

## Doctrine of Unclean Spirits

### Luke 8:26-40

*“And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. 27 And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not. 29 (For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.) 30 And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him. 31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep. 32 And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them. 33 Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked. 34 When they that fed them saw what was done, they fled, and went and told it in the city and in the country. 35 Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid. 36 They also which saw it told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed. 37 Then the whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear: and he went up into the ship, and returned back again. 38 Now the man out of whom the devils were departed besought him that he might be with him: but Jesus sent him away, saying, 39 Return to thine own house, and shew how great things God hath done unto thee. And he went his way, and published throughout the whole city how great things Jesus had done unto him. 40 And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him.”*

1. The Bible has much to say about Satan and unclean spirits.
2. The unclean spirits are numerous. When Jesus asked the leading unclean Spirit for his name, the answer was given as *Legion*. The Spirit was boasting of the great numbers that were present in the soul of one person. In military terms, a legion could range anywhere from 6,000 soldiers to 12,500 soldiers—and the point is established: there are many soldiers in Satan’s army.
3. The unclean spirits are well organized. Ephesians 6:12. *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, [i.e. Satan] against spiritual wickedness in high [places].*

4. The Unclean spirits are ready for combat. In the spiritual warfare that rages every convert to Christ is caught up in the battle. 2 Timothy 2:3-4 *Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.* Satan and the unclean spirits are at war against vital holiness and inner happiness. They are at war against the gospel and against God. They are at war against moral integrity and personal, orderly conduct. A spiritual total war has been declared upon the saints.
5. The unclean spirits are committed to their cause. When it comes to evil, there is no division within the Kingdom of Darkness. Satan's army is not divided.
6. The unclean spirits are focused on evil. If they are forced to leave doing evil in one place, they will not rest until their behavior breaks out in another sphere of existence. If forced to exit the soul and no longer influence the natural depravity of the human heart, they will go to the swine—so we are not ignorant of Satan and his devices.