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When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

Mark 5:2-5 (NIV)

1. WE HAVE AN ENEMY WHO WANTS TO DIVIDE US.

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

2. WE HAVE AN ENEMY WHO WANTS TO DECEIVE US.

He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:44 (NLT)

“Indeed the safest road to Hell is the gradual one--the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turns, without milestones, without signposts.... It is funny how mortals always picture us as putting things into their minds: in reality our best work is done by keeping things out.”
- CS Lewis in *The Screwtape Letters*

“Evil always demands a disguise.”
- Thomas Aquinas (13th century theologian)

What is your name? ...

Mark 5:9 (NIV)

... “Legion,” he replied, “for we are many.”

Mark 5:9 (NIV)

Sometimes we allow ourselves to be defined by what has consumed us instead of who has created us.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

The demons begged Jesus, “Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them.” He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

Mark 5:12-13 (NIV)

Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind...

Mark 5:14-15 (NIV)

3. WE HAVE AN ENEMY WHO CANNOT DESTROY US.

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1 John 4:4 (NIV)

This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain.

Mark 5:3 (NIV)

God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

1 John 5:11-12 (NIV)

“The story of your life is the story of the long and brutal assault on your heart. By the one who knows what you could be and fears it.”
- John Eldredge, *Waking the Dead*

“God can never be controlled or intimidated or challenged. If every sea in this world twisted itself into a hurricane tall enough to meet the clouds, And wide enough to cover a thousand cities, Its knees would still bow and eventually break at God’s command to... be still.”

- Jackie Hill Perry, *Holier Than Thou*