

## ~GADARENES (296)

(Gad-a-renes') [Of, or belonging to, Gadara]

- The name applied to the inhabitants of an area where Christ Jesus expelled demons from two men. According to what is considered to be the best available manuscript evidence, Matthew originally used country of the **Gadarenes**, whereas Mark and Luke, in relating this event, employed country of the **Gerasenes**.
- When he got to the other side, into the country of the **Gadarenes**, there met him two demon-possessed men coming out from among the memorial tombs, unusually fierce, so that nobody had the courage to pass by on that road. (**Matthew 8:28**)
- Well, they got to the other side of the sea into the country of the **Gerasenes**. (**Mark 5:1**)
- And they put in to shore in the country of the **Gerasenes**, which is on the side opposite Galilee. (**Luke 8:26**)
- Both countries are shown to lie on the other side, that is, the East side, of the Sea of Galilee. The designation country of the **Gadarenes** possibly applied to the district radiating from the city of **Gadara**, **modern Umm Qeis**, situated about 10 kilometers (6 miles) Southeast of the Sea of Galilee.
- Coins of **Gadara** often depict a ship, suggesting that its territory may have extended as far as the Sea of Galilee and therefore could have included at least a part of the country of the **Gerasenes**, to the East of that body of water.
- Scholars favoring this view link, the country of the **Gerasenes**, with the region around Kursi, a town near the East coast of the Sea of Galilee and about 19 kilometers (12 miles) North of **Gadara**.
- However, others believe that the country of the **Gerasenes** may denote the large district centered at the city of Gerasa or Jarash, about 55 kilometers (34 miles) South-southeast of the Sea of Galilee and suggest that it extended to the East of that lake and embraced the country of the **Gadarenes**.

- In either case, Matthew's account would in no way conflict with that of Mark and Luke.
- Near an unnamed city in the country of the **Gadarenes**, Jesus Christ met two unusually fierce demon-possessed men. These had their dwelling among the tombs, that is, rock-cut tombs or natural caves used as such.
- Jesus, in expelling the demons, permitted them to take possession of a large herd of swine that subsequently rushed over a precipice and drowned in the Sea of Galilee. This so disturbed the local inhabitants that they entreated Jesus to depart from the area.
- When he got to the other side, into the country of the **Gadarenes**, there met him two demon-possessed men coming out from among the memorial tombs, unusually fierce, so that nobody had the courage to pass by on that road. (**Matthew 8:28**)
- And, look! they screamed, saying; What have we to do with you, Son of God? Did you come here to torment us before the appointed time? (**Matthew 8:29**)
- But a long way off from them a herd of many swine was at pasture. (**Matthew 8:30**)
- So the demons began to entreat him, saying; If you expel us, send us forth into the herd of swine. (**Matthew 8:31**)
- Accordingly he said to them; Go! They came out and went off into the swine, and, look! The entire herd rushed over the precipice into the sea and died in the waters. (**Matthew 8:32**)
- But the herders fled and, going into the city, they reported everything, including the affair of the demon-possessed men. (**Matthew 8:33**)
- And, look! All the city turned out to meet Jesus, and after having seen him, they earnestly urged him to move out from their districts. (**Matthew 8:34**)
- While Matthew mentions two men,
- And immediately after he got out of the boat a man under the power of an unclean spirit met him from among the memorial

tombs. ([Mark 5:2](#))

- But as he got out onto land a certain man from the city who had demons met him. And for a considerable time he had not worn clothing, and he was staying, not at home, but among the tombs. ([Luke 8:27](#))
- Center attention on only one, doubtless because his case was more outstanding. Possibly he was more violent and had suffered much longer under demon control than the other man, yet afterward perhaps he alone wanted to accompany the Son of God. Jesus did not allow him to do so, directing him instead to make known what God had done in his behalf.
- This differed from Jesus usual instructions not to have his miracles advertised. Instead of seeking showy publicity and having people reach conclusions on the basis of sensational reports, Jesus apparently wanted others to decide on solid evidence that he was indeed the Christ.
- This also fulfilled the prophetic words spoken through Isaiah; He will not wrangle, nor cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the broad ways.
- Having come to know this, Jesus withdrew from there. Many also followed him, and he cured them all. ([Matthew 12:15](#))
- But he strictly charged them not to make him manifest. ([Matthew 12:16](#))
- That there might be fulfilled what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet, who said. ([Matthew 12:17](#))
- Look! My servant whom I chose, my beloved, whom my soul approved! I will put my spirit upon him, and what justice is he will make clear to the nations. ([Matthew 12:18](#))
- He will not wrangle, nor cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the broad ways. ([Matthew 12:19](#))
- No bruised reed will he crush, and no smoldering flaxen wick will he extinguish, until he sends out justice with success. ([Matthew 12:20](#))

