

LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR HAS
COME, WEEK 25

TITLE: THE AMAZING AUTHORITY AND POWER
OF JESUS

TEXT: LUKE 4:31-37

INTRODUCTION: (1) DEMONISM IS NEITHER
PHONY NOR FUNNY. IT IS REAL.

*** C. S. LEWIS SAID AND I QUOTE: "THERE ARE
TWO EQUAL AND OPPOSITE ERRORS INTO
WHICH OUR RACE CAN FALL ABOUT THE DEVILS
(DEMONS). ONE IS TO DISBELIEVE IN THEIR
EXISTENCE. THE OTHER IS TO BELIEVE, AND TO
FEEL AN EXCESSIVE AND UNHEALTHY INTEREST
IN THEM.**

**** THEY THEMSELVES ARE EQUALLY PLEASED BY
BOTH ERRORS AND HAIL A MATERIALIST OR A
MAGICIAN WITH THE SAME DELIGHT." (END
QUOTE)**

*** NOW LEWIS WAS TALKING ABOUT EXTREMES, PERVERSION OR PREOCCUPATION. THE PERVERSION THAT DEMONS DO NOT EXIST, AND THE PREOCCUPATION, THAT THERE IS A DEMON BEHIND EVERY PROBLEM, A DEMON UNDER EVERY ROCK PER SE.

**** **AND DEMONS REALLY DON'T CARE ON** WHICH EXTREMES PEOPLE LAND, AS LONG AS A PERSONS BELIEF ABOUT THEM IS NOT BIBLICAL.

(2) AND IN THE BIBLE THERE IS NO CONFUSION ABOUT SATAN, WHO HE IS, AND HIS DEMON HOSTS.

* THE BIBLE REVEALS CLEARLY THEIR ORIGIN, THEIR PRESENT WORK AND FUTURE.

** THEIR ORIGIN? WELL, ORIGINALLY SATAN AND DEMONS WERE HOLY ANGELS, SATAN WAS THE ANOINTED CHERUB, AS SATAN LUCIFER WAS THE HIGHEST RANKING MEMBER OF ALL OF THEM.

*** AND THEY LIVED IN GLORY IN HEAVEN WHERE THEY WORSHIPPED AND SERVED GOD.

**** HOWEVER, THROUGH PRIDE AND WANTING TO BE EXALTED ON THE SAME LEVEL AS GOD, SATAN REBELLED AGAINST GOD, RECORDED IN EZEKIEL 28:12-16 AND ISAIAH 14:12-14, AND ONE THIRD OF THE ANGELS JOINED SATAN IN HIS ATTEMPTED REBELLION ACCORDING TO REVELATION 12:3-4.

(3) AS A RESULT OF THEIR REBELLION, THE ANGELS WERE CAST OUT OF HEAVEN ALONG WITH SATAN ACCORDING TO LUKE 10:18, THOUGH AT LEAST SATAN IS STILL GRANTED ACCESS TO IT ACCORDING TO JOB 1:6 AND JOB 2:1.

* BUT ONE DAY IN THE TRIBULATION HOUR ACCORDING TO REVELATION 12:7-9, SATAN AND THE DEMONS WILL BE PERMANENTLY CAST OUT OF HEAVEN.

** NOW WHAT IS THEIR PRESENT ACTIVITY?
WELL, DEMONS, EVIL SPIRITS, OPERATE IN OUR
WORLD TO TRY TO ACHIEVE THE PURPOSES OF
SATAN IN OPPOSITION TO THE PURPOSES OF
GOD.

*** THEY ARE BEHIND THE PRESENT FALLEN EVIL
WORLD SYSTEM THAT DOMINATES THE LIVES OF
NON-CHRISTIANS.

**** FOR IN JOHN 8:44, OUR LORD DECLARED
THAT ALL NON-CHRISTIANS-UNBELIEVERS ARE
CHILDREN OF SATAN, NOT OF GOD.

(4) BEYOND THAT, THE UNBELIEVING WORLD IS
IN SATAN'S POWER IN EPHESIANS 2:1&2 AND
"THAT THE WHOLE WORLD LIES IN THE POWER
OF THE EVIL ONE," IN I JOHN 5:19.

