

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON



Mrs. Lawrence

SUBJECT: Power Over Matter and Mind
March 21, 1982



Crystal Mobley (shown above) will be one of the lovely models who will show you spring glamor in clothing, hairstyling and make-up at the Cosmetologist Chapter No. 4 semi-formal Fashion Show 8 p.m. Saturday, March 20 at the Quality Inn Hotel. There will also be a banquet and dance.

Christian Education Convention

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The 8th Annual North Carolina Sunday School and Christian Education Convention will be held at Calvary Church, 5300 Sardis Road Friday evening and all day Saturday, March 26-27.

The Salvation Army Band of Charlotte will perform during the general session Friday night. Ventriquoist Ricky Hinson of Gainesville, Ga., will entertain at each general session and Rod Towes, an outstanding Christian educator from Ventura, California, will be the keynote speaker. Professional Christian educators from across the nation will present workshops for church staff working at all age levels. Pastors will enjoy a special Church Growth Seminar with Dr. Roland E. Griswold, a specialist in church growth.

Exhibitors from church related publishers and organizations will display their most recent products. Pre-registration of \$8 per person may be mailed to NCCSA, 1215 East 34th St., No. 6, Charlotte, N.C. 28205. Group rates of eight or more from a church are available. Registration at the door will be an additional \$2. For more information or a copy of the program, call 545-6161 or 545-5963.

NCCSA is an incorporated, non-profit organization with no denominational affiliation. Its Executive Board and Convention Committee are composed of people from many religious persuasions who were drawn together through a common interest in quality church education. Last year over 500 people from 17 religious bodies and 40 cities participated in the Convention.

EBENEZER BAPTIST
Chancel Choir of Ebenezer Baptist Church will celebrate their anniversary Sunday, March 21 at 5 p.m.

Rev. Moore and the congregation of New Hope Baptist Church will be guests.

Rev. A. B. Sutton is pastor of Ebenezer. Emma Wade is president of the Chancel Choir. Ebenezer Baptist is located at 733 E. Trade St. The public is cordially invited.

SECOND CALVARY
Rev. Lemar Foster, pastor of Second Calvary, the church choir and congregation will worship with St. Luke Baptist Church Sunday, March 21 at 3 p.m.

St. Luke members pastored by Rev. L. D. Parker are celebrating the Hymn Choir's anniversary. St. Luke is located at 1109 Rodey Ave.

Second Calvary is located at 114 Nelson Avenue.

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL

The Episcopal Expression of Marriage Encounter will hold a public information night at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 3601 Central Avenue, Saturday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m.

The Marriage Encounter Weekend will be described and explained at this time. For more information, call 536-4091.

NEW ZION BAPTIST
The Sunday School Department of New Zion Baptist Church, 217 West Todd Lane, will hold their An-

nual Program March 21 at 2 p.m.

Guest speaker will be Rev. Jeremiah Robinson, pastor of First Mayfield Baptist Church.

The public is cordially invited to attend. Rev. B. R. Robinson is pastor.

HOPEWELL AME
The Hopewell AME Zion Church family will hold their "Back To God" campaign March 22-26 at the church in Huntersville.

Each prayer service will begin nightly at 7.

There will be various speakers throughout the week including Rev. Donnie, Rev. Kent pastor of New Mowing Glade AME Zion who will speak Monday.

On Tuesday Rev. Retoy Gaston, pastor of Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church will deliver the message.

Rev. Ell Price, pastor of Zion Church will preach Wednesday while Dr. G. W. Thompson, pastor of Torrence Chapel AME Zion Church, will come forward on Thursday.

The pastor of Green Oak Missionary Baptist, Rev. M. N. Kelly, will preach on Friday.

On Sunday, March 28 the Church Rally will be held. Rev. J. W. Henderson, pastor of Weeping Willow AME Zion Church, will be the guest speaker at 4 p.m.

Rev. Henderson will be accompanied by his choir and congregation. Hopewell extends a cordial welcome to everyone to fellowship with them.

The church is located off Beatties Ford Rd. next to Beatties Ford Park Memorial Gardens in Huntersville. Rev. Walter Huggins Jr. is pastor.

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

The Christian Education Committee of First United Presbyterian will sponsor a communicant's class Saturday, March 20 from 9:30 a.m. until 12 noon.

The theme for all levels will be "what It Means To Be a Presbyterian."

