

The Place of Restoration

... and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind ...

Luke 8:35

Currently, there is a promotion of information about mental health. There seems to be an increase in the instability of people in our world. Fear-mongering in social media, drugs, fractured family structures, civil unrest, and divisive politics could be a few of the contributing factors. In these stressful and uncertain times, it is important to find a quiet place of solitude to experience peace and refocus the mind on eternal things that are unaffected by things of this world.

Like many people today, the maniacal Gadarene was a tormented and troubled soul. The text does not give us any details of how he became so possessed by many devils, but this individual was most likely given over to the idolatrous practices of the times. Whatever the case, the maniac's condition had dominated his life. Controlled by a tormented mind that was set on self-inflicted harm and an obsession with the dead, the maniac resisted and overcame all attempts to tame him. Only One could penetrate the dark cloud that enveloped him- Jesus, the Light of the World. After our Lord cast out the maniac's demons, we find this troubled soul restored, at peace, and sitting at the feet of his Deliverer. Spiritually made new, the maniac then goes about proclaiming what great things Jesus had done unto him. On the heels of this account, we find Jairus, the ruler of a synagogue, falling at the feet of Jesus pleading for the life of his dying daughter. Troubled with an overwhelming burden, like the maniac, Jairus also finds relief for his daughter and himself at the feet of the Giver of Life and Great Burden Bearer, Jesus.

Through the course of this life, every one of us will encounter trouble of varying degrees. These trials can spawn a plethora of emotions that can consume our thoughts and lives. As believers, we know and trust that God is working out His plan; yet when we are in the midst of trials, it seems difficult to dismiss fearful thoughts. The devil, the great tormenter and enemy of our soul, delights to oppress us in times of testing. We must remember and be resolved to place ourselves at the feet of Jesus. It is at His feet that we can be liberated to worship! It is there that we pray, and it is there that we praise. His feet are those that trod this troubled world to be the Savior and Good Shepherd for all. It is there that as sinners we can find eternal life, and as believers, we can refocus and find our faith and peace restored. Take time to go there often; take time to go there today! J. Ekis