* SATAN IS CALLED THE GOD OF THIS WORLD IN
II CORINTHIANS 4:4, WHO BLINDS UNBELIEVERS
ACCORDING TO II CORINTHIANS 4:4 AND LEADS
PEOPLE INTO DECEPTION IN II CORINTHIANS
11:13-15.

** THEREFORE SATAN AND DEMONS ARE NEITHER PHONY NOR FUNNY. THEY ARE REAL!

*** AND IN OUR TEXT TODAY, LUKE IN HIS GOSPEL RECORDS THE FIRST MIRACLE IN HIS NARRATIVE, AND IT IS JESUS CASTING OUT A DEMON OUT OF A MAN IN THE CAPERNAUM SYNAGOGUE ON A SABBATH.

**** **SO CHRIST'S FIRST MIRACLE IN LUKE IS** JESUS DEALING WITH A REAL DEMON, AN EVIL SPIRIT IN THE SYNAGOGUE THAT HE CAST OUT. DEMONS ARE REAL.

(5) WITH THAT SAID, WHY DOES LUKE RECORD THIS MIRACLE AS HIS FIRST?

* WELL, STARTING WITH OUR TEXT TODAY, LUKE INTRODUCES A NEW THEME IN HIS GOSPEL.

** FOR UP TO THIS POINT, LUKE HAS BEEN SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE PERSON OF CHRIST PRESENTING HIS MESSIANIC CREDENTIALS, THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST.

*** HOWEVER, STARTING WITH LUKE 4:31 AND RUNNING THROUGH CHAPTER 5, LUKE FOCUSES **ON JESUS' POWER OVER EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING**, INCLUDING DEMONS, RELIGION, DISEASE, NATURE, ETC.

**** HENCE, LUKE BEGINS IN LUKE 4:31 DISCUSSING **JESUS CHRIST'S POWER OVER DEMONS** TO SHOW THAT HE CAN BREAK **SATAN'S** AND DEMONS POWER OVER THE SOULS OF PEOPLE TO FREE THEM FROM THE KINGDOM AND AUTHORITY OF SATAN TO TRANSFER THEM, **TO SAVE THEM AND PUT THEM UNDER GOD'S RULE, GOD'S AUTHORITY AND CHRIST'S KINGDOM.**

(6) AND IT IS THAT POWER OVER DEMONS THAT OUR LORD STARTS TO DEMONSTRATE IN OUR **PASSAGE TODAY, WHICH I'VE TITLED, "THE AMAZING AUTHORITY AND POWER OF JESUS."**

*** NOW UNDER THAT THEME WE'LL LOOK AT 3 POINTS TODAY IN LUKE 4:31-37. NO. 1 THE AMAZEMENT OF THOSE IN THE CAPERNAUM **SYNAGOGUE OVER JESUS' TEACHING, VV. 31&32;** NO. 2 THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY A DEMON TO WHOM JESUS IS, IN THE SYNAGOGUE THAT DAY, VV. 33&34; AND NO. 3 THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS TO CAST A DEMON OUT OF THE MAN HE POSSESSED BY A WORD, VV. 35-37.**

**** AND THOSE 3 POINTS WILL BE OUT OUTLINE TO HELP US UNDERSTAND OUR TEXT FOR **TODAY. AND WITH THAT BEFORE US, LET'S** BEGIN BY LOOKING AT POINT NO. 1, THE AMAZEMENT, LOOK AT V. 31 PLEASE.**

I. THE AMAZEMENT, (READ V. 31)

A. NOW JESUS LEFT HIS HOMETOWN OF NAZARETH IN GALILEE WHEN THEY REJECTED HIM AND ACTUALLY TRIED TO KILL HIM AS WE LEARNED LAST WEEK.

* AND JESUS COMES DOWN TO CAPERNAUM, ANOTHER CITY OF GALILEE.

** AND LIT. JESUS CAME DOWN TO CAPERNAUM FOR NAZARETH WAS IN THE HILLS AT AN ELEVATION OF 1,150 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL TO CAPERNAUM WHICH WAS 680 FEET BELOW SEA LEVEL BY THE SEA OF GALILEE, ABOUT 20 MILES NORTH OF NAZARETH ON THE NORTHWEST SHORE OF THE SEA OF GALILEE.

