

# “the way” series

## Mark Chapter 5:1-20

**Mark 5:1-20** (Jesus Restores a Demon-Possessed Man)

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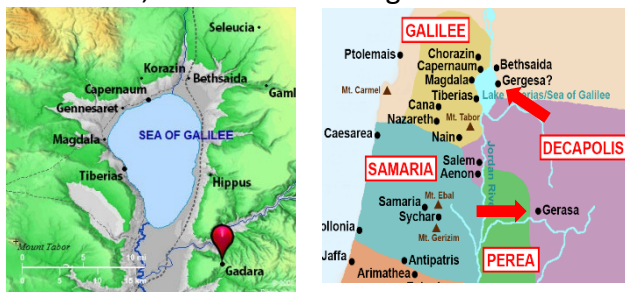
in the east shore of the sea of galilee that fits the steep hills down the shoreline that is described in the story where the pigs jump off the sea of galilee. (Reference: <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/Gerasa-Gerasenes>)

### Common Objections:

1. Contradiction on where the story happened
2. Mark & Luke’s account 1 demon-possessed man while Matthew accounts 2 demon-possessed men.

### Where did it happen?

- Gerasenes, Gadarenes or Gergesenes?



- Gadara – believed to be the one referred to as the region of the Gadarenes. It was a prominent city in Decapolis and due to the figure of ships in their coins, it is believed that its territory reached to the Sea of Galilee. (Reference: [bibleatlas.org/gadara.htm](http://bibleatlas.org/gadara.htm))
- Gerasa – believed to be the one referred to as the region of the Gerasenes. It was a subordinate town of Gadara. (Reference: [bibleatlas.org/gadara.htm](http://bibleatlas.org/gadara.htm))
- Gergesa – believed to be the one referred to as the region of Gergesenes. Most scholars today would agree that this story happened near Gergesa because this is the only area

### Mark & Luke (1 demon-possessed) vs. Matthew (2 demon-possessed)

- Differences in the eyewitness accounts of the same event is normal
- The gospel accounts were written for a purpose and different audience in mind and because of that the focus or emphasis for the stories were different.
- Matthew wanted to briefly emphasize the power of Jesus over a massive demonic presence.
- Mark & Luke may share Matthew’s interest but wanted to highlight the interaction between one of the demon-possessed man and Jesus and the reaction of the people in Decapolis that witness the event.

### Bottom Lines/What’s important

1. Jesus is who He claims to be. The evil spirits recognized him as the Son of God so we should also recognize and acknowledge His identity.
2. Jesus has power over the demons. So, no matter what the devil throws at us, we must be confident that Jesus has the power to deliver us. In fact, at the cross Jesus already defeated our enemy.

**HOMEWORK for next week:**

**1) Read Mark 5:21-43**

**2) Read also Luke 8:40-56 & Matthew 9:18-26**