



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO

LUKE

Jesus' power can free us from  
OPPRESSION.

#holygrail40



Come and see the violence  
inherent in the system!

OPPRESSION (lit. “pressed against”)

- To be kept in a state of subservience, hardship, or distress by some cruel outside force that wields unjust power over your life, body, and livelihood

## Luke 8:26-27 (CSB)

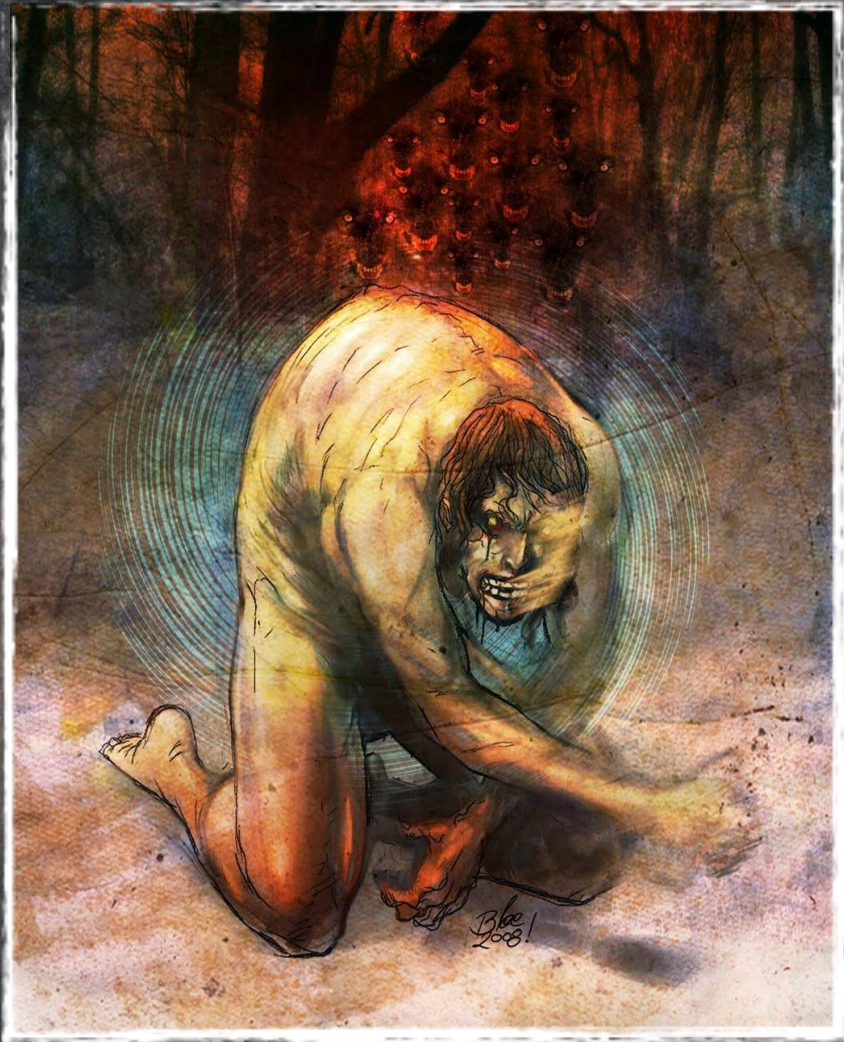
26 Then they sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. 27 When he got out on land, a demon-possessed man from the town met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes and did not stay in a house but in the tombs.

## Luke 8:28 (CSB)

28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before him, and said in a loud voice, “What do you have to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don’t torment me!”