*** AND BEING ON THE SEA OF GALILEE IT WAS **A FISHING TOWN AND BECAME JESUS' HOME** BASE FOR MINISTRY IN GALILEE.

**** WELL, AS JESUS ARRIVES THERE, HE DOES WHAT HIS CUSTOM WAS. HE GOES TO SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH, NO DOUBT TO REACH OUT TO HIS PEOPLE THE JEWS WITH THE GOSPEL, BUT ALSO BECAUSE CORPORATE WORSHIP WAS A PRIORITY FOR HIM ON THE SABBATH.

1. FOR IF YOU RECALL FROM LUKE 4:16, LUKE **WAS INSPIRED TO SAY: "AND HE CAME TO NAZARETH, WHERE HE HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP; AND AS WAS HIS CUSTOM, HE ENTERED THE SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH, AND STOOD UP TO READ."**

* NOW THE PATTERN OF JESUS WAS TO GO TO SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH, THAT WHAT WAS NORMAL FOR HIM, AND THE QUESTION IN APPLICATION AGAIN IS, IS THAT NORMAL, THE PRIORITY FOR YOU AS A CHRISTIAN ON THE **LORD'S DAY?**

** AND TO BE TRANSPARENT, I HAVE SEEN A BIG DECLINE OF THAT IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY ARE CHRISTIANS OVER THE YEARS.

*** AND PEOPLE RATIONALIZE TO STAY AT HOME, AND THINK ASSEMBLING IS OPTIONAL OR WHEN IT IS CONVENIENT OR WORKS OUT, OR **WHEN I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO DO.** AND FOR SOME PEOPLE THEY ARE LOOKING FOR AN EXCUSE TO STAY HOME OR DO SOMETHING ELSE.

**** **BUT OUR PERFECT HOLY SAVIOR'S CUSTOM,** HABIT, PATTERN, PRIORITY WAS TO GATHER AT THE SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH, AND SHAME **ON YOU IF IT'S NOT ON THE LORD'S DAY AS A** QUOTE FOLLOWER OF JESUS, HEBREWS 10:25 (WE NEED IT).

2. AND DON'T ALLOW ANYTHING TO BECOME A SUBSTITUTE FOR THAT, IT IS A MATTER OF OBEDIENCE. QUOTE ACTS 20:7, I CORINTHIANS **16:1&2. EVERY LORD'S DAY WAS A** CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION AND A TIME OF CORPORATE GATHERING. ALSO QUOTE ACTS 2:42. (ISOLATION AND BEING UNACCOUNTABLE IS NEVER FOUND IN THE N.T.).

* BELOVED MAY IT BE A PRIORITY AND JOY IN OUR LIVES.

** WELL, JESUS GOES TO THE SYNAGOGUE AGAIN, AND HE WILL TEACH AGAIN AS HE DID IN NAZARETH, AS HE DID IN THE SYNAGOGUE IN GALILEE IN LUKE 4:14, AND THE END OF THIS CHAPTER IN V. 44, PREACHING IN THE SYNAGOGUES.

*** LOOK AT V. 32 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 32. NOW AS JESUS TAUGHT IN THE SYNAGOGUE THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED.

* AND THE GREEK WORD AMAZED IS A DIFFERENT GREEK WORD FOUND IN V. 36 TRANSLATED AMAZEMENT.

** FOR HERE IN V. 32 IT MEANS ASTONISHED, IT HAS TO DO WITH SHOCK. IT MEANS TO STRIKE WITH PANIC OR SHOCK, THEY WERE STRUCK WITH AMAZEMENT - THUNDERSTRUCK IN THEIR **SOULS. JESUS' TEACHING PACKED A POWERFUL PUNCH!**

*** PEOPLE LISTENING TO JESUS THAT DAY WERE DUMBFUNDED, LIT. "STRUCK OUT OF THEMSELVES," AS IT WERE, "OUT OF THEIR SENSES" IN AMAZEMENT OR WONDER. TO USE THE VERNACULAR OF OUR DAY, THEY WERE "BLOWN AWAY!"

**** NOW WHY? WELL, V. 32 ANSWERS THAT FOR US, "HIS MESSAGE WAS WITH AUTHORITY."

1. AND WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? WELL, ALL THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW BEFORE THIS AND ALL BIBLE TEACHERS SINCE THEN SPEAK WITH DELEGATED AUTHORITY.

* IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE NOT THE AUTHORITY, WHAT WE SPEAK IS THE AUTHORITY, THE WORD OF GOD, THE BIBLE.

** WE HAVE NO AUTHORITY, IT IS DERIVED FROM OUR AUTHORITY. SO WE QUOTE OTHER TEACHERS TO HELP US COMMUNICATE THE WORD OF GOD OUR AUTHORITY.

***** AND THE RABBIS OF JESUS' DAY WERE ALWAYS QUOTING ANOTHER RABBI, ANOTHER SCHOLAR, ANOTHER TEACHER, THERE WAS A CHAIN OF TRADITION PASSED DOWN IN INTERPRETING THE LAW WHICH IN JESUS' DAY WAS NOT A VERY GOOD INTERPRETATION.**

**** THEIR THEOLOGY BECAME SECOND HAND, NOT DERIVED FROM SCRIPTURE.

2. IN FACT, IN THE WORDS OF ONE ANOINTED **RABBI, "I HAVE NEVER IN MY LIFE SAID A THING WHICH I DID NOT HEAR FROM MY TEACHERS."**

* AND THIS WAS COMMON, THEIR AUTHORITY WAS THE LAW, MIXED WITH TRADITION, QUOTING AN ESTEEMED RABBI. SO IT WAS SECOND HAND THEOLOGY, A CHAIN OF REFERENCES, QUOTES FROM OTHERS, NOT SOLA SCRIPTURA.

** BUT NOT WITH JESUS. HE QUOTES NO ONE, **HE GAVE OUT GOD'S WORD. HE DID NOT JUST TEACH GOD'S WORD; HE WAS GOD. SO WHEN HE** TAUGHT AND PREACHED, WHAT HE SAID WAS THE VERY WORD OF GOD, IN ALL ITS ALMIGHTY AUTHORITY. HE SPOKE THE MIND OF HIS FATHER, REVEALED IN THE HOLY WRIT.

*** SO JESUS TAUGHT DIRECTLY FROM **SCRIPTURE, HE DIDN'T APPEAL TO TRADITION,** HE SPOKE THE TEXT, WHAT WAS GOD **BREATHED, HE LIFTED UP GOD'S WORD AND** PEOPLE WERE AMAZED FOR THEY WERE NOT USED TO THAT.

**** AND SADLY, A LOT OF PEOPLE IN CHURCHES TODAY ARE NOT USED TO THAT. FOR THEY **DON'T HEAR GOD'S WORDS ON SUNDAYS, BUT** OPINIONS, POLITICS, PERSONAL VIEWS, WHAT IS CULTURALLY RELEVANT, AND HEAR EVERYTHING BUT THE WORD, FOR IN THEIR EYES, THE WORD IS NOT SUFFICIENT NOR RELEVANT.

3. OR WHEN THEY DO HEAR IT, IT IS NOT AUTHORITATIVE, IT IS WATERED DOWN, AND NOT AN **EXPOSITION OF GOD'S WORD, BUT A** SHORT SERMONETTE, THAT TALKS ABOUT THE **WORD, BUT DOESN'T EXALT THE WORD.**

* AND BIBLICAL PREACHING AND TEACHING IS VERY SIMPLE, IT IS PREACH THE WORD IN II TIMOTHY 4:2, IT IS READ IT, EXPLAIN IT AND APPLY IT, I TIMOTHY 4:13. IT IS TAKING HEED TO THE TEACHING, THE DOCTRINE, IN I TIMOTHY 4:16. (ALSO TITUS 2:15).

** AND DOING THAT IS AN AMAZING EXERCISE, WHETHER PEOPLE THINK IT IS OR NOT. AND PEOPLE WERE AMAZED **AT JESUS' TEACHING.**

*** BUT GET THIS, IN THE SYNAGOGUE THAT DAY, THERE WAS A MAN POSSESSED BY A DEMON AND HE SPEAKS OUT, IT APPEARS AS JESUS IS TEACHING WITH AUTHORITY, AND HE WILL ACKNOWLEDGE WHO JESUS IS, AND **CHRIST'S AUTHORITY, LOOK AT V. 33 PLEASE** WHERE **WE'LL START TO SEE OUR 2'D POINT** TODAY, THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

II. THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, (READ V. 33)

A. NOW THERE WAS A MAN THAT DAY IN THE SYNAGOGUE THAT WAS POSSESSED, LIT. INDWELT BY AN UNCLEAN DEMON.

* AND THAT LUKE DESCRIBES THE DEMON AS UNCLEAN DOES NOT INDICATE THAT HE WAS AN ESPECIALLY EVIL DEMON, FOR ALL DEMONS ARE UNCLEAN SPIRITS.

