

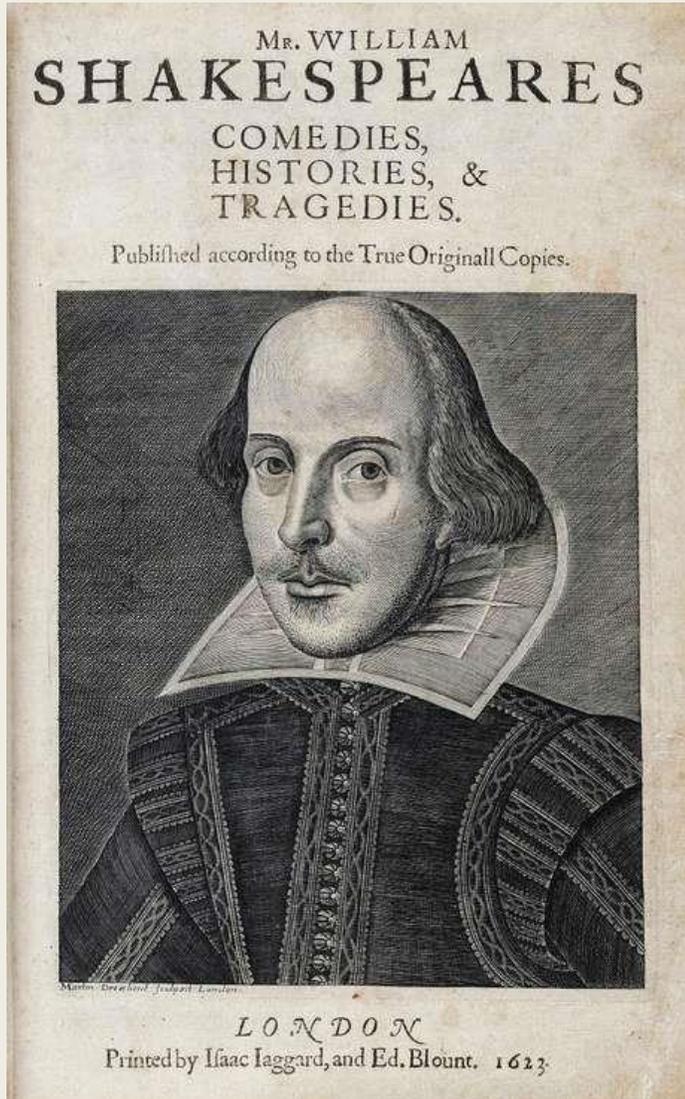


LESSONS FROM A MAD MAN

Mark 5:1-20

Youth Sunday, 29 July 2018

What makes good literature?



“Life’s but a walking shadow, a poor player
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.” - **Macbeth**



“To be, or not to
be, that is the
question”
- **Hamlet**

The Mad Man

*Observations from
Luke 8:26-27*

“had” → *echo*

- to hold one's self to a thing
- to cling to
- to be closely joined to a person or a thing

26 Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

27 When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who **had demons**. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs.

Living as a Mad Man

Observations from Mark 5:1-5

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.

² When Jesus got out of the boat, a man **with an impure spirit** came from the tombs to meet him. ³ This man **lived in the tombs**, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. ⁴ For **he had often been chained** hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. **No one was strong enough to subdue him.** ⁵ Night and day among the tombs and in the hills **he would cry out and cut himself with stones.**

Living as a Mad Man

The Irony

- He showed **signs of life**,
but was found **among the dead**.
- He seemed **unbound**,
but was **utterly possessed** by the spirit.

LESSON #1

Healing the mad man
requires a recognition of
the Lordship of Christ.

The Bystanders

Observations from Mark 5:14-15

phobeo

from which we get the English word 'phobia'

¹⁴ Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened.

¹⁵ When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were

overjoyed!

Living as a Bystander

Observations from Mark 5:16-17

¹⁶ Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. ¹⁷ Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.



