

A Cry from the Tombs

(Chains of darkness are broken for the man of Decapolis)

*(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament,
I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and Anointed for Christ.)*

The tombs of the Hebrews would afford shelter, being either natural caves or recesses hewn out of the rock. The tombs were unclean to the Hebrews, because of the dead men's bones. They would attract those who sought to flee from all fellowship of their kind. There was a man of Decapolis, a Hebrew, who called the tombs his home. At some point in his life, he made a cry to Yahweh, which may have sounded like Palms. 142:5-7. "I have made outcry unto thee, O Yahweh,—I have said, Thou, art my refuge, my portion, in the land of the living. Attend thou unto my loud cry, for I am brought very low,—Rescue me from my pursuers, for they are stronger than I. O bring forth, out of prison, my soul, That I may give thanks unto thy Name,—About me, let the righteous gather round, for thou wilt deal bountifully with me." His prayer was an SOS, a May Day call for deliverance.

The prayer was received by Yahweh, and relayed to Yahshua, our deliverer, who said, "We may go over to the other side of the lake" (Lk. 8:22). To what length would Yahshua go to deliver one man? "What man from among you, having a hundred sheep, and losing, from among them, one, doth not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go his way after the lost one, until he find it? And, finding it, he lays it upon his shoulders, rejoicing; and, coming unto his house, calls together the friends and the neighbors, saying unto them—Rejoice with me! because I have found my sheep that was lost" (Lk 15:4-6)! The Great Shepherd of the sheep, Yahshua, went after his lost lamb that was in the mouth of the wolf.

Yahshua entered a boat and fell deeply asleep. "There cometh a great storm of wind (maybe a hurricane)...and they wake him up, and say to him, "Teacher, art thou not caring that we perish" (Mk 4:37,38). As Yahshua rebuked demons, he also rebuked the wind (Mt. 17:18, Mk 4:39). The storm, which made an attempt on their lives, would not stop the work of our Father. This was going to be a one-man operation but Yahshua brought his disciples along to witness the power, Yahweh his El, had given him. Yahshua had been tried and tested, by the adversary in the wilderness for forty days and forty nights and returned to civilization in the power of the spirit. The adversary was no match for the Son of Elohim.

As Yahshua arrived in Decapolis and left the boat, the naked demonized madman ran at him and his disciples. The onrush of the yelling maniac must have tried the confidence of the disciples. We can imagine their surprise when, approaching, he threw himself on his

knees. The demons knew they had no chance to harm the Anointed One. “And, when he went forth out of the boat, straightway, there met him, from amongst the tombs, a man, in an impure spirit: who had his dwelling among the tombs, and, not even with a chain, any longer, was anyone able to bind him,— because of his having been, many times, with fetters and chains, bound, and the chains having been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters smashed, and no one was mighty enough to tame him; and, continually, night and day, in the tombs and in the mountains, was he crying aloud, and cutting himself in pieces with stones” (Mk 5:2-5). The disciples probably stood behind Yahshua when the demonized man made his assault. This man’s appearance would have been quite a sight to behold; naked, bloody, screaming and strong. A legion (6,826) of impure spirits were abiding in the man of Decapolis, a spiritual strong-hold of wickedness.

(Choosing a life-style of spiritual wickedness is probably the reason the man was demonized. Demons pursue darkness but are repelled by the light. If we chose to live a life in darkness we could be inviting demons to abide in us. The man of Decapolis was responsible for his own nightmare. Many times we forge the chains that will binds us by the lifestyle we live. Nevertheless, Yahweh our loving Father will deliver us when we decide to walk in His light and call on His name.)

Yahshua did not speak to the man but spoke to the spirits. This deliverance was a struggle between Yahshua and the demons. In most Bible translations it appears that Yahshua spoke once and the demons left. This is not the case. Our Lord had repeatedly ordered the demon to come out of the man. “For he was **saying** to him—Go forth thou impure spirit, out of the man; and he was **questioning** him—What is thy name? and he said to him— Legion, is my name, because we are, many” (Mk 5:8,9). The word, saying and questioning, are in the progressive imperfect¹. Thus implying that the demons only responded after repeated saying and questioning. This spiritual battle was a major victory against spiritual wickedness. Yahshua prevailed against thousands of demons. The city people saw, “And they come unto Yahshua, and view the demonized man, clothed and of sound mind, him who had had the legion,—and they were struck with fear” (Mk. 5:15).

The people rejected Yahshua’ message of deliverance and asked him to leave. The life-threatening trip, across the waters, was for one man, the man of Decapolis. The man of Decapolis became a faithful servant and, “went away through all the city proclaiming how great things Yahshua did to him” (Lk 8:39). A similar story was the account of the man called Saul, who assented to the death of a disciple named Stephen and made threatening and slaughter to the disciples of the Lord (Acts 9:1). The deliverer sent was a disciple called Ananias, whom Yahshua sent to break Saul’s chains of darkness. Today, thousands of imprison souls are calling out to Yahweh for deliverance as also did the man of Decapolis. These are the lost of his fold. I was lost once, and cried out Ps. 142:5-7, as maybe you did. Yahweh answered my prayer by sending a disciple to my tomb, bearing

¹ The imperfect tense generally represents continual or repeated action.

the good news of deliverance. “How beautiful the feet of those proclaiming good tidings of peace, of those proclaiming good tidings of the good things” (Rm 10:15). In the area of Decapolis, one man cried out for deliverance and received it, while hundreds of others rejected the Son of Elohim, the touch of the Masters hand. Let us be sent to the lost and let the light of the glorious gospel of the Anointed Yahshua be unveiled. What is one soul worth to Our Shepherd? His life!