**** WELL, CHRIST'S POWERFUL TEACHING AND MESSAGE UNNERVED THIS PARTICULAR DEMON, FOR HE WAS HEARING TRUTH WITH AUTHORITY, WHICH POSSIBLY IN THE PAST, HE HAD NOT, BUT THIS TRIP TO THE SYNAGOGUE WAS DIFFERENT. THE DEMON IS NERVOUS, IS IN FEAR BY THE PRESENCE OF JESUS.**

*** FOR THE DEMON CRIES OUT. AND THE **WORDS "CRY OUT WITH A LOUD VOICE" MEAN AN EXCLAMATION, TO SCREAM IN DISMAY, IN FEAR, AND IN TERROR, JAMES 2:19.**

**** THE DEMON PANICS. FOR LOOK AT V. 34 PLEASE.

B. VERSE 34. **NOW SOMETIME DURING CHRIST'S MESSAGE THE DEMON SCREAMS OUT USING THE VOCAL CHORDS OF THE MAN HE HAS POSSESSED.**

* FOR THE DREADED REALITY OF HIS ULTIMATE DOOM HITS THIS DEMON AS HE IS HEARING POWERFUL TRUTH FROM JESUS, SO HE PANICS **AND SAYS, "LET US ALONE! WHAT BUSINESS DO WE HAVE WITH EACH OTHER, JESUS OF NAZARETH?"**

** AND THIS LAST PHRASE, WHAT BUSINESS DO **WE HAVE WITH EACH OTHER MEANS, "WHAT IS IT TO US AND TO YOU?"**

*** AND WHAT THE DEMON WAS SAYING, **"WHY ARE YOU ATTACKING US?" FOR HE KNEW WHO JESUS OF NAZARETH WAS.**

***** AND US HERE DOESN'T MEAN THERE ARE**
MULTIPLE DEMONS INDWELLING POSSESSING
THIS MAN, BUT THIS DEMON APPEARS TO
REALIZE THAT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO HIM IS
ALSO GOING TO HAPPEN TO HIS FELLOW
DEMONS.

1. FOR HE SAYS, HAVE YOU COME TO DESTROY
US?

* IN OTHER WORDS, HE KNEW THAT THEY WERE
ULTIMATELY DOOMED TO THE LAKE OF FIRE,
WOULD IT BE NOW? HE KNOWS WHO JESUS IS,
HE KNOWS JESUS HAS THE POWER AND
AUTHORITY TO CAST DEMONS IN THE PIT AT
THE TIME. HAS THE TIME COME?

** THEN CAME THE FINAL DRAMATIC CRY. I
KNEW WHO YOU ARE, THE HOLY ONE OF GOD.

*** NOW UNLIKE THOSE INVOLVED IN **MORMONISM, JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES,** CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AND OTHER CULTS, AND UNLIKE LIBERAL THEOLOGIANS, AND UNLIKE ATHEISTS AND AGNOSTICS, THIS DEMON KNOWS EXACTLY WHO JESUS IS!

**** THIS DEMON WHO NORMALLY IS A LYING SPIRIT IS ACTUALLY TELLING THE TRUTH AT THIS TIME.

2. HE KNEW JESUS WAS HOLY, AND ONLY GOD IS INHERENTLY HOLY. HE KNEW JESUS WAS GOD THE SON, THE SON OF GOD, THE HOLY ONE OF GOD!

* AND WHEN CULTISTS, FALSE RELIGIONS AND UNBELIEVERS DENY THE DEITY OF CHRIST, THEY SHOW LESS INSIGHT THAN THE DEMONS.