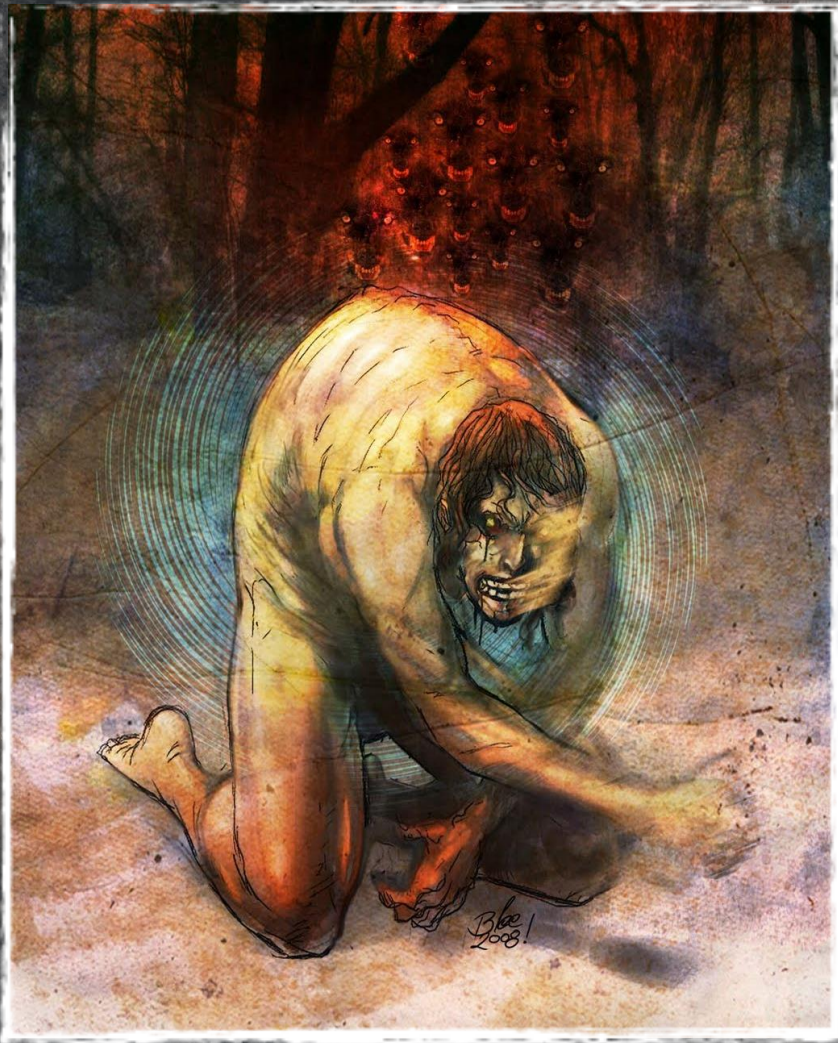
## Luke 8:29 (CSB)

29 For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was guarded, bound by chains and shackles, he would snap the restraints and be driven by the demon into deserted places.

