
The Giant Slayers, Part II (These Giants Ain't Normal)

Vision in The Land of Giants

Pastor Wil Nichols

August 29, 2021

Victorious Praise Fellowship Church of God in Christ

2116 Page Rd. Durham NC 27703

WEBSITE: www.VictoriousPraise.org

EMAIL: PastorWil@VictoriousPraise.org, Info@VictoriousPraise.org

PHONE: (919) 957-7500

Sermon: Vision in The Land of Giants: The Giant Slayers, Part II (These Giants Ain't Normal)

Lesson Text

Mark 5:1–9 (AV)¹ And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. ² And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, ³ Who had *his* dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: ⁴ Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any *man* tame him. ⁵ And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. ⁶ But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, ⁷ And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, *thou* Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. ⁸ For he said unto him, **Come out of the man, *thou* unclean spirit.** ⁹ And he asked him, **What is thy name?** And he answered, saying, My name *is* Legion: for we are many.

Ephesians 6:10–12 (AV)¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Introduction

Last week we began to look at Giants from the perspective of their size.

- 1 Samuel 17: ⁴ And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height *was* six cubits and a span. **(9 feet and 9 inches)**
- 1 Samuel 17: ²⁶ ... **for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?**
- Defeating The Spirit of Intimidation, The Spirit of Fear, and the Spirit of Defiance

Now we want to look at giants from the perspective of overwhelming numbers.

Mark 5: ⁹ And he asked him, **What is thy name?** ... My name *is* Legion: for we are many.

The demon's name, **Legion**, stresses numerous spirits involved. A Roman legion, a division of the Roman army, consisted of over six thousand soldiers.

Luke 11: ²⁴ **When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out.** ²⁵ **And when he cometh, he findeth *it* swept and garnished.** ²⁶ **Then goeth he, and taketh *to him* seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first.**

One unclean spirit becomes 7, then 49, next 343, then 2401, and before you know it, Legion!

The Apostle Paul's answer to these Giants was to first recognize that they were not normal or natural, and that we were not to use normal or natural means to deal with them.

In our lesson text, Paul says, we are not dealing with "Flesh and Blood," so stop acting like it.

We've got to stop showing up to a gunfight with a butter knife. These things we are fighting are not normal, so stop using normal means to deal with them.

2 Corinthians 10: ⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

If we are going to Slay the Giants of Principalities, Power, Rulers of Darkness, and Spiritual Wickedness, we have to stop using our human reasoning, human strength, human abilities and start using our God.

Series and Sermon: Vision in The Land of Giants: The Giant Slayers, Part II (These Giants Ain't Normal)

"The Giants of Principalities, Powers, Rulers of Darkness, and Spiritual Wickedness"

I. Giant Principalities (Territorial)

Ephesians 6: ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but ***against principalities***, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Principalities refer to the high-ranking hierarchy of demonic authority. They represent the generals of Satan's army in charge of territories. These are the territorial spirits.

One of the first promises that God gave Israel was territory. But giants had already claimed it.

Deuteronomy 11: ²⁴ Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

Anytime you enter into a new relationship, a new job or career, a new neighborhood, or a new ministry; there will always be someone already there that will feel threatened by you because they feel you are invading their territory.

Territorial spirits overwhelm you until you leave the territory God has said was yours.

People leave marriages because of territorial in-laws; they leave jobs and careers because of territorial employees; they leave churches and ministries because of intimidated members.

The answer is we must never allow Giant Principalities to cause us to leave our promise.

Romans 8: ³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, ³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

II. Giant Powers (Personal Attacks)

Ephesians 6: ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, **against powers**, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Powers are the foot soldiers in Satan's spiritual army of demons. They are the most numerous representing about 90% of the six thousand in the legion guard.

Powers are personal attack demons that cause us to attack those that are the closest to us.

Psalms 41: ⁹ Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me.

Luke 22: ⁴⁸ But Jesus said unto him, Judas, **betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?**

Some of the worst hurt we experience is from hurt and pain that comes from those closest to us. This is where we experience betrayal, unfaithfulness, infidelity, disloyalty, or treachery.

They know us the best, they know our hurts and pains, we allow them into our intimacy.

The answer is to not take it personally even though it feels personally.

1 Samuel 8: ⁷ And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

Stop being a victim of another person's weakness; stop being a victim of another person's failure. They were the ones that were too weak, they were the ones that failed.

Stop being a victim and become a victor.

1 Corinthians 15: ⁵⁷ But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 8: ³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

III. Giant Rulers (Temptations)

Ephesians 6: ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, **against the rulers** of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

The Rulers of the Darkness of this world are the demons that tempt us away from the path that God has planned for our lives.

1 John 2:16 (AV) ¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

As they did Jesus in Luke the 4th chapter, they tempt our flesh down the path of regret, they tempt our eyes down the path of fear, and they tempt our pride down the path of destruction.

With Jesus as the author and finisher of our faith we overcome our flesh by living by the Word of God; we overcome our eyes by worshipping God and walking by faith and not by sight; and finally we must not tempt the Lord our God.

Matthew 6:13 (AV)¹³ **And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

Psalms 119: ¹³³ Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Proverbs 3:⁵ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

⁶ In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

IV. Giant Wickedness (Religion)

Ephesians 6: ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, **against spiritual wickedness** in high places.

The final set of demon giants we have to deal with are spirits assigned to religion and churches. This conflict is in the heavenlies where those in Christ live.

The enemy has infiltrated the church and religion with Giants; Spiritual Wickedness in High Places, in Churches, in Ministries, in leadership, in preachers, in pastors, in church folks.

But we cannot be deterred because of the Giants.

- Don't Leave Your Territory because of Territorial Giants
- Don't Leave Your Home and Loved ones because of Personal Attack Giants
- Don't Leave Your Path because of Rulers of Temptation Giants
- And Don't Leave Your Church and Ministry because of Religious Giants

Matthew 16:18–19 (AV)¹⁸ **And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**

2 Timothy 4: ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; ... ⁵ But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

Luke 10:19 (AV)¹⁹ **Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.**

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Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: The Giant Slayers, Part II (These Giants Ain't Normal))

Lesson Text

- Mark 5:1–9, Ephesians 6:10–12

Sermon Outline (Notes)

I. *Giant Principalities (Territorial)*

II. *Giant Powers (Personal Attacks)*

III. *Giant Rulers (Temptations)*

IV. *Giant Wickedness (Religion)*

Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday's Sermon?)

I. Getting to Know "Me"

1. If you could choose any age to be the rest of your life, which would it be? a) younger than 10; b) 10-20; c) 20-30; d) 30-50; e) 50-70.
2. How far have you come today: a) I'm joining virtually; b) Less than 10 miles; c) 10-50 miles; d) 50-100 miles.

II. Into the Bible

1. The book of Mark often spotlights the struggle between Jesus and Satan. Compare and contrast Satan's goal for the demoniac with Jesus' goal for the demoniac.
2. As Christians, we are often frowned upon if we appear to associate with or interact with non-believers. In the lesson text, Jesus and His disciples were definitely rebelling against the Jewish law. They were in Gentile territory, in a cemetery, with swine present. What can we learn from Jesus' ministry here that we can incorporate in our own ministry? What's more important, the appearance or the person?

III. Life Application

1. In light of the sermon, what would you do if you felt someone in your workplace wanted you out because you are a threat to them?
2. Using what you learned from the sermon, advise a person how they should respond to being betrayed by their closest friend.