**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. July 9, 2023**

**Jesus Exercises Authority Over Demons**

Matthew 8:28-34

**Key Truth:** Jesus has all authority and is not limited by Satan nor unbelief.

**The Dialogue With Demons:**

1. The demons knew what many people still refuse to believe

 about Jesus. Matthew 8:29

2. The demons know that judgment awaits them.

 Matthew 25:42, Revelation 20:10

3. The demons recognized and submitted to the authority of

 Jesus while the city rejected Him.

**The Reaction From Crowd**:

1. They rejected Jesus because they valued commerce over

 creation.

2. They ignored the declaration from the demons.

3. They rejected the testimony of the delivered man. Mark 5:14-16

**What Do We Learn:**

1. Jesus values human life above material possessions.

2. Jesus wants us to experience victory over the spiritual forces

 of darkness. 1 John 4:4

3. Jesus has rendered Satan and his demons powerless over

 those who trust Jesus for salvation. Ephesians 6:10-11,

 Colossians 2:15

4. Jesus delivers us from spiritual bondage, so that we become

 ambassadors of His goodness, grace, and mercy. Mark 5:18-20

5. Jesus doesn’t stay where He is not wanted nor welcomed.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank Jesus for delivering us from the spiritual forces of darkness. Ask Jesus to help you recognize and submit to His authority in all areas of your life.

**Food For Thought:**

Who is someone that has a great amount of authority over you? Have you responded well or poorly to that authority? Explain.

Would you say our response to authority figures reveals something about us? If so, what?

Why do you think Jesus chose to exercise His authority in this place where there was much unbelief and rejection of that authority?

How does knowing Jesus has authority over demons (and all things) encourage you specifically?

In Matthew 8, Jesus displayed absolute power over the forces of demons, illness, and death. What seemingly unconquerable forces in your life will you hand over to Jesus as your authority?

How would you describe the authority of Christ? In what situation(s) do you struggle to submit to His authority?

What are some signs that a person is submitting to Jesus’ authority in the world?