- Indeed, in his name nations will hope. (**Matthew 12:21**)
- Look! My servant, on whom I keep fast hold! My chosen one, whom my soul has approved! I have put my spirit in him. Justice to the nations is what he will bring forth. (**Isaiah 42:1**)
- He will not cry out or raise his voice, and in the street he will not let his voice be heard. (**Isaiah 42:2**)
- No crushed reed will he break, and as for a dim flaxen wick, he will not extinguish it. In trueness he will bring forth justice. (**Isaiah 42:3**)
- He will not grow dim nor be crushed until he sets justice in the earth itself, and for his Law the islands themselves will keep waiting. (**Isaiah 42:4**)
- However, the exception in the case of the former demoniac was appropriate. He could bear witness among people with whom the Son of God would have only limited contact, particularly in view of Jesus being requested to leave.
- The man's presence would provide testimony about Jesus power to work good, counteracting any unfavorable report that might be circulated over the loss of the herd of swine.
- Well, they got to the other side of the sea into the country of the Gerasenes. (**Mark 5:1**)
- And immediately after he got out of the boat a man under the power of an unclean spirit met him from among the memorial tombs. (**Mark 5:2**)
- He had his haunt among the tombs, and up to that time absolutely nobody was able to bind him fast even with a chain. (**Mark 5:3**)
- Because he had oftentimes been bound with fetters and chains, but the chains were snapped apart by him and the fetters were actually smashed, and nobody had the strength to subdue him. (**Mark 5:4**)
- And continually, night and day, he was crying out in the tombs and in the mountains and slashing himself with stones. (**Mark**

**5:5)**

- But on catching sight of Jesus from a distance he ran and did obeisance to him. (**Mark 5:6**)
- And, when he had cried out with a loud voice, he said; What have I to do with you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I put you under oath by God not to torment me. (**Mark 5:7**)
- For he had been telling it; Come out of the man, you unclean spirit. (**Mark 5:8**)
- But he began to ask him; What is your name? And he said to him; My name is Legion, because there are many of us. (**Mark 5:9**)
- And he entreated him many times not to send the spirits out of the country. (**Mark 5:10**)
- Now a great herd of swine was there at the mountain feeding. (**Mark 5:11**)
- So they entreated him, saying; Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them. (**Mark 5:12**)
- And he permitted them. With that the unclean spirits came out and entered into the swine, and the herd rushed over the precipice into the sea, about two thousand of them, and they drowned one after another in the sea. (**Mark 5:13**)
- But the herders of them fled and reported it in the city and in the countryside, and people came to see what it was that had happened. (**Mark 5:14**)
- So they came to Jesus, and they beheld the demon-possessed man sitting clothed and in his sound mind, this man that had had the legion, and they grew fearful. (**Mark 5:15**)
- Also, those who had seen it related to them how this had happened to the demon-possessed man and about the swine. (**Mark 5:16**)
- And so they started to entreat him to go away from their districts. (**Mark 5:17**)

- Now as he was boarding the boat, the man that had been demon-possessed began entreating him that he might continue with him. (**Mark 5:18**)
- However, he did not let him, but said to him; Go home to your relatives, and report to them all the things Yehowah has done for you and the mercy he had on you. (**Mark 5:19**)
- And he went away and started to proclaim in the Decapolis all the things Jesus did for him, and all the people began to wonder. (**Mark 5:20**)
- And they put in to shore in the country of the Gerasenes, which is on the side opposite Galilee. (**Luke 8:26**)
- But as he got out onto land a certain man from the city who had demons met him. And for a considerable time he had not worn clothing, and he was staying, not at home, but among the tombs. (**Luke 8:27**)
- At the sight of Jesus he cried aloud and fell down before him, and with a loud voice he said; What have I to do with you, Jesus Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me. (**Luke 8:28**)
- For he had been ordering the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For over a long time it had held him fast, and he was repeatedly bound with chains and fetters under guard, but he would burst the bonds and be driven by the demon into the lonely places. (**Luke 8:29**)
- Jesus asked him; What is your name? He said; Legion, because many demons had entered into him. (**Luke 8:30**)
- And they kept entreating him not to order them to go away into the abyss. (**Luke 8:31**)
- Now a herd of a considerable number of swine was feeding there on the mountain, so they entreated him to permit them to enter into those. And he gave them permission. (**Luke 8:32**)
- Then the demons went out of the man and entered into the swine, and the herd rushed over the precipice into the lake and

drowned. ([Luke 8:33](#))

- But when the herders saw what had happened, they fled and reported it to the city and to the countryside. ([Luke 8:34](#))
- Then people turned out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons came out, clothed and in his sound mind, sitting at the feet of Jesus, and they became fearful. ([Luke 8:35](#))
- Those who had seen it reported to them how the demon-possessed man had been made well. ([Luke 8:36](#))
- So all the multitude from the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to get away from them, because they were in the grip of great fear. Then he went aboard the boat and turned away. ([Luke 8:37](#))
- However, the man from whom the demons had gone out kept begging to continue with him, but he dismissed the man, saying; ([Luke 8:38](#))
- Be on your way back home, and keep on relating what things God did for you. Accordingly he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city what things Jesus did for him. ([Luke 8:39](#))

**See Also SWINE**