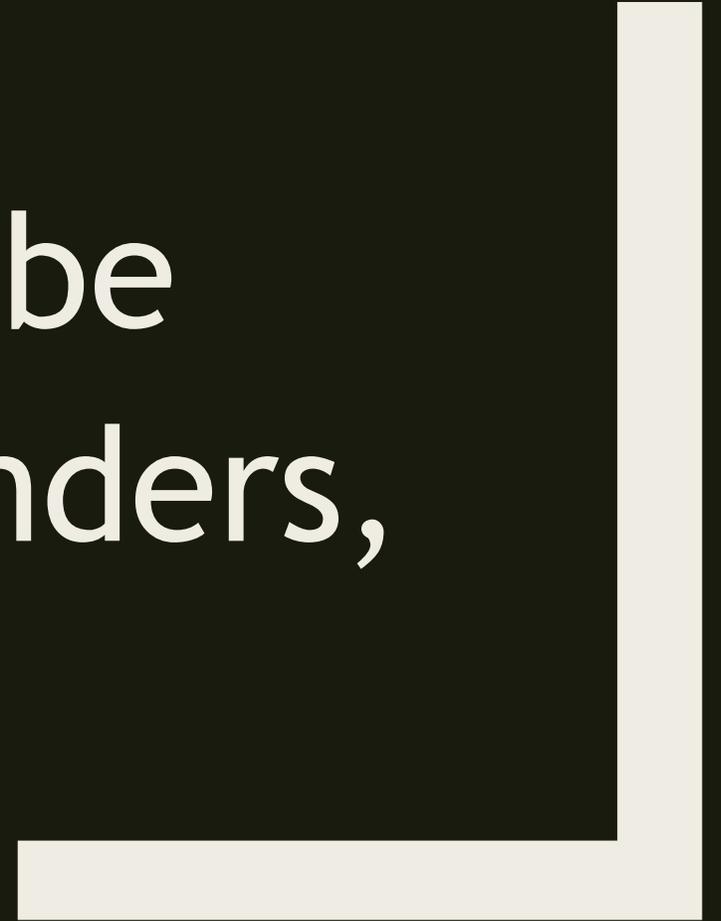
It was not about the man;

It was about the pigs.

THE DECAPOLIS

LESSON #2

We are called to be
partners, not bystanders,
in ministry.



The difference between . . .

A Bystander

- Looks at what God is doing.
- Cares about the things over the people.
- Is unwilling to bear the cost.

A Partner

- Participates in what God is doing.
- Cares about the people because that's what Jesus cares about.
- Understands the cost, but gladly offers it up as a sacrifice.

Living as a Follower

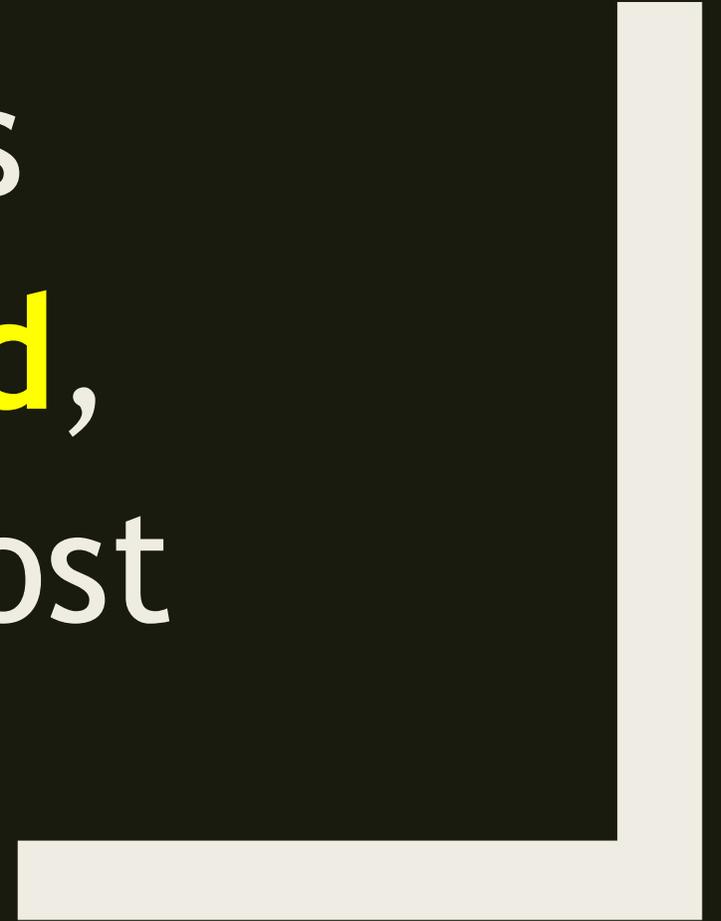
Observations from Mark 5:18-19

¹⁸ As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed **begged to go with him.** ¹⁹ **Jesus did not let him,** but said,

“Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.”

LESSON #3

A follower goes
where he is told,
not where it's most
convenient.



One life to live

How would you live it?



- Will you live with a recognition of the Lordship of Christ?
- Will you be a partner in the work that God is doing around you?
- Will you go where He tells you to?