

## "JESUS CHRIST - A MAN APPROVED OF GOD (<u>Acts 2:22</u>)"

## Miracle #3 – Unclean devil in man in synagogue (Luke 4:33-36,37)

Christ's first two miracles occur **outside** of the synagogue ... miracles to the world you could say. This one addressed specifically to Israel.

1st miracle ... power over creation

2nd miracle ... power over **death** 

**3rd miracle** ... power over **devils** ... and a foretaste of Christ on the cross where Satan is defeated (<u>Romans 16:20</u>)

As we see, Christ had already astonished with his doctrine before this 3rd miracle, going right back to the time when he was twelve years old with the doctors in the temple (<u>Luke 2:42</u>, 46) ... about seventeen years earlier.

His first miracle establishes Christ as **creator** with power over material things, in changing the water into good wine, while his second shows his power over **death**.

His third, explained here, has Christ not only showing his **authority** in word and doctrine, but also **power** over devils (<u>Luke 4:36</u>). Christ was chalk and cheese from the scribes, as he spoke, not only with authority, but with power.

This third miracle is also drawing his Jewish hearers further to himself, **before he expounds his Sermon on the Mount with the kingdom of heaven doctrine**. In other words, he is laying a good platform through wonders, signs and miracles before explaining to them his purpose on earth.

The two accounts in Mark and Luke do not contradict, with the former having a single spirit of a devil, doing the talking. Luke's account makes it clear there is more than one of these spirits. Mark's account does not mention a devil, and so it is the spirit that tears the man.

Luke's account has the devil direct one of his spirits to do the tearing, but the devil leaves the man unhurt. Ah yes, the devil threw the man down in Luke's account, but a spirit tore him in Mark's account. A bit complicated, Dear Reader, but as always there are **no** contradictions in the King James Bible ... unlike other 'bibles' and their accounts.

Now this third miracle has to remind Israel, as Christ is now in the synagogue, that their history tells them that God also has power over devils, with the account in Isaiah of Lucifer saying his five "I wills" (Isaiah 14: 12-15).

Christ is on earth to demonstrate that Christ is God manifest in the flesh  $(\underline{1Timothy 3:16})$  and so re-enacts the demonstration of the power of God in the Old Testament.

Christ's fame spreads throughout the land with people saying "*What a word is this!"* (<u>Luke 4:36</u>) ... little knowing that Christ is **the word** not just **a word**.

Christ had created Lucifer, so it was nothing for Christ to have power over this devil, an underling of Lucifer, with a simple "...*Hold thy peace..."* (Luke 4:35).

Harley Hitchcock

It is by no accident that the power of Christ's miracles are displayed in this order ... creation, death, Satan.



Australian Bible Ministries, PO Box 5058 Mt. Gravatt East 4122 Qld, Australia www.AustralianBibleMinistries.com