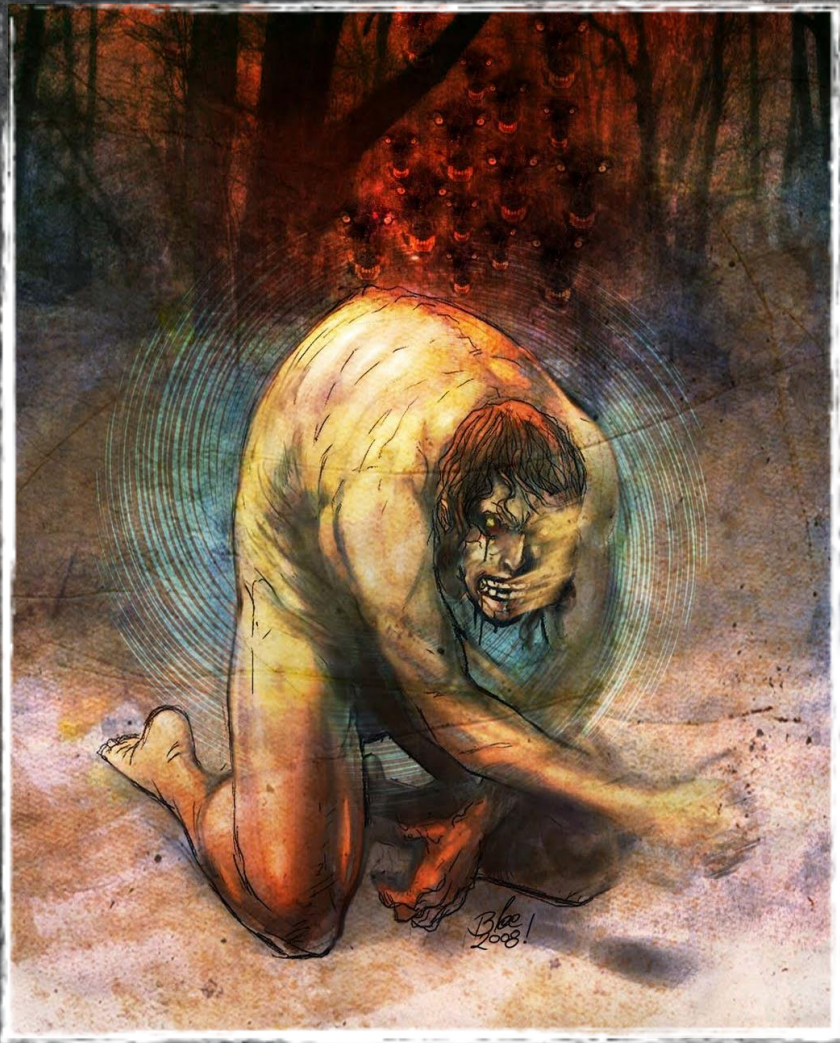


# The Gerasene Demoniac





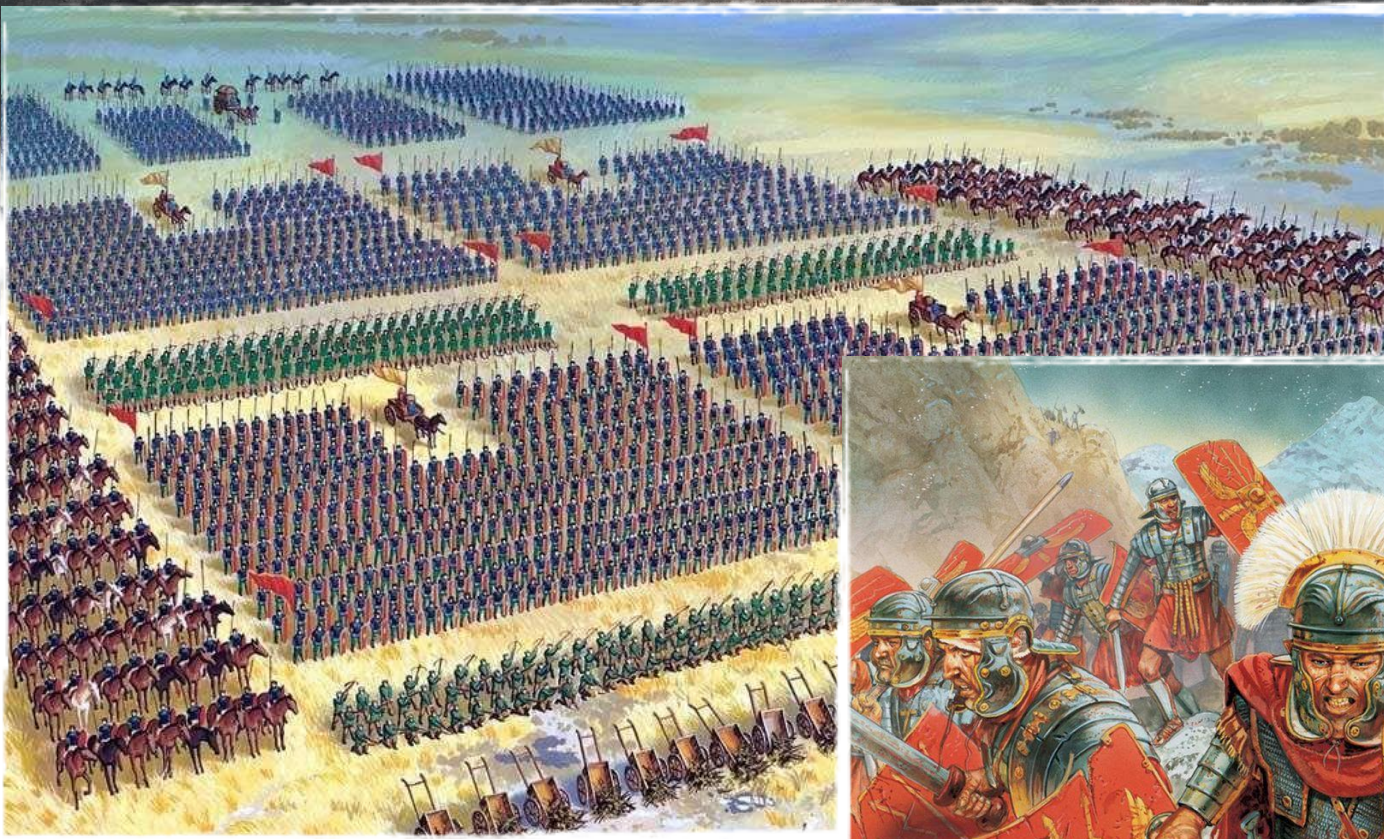
“Gospel: Most of our wounds are self-inflicted, like those of the Gerasene demoniac. Jesus can heal those wounds too.”  
(James Martin, SJ)



