

Legion—What’s your name?

Mark 5:9, 15 *And he asked him, **What is thy name?** And he answered, saying, My name is **Legion**: for we are many. ¹⁵ And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the **legion**, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.*

Luke 8:30 *And Jesus asked him, saying, **What is thy name?** And he said, **Legion**: because many devils were entered into him.*

There has been a misunderstanding of these verses hence misuse and abuse. The way these passages have been applied is not consistent with the Word of God.

On many different occasions, Jesus cast out many demons from possessed individuals, but we have only one instance where He asked for the name of the demon(s). **This was not a model of how to deal with demons when casting them out.**

This was an exception for a very specific reason that many have missed. The emphasis was not on the name of the demons. Its name is not that relevant to us or to the Lord. Anyway, I doubt the evil spirit spoke the truth.

The point Jesus was making here was to tell us that there were many demons (legion) in this man whom we still have authority and power over. In other words, regardless of the quantity or size of the demons, we can cast them out in the name of Jesus who has given us His name, power, and authority to cast them out.

We do not have to name the demon before we can cast it out. It’s not biblically sound and you can’t use one verse to teach that it is. For whatever it is worth, it was an exception.

Why send the demons on the swine?

The Old Testament had forbidden the Jews from eating swine or touching their dead carcasses (Leviticus 11:7-8 and Deuteronomy 14:8). The practice of selling the swine by the

Jews was illegal and not according to the law which is why Jesus allowed the demons to enter the swine and self-destruct. These actions of Jesus were justified.

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