

Two Men Delivered

Matthew 8:18-34

by Don Falkos

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A man approached Jesus and said, "I'm going to follow you wherever you go."

Jesus replied, "Even foxes and birds have homes, but the Son of Man has no place to call his own."

Another man said, "Let me wait until after my father passes away, then I'll follow you."

But Jesus told him, "Follow me now. Let those who are spiritually dead see to the remains of those who are physically dead."

Then Jesus and his disciples got into a boat and set out for the other side of the Sea of Galilee. A storm blew up. The waves crashed over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples woke him up saying, "Lord, save us! We're about to drown."

Jesus said, "Why are you afraid? Where is your faith?" He stood up and spoke to the storm. Suddenly there was a great calm.

The disciples were amazed, "Who is this man? He commands the wind and the water, and they obey him."

When Jesus arrived on the other side, the Gentile side, of the Sea of Galilee he was met by two men who were possessed by evil spirits. They screamed at Jesus, "What do you want with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torture us before God's appointed time?"

There was a herd of pigs feeding nearby. The evil spirits pleaded, "If you drive us out, send us into that herd of pigs."

Jesus said, "Go!"

The evil spirits came out of the men and went into the pigs. The entire herd ran down the slope into the sea and drowned. Those who had been tending the pigs ran back to town and told everyone what had happened. The whole town went out to see Jesus, and they begged him to leave.