** SO THIS DEMON ACKNOWLEDGES WHO JESUS IS AND UNDERSTANDS HIS POWER AND HE IS AFRAID.

*** NOW WHAT WILL JESUS DO IN RESPONSE? WELL IN HIS AUTHORITY, HE WILL CAST THE DEMON OUT OF THIS MAN WITH A WORD. LOOK **AT V. 35 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE** OUR LAST POINT TODAY, THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS.

III. THE AUTHORITY, (READ V. 35)

A. NOW JESUS WANTED NO PUBLICITY FROM A DEMON, HE WANTED NO ACKNOWLEDGEMENT COMING FROM A THOROUGHLY CORRUPT DEMON, NO FREE ADVERTISING FROM A NORMALLY LYING FILTHY SPIRIT.

* SO JESUS SAYS, BE QUIET, LIT. BE MUZZLED, IN OUR VERNACULAR, SHUT UP!

** AND THEN HE SAYS, COME OUT OF Him! AND JESUS DOES NOT RECITE ANY INCANTATIONS OR MAGICAL WORDS, HE WENT THROUGH NO RITUALS OR THEATRICALS IN CASTING THIS **DEMON OUT, HE SIMPLY SAYS, "COME OUT OF HIM!"**

*** AND WHAT HAPPENED? HE DID. NOW CERTAINLY IN AN ACT OF DEFIANCE THE DEMON THROWS THE MAN HE POSSESSED DOWN ON THE GROUND AND ACCORDING TO THE PARALLEL TEXT IN MARK 1:26, THE MAN WENT INTO CONVULSIONS, SO HE RELUCTANTLY COMES OUT, AND THE MAN WAS NOT HURT.

**** ULTIMATELY THE DEMON CAME OUT WITHOUT HURTING THIS MAN. WHAT AUTHORITY! WHAT POWER! WITH A WORD, THE DEMON CAME OUT. THE DEMONS MUST OBEY JESUS, JESUS IS ALMIGHTY!

1. AND IN V. 36, WE SEE THE PEOPLE'S RESPONSE IN THE SYNAGOGUE TO WHAT JESUS DID, IT WAS FAR FROM ANOTHER BORING EVENTLESS DAY AT THE SYNAGOGUE. LOOK AT V. 36 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 36. NOW SHORTLY BEFORE THIS EXORCISM THE PEOPLE IN THE SYNAGOGUE **WERE AMAZED AT JESUS' TEACHING FOR HIS** MESSAGE WAS WITH AUTHORITY.

* NOW THEY ARE IN AMAZEMENT, ANOTHER GREEK WORD THAN THE ONE IN V. 32, WITH A SIMILAR MEANING OF BEING DUMBFUNDED, ASTONISHED, IN WONDER.

** AND THIS TIME FOR HIS AUTHORITY AND POWER ALONG WITH HIS MESSAGE.

*** FOR WHAT THEY WITNESSED WAS UNPRECEDENTED AND THEY ARE TALKING **AMONG THEMSELVES AND SAY "WHAT IS THIS MESSAGE?"** IT IS TO SAY, WHAT IS THIS WORD, LOGOS IS THE GREEK WORD USED HERE, TRANSLATED MESSAGE AND IS TRANSLATED WORD IN THE ESV AND NKJV AND KJV.

**** SO THEY ARE TALKING SPECIFICALLY HERE ABOUT THE SIMPLE WORDS USED TO CAST OUT THE DEMON, AGAIN NO SPEECH, NO THEATRICALS, NO INCANTATION, JUST WHAT JESUS SAID, SO WHAT AUTHORITY AND POWER.

1. AND WHAT HAPPENED WAS SO ASTOUNDING, IT SPREAD LIKE FIRE IN EVERY LOCALITY AROUND CAPERNAUM. LOOK AT V. 37 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 37. NOW NOTHING LIKE THIS HAD EVER BEEN SEEN IN ISRAEL, THE THINGS WHICH JESUS WOULD DO, LIKE CASTING OUT A DEMON.

* FOR IT SAYS ON ANOTHER OCCASION ABOUT JESUS IN MATTHEW 9:33 - **"AFTER THE DEMON WAS CAST OUT, THE MUTE MAN SPOKE; AND THE CROWDS WERE AMAZED, AND WERE SAYING, "NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER BEEN SEEN IN ISRAEL."**

** AND NEVER A MAN SPAKE LIKE THIS MAN, AND NEVER HAD A PERSON HAD THE AUTHORITY AND POWER OF JESUS, AMAZING AUTHORITY AND POWER.