Music by the Youth Choir, a film on the sacraments, an overview by Dr. Worsley and three mini-workshops will be included.

Julia Prince is the leader for the Young Adults. Geraldene Hill is leader for the children while Dr. Worsley will inform the adults.

The Health Committee will check blood pressures after Sunday service March 21. Members of this committee include Cleo Yongue, R.N., and chairperson of the committee, Dorothy Allison B.N., Alberta Davidson, R.N., Magnolia Worsley, R.N., Emma Flowe, R.N., Fannie Lindsay, R.N. and Madge Foster, L.P.N.

The Youth Choir of First United was invited to sing at the Women's Award Convocation Tuesday, March 16. The choir is under the direction of Delcia Harper and Mollie Houston.

Rev. Raymond Worsley is pastor of First United Presbyterian Church, located at 201 E. 7th Street.

CORINTHIAN MISSIONARY BAPTIST
Musical Programs will be held at Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church Sunday, March 28 at two

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Lesson
Exiled To The Cemetery
Delivered From A Legion
Frightened By A Man

Scripture
Mark 5:1-7
Mark 5:8-12
Mark 5:14-20

Background Scripture
Mark 4:34-41, Mark 5:20

LESSON BACKGROUND

The disciples were appalled by Jesus' power when He stilled the storm at sea. He suggested that they sail across to the other side of the lake on the evening of that same day. "So they left the crowd. The disciples got into the boat that Jesus was already in, and took Him with them. Other boats were there too." (TEV). (vs. 36). Jesus fell asleep, probably fatigued from His day's healings and teaching. During this time, a strong wind and high waves came, and almost submerged their boat. The disciples were afraid and awakened Him. They said, "teacher, don't you care that we are about to die?" Jesus then commanded the wind: "Be quiet!" and He said to the waves, "Be still!" The wind died down, and there was a great calm. (Mk. 4:38-39. TEV).

Who was this man? was the question the disciples began to ask themselves. They knew His name and hometown, but now they suspected that He was more than that. Jesus then asked the men, why they had not trusted God for their safety...This background is an appropriate introduction to Jesus' struggle with Satanic powers which awaits Him at Gadara, as seen in today's lesson.

LESSON EXPLAINED

When Jesus and His disciples reached the other side of the sea, they were met by a "man with an unclean spirit." He was the terror of the area, "exceedingly fierce so that no man might pass by that way." (Matt. 8:28). Luke says he wore no clothes. Because of demonic power, it was impossible to keep him restrained. So he roamed the hillsides, night and day moaning and self-inflicting himself with stones. (vss. 1-5).

Verses 6-7 tell us the man's reaction when he saw Jesus at a distance: He ran and "fell on his knees before Him and cried with a loud voice, acknowledging Jesus as Son of God. He begged Him not to torment him." Apparently his plea came as a result of Jesus' command to his spirit to come out of him.

Jesus then asked the man his name. The unclean spirit must have answered because he said, "my name is Legion: for we are many." A legion in the Roman army number six-thousand. The word "legion" was probably used here to indicate the presence of a much larger number. The fact is that Jesus was implying that there were more than one demon possessing this man. (vs. 9).

The meaning is unclear in verse 10; but Luke says, "and they, through their spokesman, besought Him that He would not command them to go out into the deep." This scripture seems to refer to that deep place where Satan and his hosts are "reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." (Jude 1:6).

The multi-demons begged that they be allowed to enter a herd of about 2,000 pigs that were feeding nearby. When Jesus gave His permission, the herd ran down a steep hill into the sea. (vss. 11-13).

Those who were attending the pigs, ran immediately to report to the owners what had happened. They came out to see for themselves: The pigs were gone, but Jesus was there with the man who had been possessed. They were frightened by a sane man, who, instead of running wild and naked, was clothed and sitting quietly. These owners were also afraid of Jesus who had just demonstrated supernatural power in their midst.

This lesson text ends with verse 15, but in order to get the whole story of what happened that day, one should read through verse 20.

CLOSING SUMMARY

This lesson has shown Jesus' fearlessness before a storm and a demoniac. Demons used him to terrorize the area around him. When Jesus met him, the demons forced him to beg for mercy, in order to avoid punishment. They were afraid of being sent to the 'deep,' a dark "abyss" where demons are reserved for judgment. Jesus gave them permission to enter into a herd of pigs. When they were (demons) expelled from him they ran into the sea. The owners of the herd were afraid of the sane man, because of a behavioral change in him.



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