

Rev. Thomas Emery
“Demonic Power Encounters” Mark 1:21-28
Salem Presbyterian Church
Sunday, February 1, 2015

In our passage, Jesus was teaching as having authority in a synagogue in Capernaum. Suddenly in one of the listeners, a demon manifested itself to confront Jesus. He cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." Jesus calmly told the spirit to be quiet and to come out of the man. People were shocked that even the demons had to obey Jesus. They witnessed two kingdoms in conflict in a power encounter. The kingdom of God is taking ground from the kingdom of Satan, and Jesus showed that the kingdom of God is more powerful.

TEACHING POINTS

Teaching Point One: *The kingdom of God is invading the kingdom of Satan taking back territory from Satan.*

Teaching Point Two: *By keeping the commands of Jesus, we show to which kingdom we belong.* John 14:15 in the words of Jesus, “If you love me, obey my commandments.”

Teaching Point Three: *As a Christian, you are empowered to do battle with Satan, not in your own power, but in Jesus' Name and authority.*

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

²⁵ Jesus cut him short. “Be quiet! Come out of the man,” he ordered. ²⁶ At that, the evil spirit screamed, threw the man into a convulsion, and then came out of him (Mark 1:25-26 NLT).

ACTION POINT

We should not be worried about attacks from Satan because: "...the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world (1 John 4:4 NLT). Yet, Satan makes us feel powerless and confused. Ephesians 6:12 tells us: “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.” As a child of God, you have been given spiritual authority, and God expects you to use it to build his kingdom.