*“What do you have  
to do with me,  
Jesus, Son of the  
Most High God? I  
beg you, don’t  
torment me!”*

## Luke 8:30-32 (CSB)

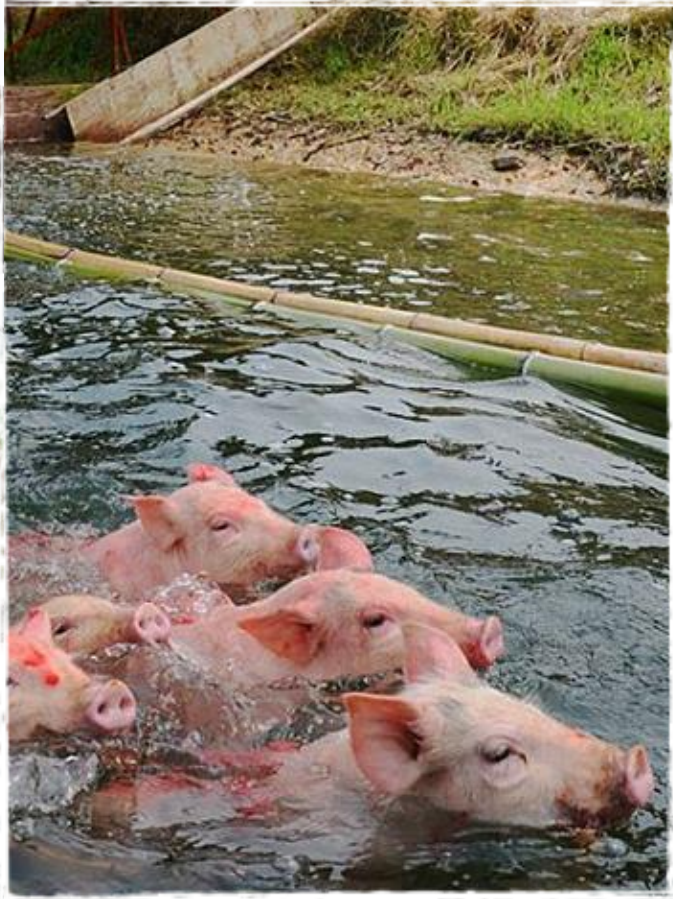
30 “What is your name?” Jesus asked him. “Legion,” he said, because many demons had entered him. 31 And they begged him not to banish them to the abyss. 32 A large herd of pigs was there, feeding on the hillside. The demons begged him to permit them to enter the pigs, and he gave them permission.



A Roman legion

## Luke 8:33 (CSB)

33 The demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.



## Luke 8:34-35 (CSB)

34 When the men who tended them saw what had happened, they ran off and reported it in the town and in the countryside. 35 Then people went out to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man the demons had departed from, sitting at Jesus's feet, dressed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

Evil is always destructive.



Jesus purges the land of evil.  
He wants to uproot and cast out  
all that would oppress us.

Evil is self-defeating.

The townspeople fear.

While they understand the destructive power of evil, they cannot fathom the sort of beautiful power that can rescue and transform someone written off as hopelessly lost.

## Luke 8:36-37 (CSB)

36 Meanwhile, the eyewitnesses reported to them how the demon-possessed man was delivered. 37 Then all the people of the Gerasene region asked him to leave them, because they were gripped by great fear. So getting into the boat, he returned.

“The community obviously does not care that the man is saved. Fear drives their reaction. Perhaps they fear further economic loss, but they are clearly more at home with the presence of the demonic in their midst than the presence of a power that can drive it away.” (Garland)

## Luke 8:38-39 (CSB)

38 The man from whom the demons had departed begged him earnestly to be with him. But he sent him away and said, 39 “Go back to your home, and tell all that God has done for you.” And off he went, proclaiming throughout the town how much Jesus had done for him.



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