

SHUT UP AND GET OUT

by Jackson Morro

This article is the second chapter of a forthcoming book, JESUS THE LIBERATOR.

In 1 John 3:8, we read, “For this reason was the Son of God made manifest, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

We read in the Gospels that Jesus was manifested as the Son of God when He came to the Jordan River to be baptized by John the Baptist. As Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, anointing Him as the Messiah and anointing Him with God’s *dynamis* power. A Voice spoke from heaven saying, “This is My Beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased. At the River Jordan, the Son of God was made manifest.

Immediately, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness, where He fasted 40 days and nights. At the end of the fast, the devil himself, Satan, came to tempt Him. He tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread to feed Himself, and to throw Himself off the top of the Temple in Jerusalem and land on His feet so He could force people to believe in Him, and finally, the devil offered to turn the whole world system over to Jesus if he would just worship the devil once instead of being faithful to God the Father.

Jesus resisted all these temptations. He was victorious and cast the devil away from His presence. The bottom line in the wilderness was that the Son of God who had been made manifest at the Jordan River now began to destroy the works of the devil and that destruction of powers of darkness began with the victory in the wilderness.

In the Gospels, we read that very early in Jesus’ ministry, one of the first acts of His *dynamis* power occurred in a synagogue at Capernaum, where Jesus cast an unclean spirit out of a man.

Mark 1:23-28:

Just then there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, saying, “What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are – the Holy One of God!” And Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet, and come out of him!” Throwing him into convulsions, the unclean spirit cried out with a

loud voice and came out of him. They were all amazed, so that they debated among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."

Immediately the news about Him spread everywhere into all the surrounding district of Galilee.

We see that the unclean spirit in the man spoke out. The spirit was afraid of Jesus and was trying to distract Him. The very first thing Jesus told the demon to do was "be quiet," or "shut up." The actual words of Jesus translate "be muzzled" the way you would muzzle a destructive animal so that it could no longer bark or bite. Jesus silenced the demon's power of controlling speech, its power to say things to the possessed person and force him to do unclean things. Also, by muzzling the demon, He muzzled its ability to "bite" or inflict harm. The word demon means "tormentor." Jesus bound, or stopped its ability to inflict torment on that possessed person.

Then Jesus told the demon to "come out of him," or in other words, "Get out!" Jesus told the demon to "Shut up and get out!" The demon threw the person into a convulsion, cried out with a loud voice, and left. The man was free. This was the first, but not the last, manifestation of Jesus' deliverance ministry.

In the Gospels, we see Jesus using a consistent pattern for deliverance.

1. Jesus bound the tormentor's ability to do harm to the possessed person by telling it to "shut up," or "be muzzled." All spiritual reality is controlled by the power of the spoken word. We create or destroy by the words we speak.

Also, an unclean spirit controls the person it possesses by speaking words to a person's mind – words of destruction, fear, torment, death, hate or compulsion. By using His power and authority to silence the demon, Jesus eliminated its power to do any more harm.

2. Jesus commanded the unclean spirit to come out – to leave the person. The tormentor no longer had any right to possess or use that human being as a vessel for its own rebellious purposes. In Luke 4:18, Jesus said He had come to set the captives free. The heritage of God's children is that we need not be held captive by any evil or tormenting power or force. It's our right through Jesus Christ to be free – free to serve God in love and without fear.

3. The demon screamed on the way out. Perhaps it was a last ditch effort to cause confusion and fear and keep possession of the individual. But Jesus' word was too powerful – it left. This is an important lesson for us:

Don't be afraid of the devil's scream when he's on his way out – because that's all it is – a lot of noise that means nothing. When Jesus Christ brings freedom, deliverance, and forgiveness, don't listen to any scream of the devil that tries to tell you you're not really free, delivered, and forgiven. The truth is – Jesus the Liberator has set you free.

We see other instances of Jesus setting people free from demonic possession. For example, in Mark 5, Jesus confronted a highly self-destructive man who was possessed by numerous demons who gave their names as “Legion, for we are many.” The man lived in a graveyard, an area of death and corruption, and he exhibited superhuman strength so that no one could restrain him. He was self-destructive, crying out and gashing himself day and night. But when Jesus approached him, he ran up and bowed down before Him. The demons inside were afraid of Jesus – so they attempted to worship Him.

Remember, the demons were always afraid of Jesus. Jesus was never afraid of the demons.

Jesus commanded them to leave the man and they did. They entered a herd of about 2,000 pigs and the pigs ran over a cliff and drowned in the sea, so great was the suicidal and self-destructive power of these devils.

But Jesus the Liberator was mightier. It didn't matter how many demons or how strong they were – Jesus the Liberator was mightier. The demons trembled with fear and obeyed His command to “shut up and get out.” The people of the area were awestruck and frightened when they saw the man, clothed and in his right mind, sitting down near Jesus and talking to him.

There never was, is or will be any demon so strong that it can't be cast out by Jesus' power.

Furthermore, we see in Mark 7:7 that Jesus gave His apostles authority over unclean spirits and commissioned them to cast out these spirits. In Mark 16:17, Jesus stated that certain supernatural signs would follow all those who believe in Jesus as their Lord. The first sign would be that in the name of Jesus, His disciples would cast out demons.

These are two requirements for us to have authority over all the power of Satan:

1. Our lives must be submitted to God. “Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7) Our hearts, our minds, and the actions of our bodies must be submitted to obedience to God's way. When we do this, then we are fully and totally clothed and covered with the power and spiritual authority of Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. When we are submitted and covered, then we resist the devil and

he will run from us.

2. We come against all power of the devil by using the authority in the name of Jesus Christ. We read in Philippians 2:9-10 that the name of Jesus is the name above all names that causes every knee to bow, including all the demons'. There's power in the name itself. Mark 16:17 states that when Jesus' name is spoken in faith and power is turned loose, demons will be cast out, evicted, and people set free.

DO YOU need the freedom that only Jesus the Liberator can give? Jesus can set you free from any bondage of addiction, compulsion, witchcraft, lust, violence, or any demon power. Submit your life to God today, call upon the name of Jesus, receive Jesus' power in your life as He commands every devil to "shut up and get out," and you will walk in His freedom.