*** SO THE REPORT OF THIS REMARKABLE, **ASTONISHING ACT ON JESUS' PART SPREAD LIKE** WILDFIRE BEYOND CAPERNAUM INTO EVERY LOCALITY IN THE SURROUNDING DISTRICT.

NOW WITH ALL OF THAT TRUTH BEFORE US, I HAVE A FINAL APPLICATION: (1) DEMONISM IS NEITHER PHONY NOR FUNNY, IT IS REAL.

* BUT WHO IS OVER ALL THE DEMONS, OVER SATAN, AND EVIL IN OUR WORLD?

** WELL OUR LORD JESUS WITH ALL AUTHORITY AND POWER, AMAZING AUTHORITY AND POWER. FOR JESUS SAID IN MATTHEW 28:18 (QUOTE IT).

*** NOW OUR LORD GOD IS ALL-MIGHTY, ALL-POWERFUL, OMNIPOTENT.

**** SATAN AND HIS DEMONS ARE POWERFUL, BUT NOT ALL POWERFUL. SATAN AND HIS DEMONS ARE MIGHTY, BUT NOT ALL-MIGHTY.

(2) AND SATAN AND DEMONS ARE NOT ALL-KNOWING, AND ALL-PRESENT, BUT OUR LORD GOD IS.

* THEREFORE DO NOT ALLOW YOURSELF TO LIVE **IN FEAR OF SATAN AND DEMONS, DON'T BE** PREOCCUPIED WITH THEM, BUT KNOW THEY ARE REAL AND POWERFUL, BUT AGAIN NOT ALL POWERFUL.

** AND BELIEVER, PLEASE BE REMINDED OF I JOHN 4:4 (QUOTE IT).

*** BELOVED, WE ARE ON THE WINNING TEAM, SATAN WILL NOT WIN, GOD IS SOVEREIGN AND ON THE THRONE AND HIS ETERNAL ALL-WISE PURPOSES WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED, NOT **SATAN'S NOT A DEMON'S.**

**** REST IN THAT. SATAN WILL NOT OVERCOME OR OVERTHROW GOD ALMIGHTY IN THE END.

(3) AND HERE IS A PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THAT. IF GOD IS NOT BIG ENOUGH TO CONTROL THE BAD THINGS AS WELL AS THE GOOD THINGS, THEN WE ARE IN DEEP TROUBLE. GOD IS ALL POWERFUL, AGAIN NOT SATAN.

* HOWEVER, WHEN THE BAD THINGS IN LIFE BECOME MORE NUMEROUS THAN THE GOOD THINGS, THEN IT LOOKS LIKE SATAN AND HIS DEMONS ARE WINNING AND IN CONTROL, BUT HE NEVER IS.

**** BUT IF WE DON'T TRUST IN GOD'S ULTIMATE AUTHORITY, POWER AND SOVEREIGNTY, WE WILL BE CONFUSED AND EVEN FEARFUL. BUT JESUS IS LORD, AND THE DEVIL IS GOD'S DEVIL. AND GOD CAUSES ALL THINGS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR BELIEVER'S GOOD AND GOD'S GLORY.**

*** THEREFORE I REMIND YOU OF MARTIN **LUTHER'S GREAT HYMN, A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD.**

**** AND THE VERSE THAT SAYS:

"THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS GRIM,

WE TREMBLE NOT FOR HIM;

HIS RAGE WE CAN ENDURE,

FOR LO, HIS DOOM IS SURE;

ONE LITTLE WORD SHALL FELL HIM."

(4) AND IT WAS JESUS' WORD THAT CAST A
DEMON OUT OF A MAN IN OUR TEXT, AND IT
WAS THE **WORD OF GOD THAT FOILED SATAN'S**
TEMPTATION OF CHRIST, AND IT WAS THROUGH
THE WORD OF GOD THAT OUR UNIVERSE WAS
CREATED.

* SO BELIEVER FEAR NOT. TRUST IN GOOD
TIMES AND BAD IN OUR AMAZING ALL
POWERFUL GOD AND SUBMIT TO HIS AMAZING
AUTHORITY. (LET'S PRAY)