kind of detail points to authenticity.

P: Mark is telling the story as an eyewitness account.

"great windstorm" Qualified fisherman. "Mega-storm."
"rebuked the wind and said to the sea" Just a word from Jesus was enough. That is power!
"…afraid?...no faith?" A slight rebuke from Jesus like we saw last week.
"Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey him?" The million dollar question.

<u>Primary Point of Both Passages:</u>
Jesus is Lord over All Creation and We Need to Have Faith in Him.

P: Sometimes we feel like Jesus is asleep during our storms as well.

<u>Making Sense of Our Worry:</u>

1. It is understandable but it is wrong. *(Notice. Jesus rebukes them.)*
2. What is the sin behind the sin? **<u>Control</u>**, for most of us.

<u>What Do We Do with It?</u>

1. Make rationalizations for it.
   a. *"I'm just a worrier…"* Sin and it leads to bondage.
2. Do the "Good Christian" thing.
   a. Knuckle down. Try harder. More discipline. Helpful but limited.
3. Fall on Jesus. Cry out *"I believe! Help my unbelief!"*
   a. Leads us to Gospel Humility/Renewal where we depend on God.
   b. Sometimes God allows a storm just to teach us dependence.

Question: What do I do when I find myself in a storm? Have faith or worry? Am I depending upon God?

"unclean spirit…" Demon-possessed. Demonized.
"tombs…no one…night and day" Isolation. Desperation. Progressive condition.
"Legion" 6000 Roman soldiers. Severely demonize.
"the pigs" Hmmm…my best guess is to create a buzz.
"depart the region" Scared. Seems similar to the response of the disciples.
"go home to your friends and tell them…" Same directive to us today.
"Decapolis…" Ten cities. People center.

P: We have been saved to be sent.

Am I Walking in Faith in Jesus?
Am I Sharing My Faith in Jesus?

Visit www.crossinglouisville.com for more helpful resources, including study guides on Mark.

Works Consulted : Expositor's Bible Commentary, Life Application Bible, MacArthur Study Bible, Messages by Steve Hurt, Numerous Other Commentaries on Mark