

DISCovering the Leadership Styles of Jesus

If you desire to understand the diversity of the DISC leadership styles, this book is worth reading! Behavioral differences are God-given blessings if properly used. However, those same styles can become disastrous when improperly applied.

Using the renowned DISC system, Ken Voges and Mike Kempainen highlight the unique leadership styles of sixteen famous leaders who made a dynamic impact on world and biblical history. These same leadership traits are also shown to parallel the leadership styles of Jesus but with one unique difference...Jesus continually transitions perfectly to meet each need whereas the others leaders tended to use only one style. The lesson to be learned is in appreciating the diversity of leadership styles and when to apply them. Jesus is the book's model.

This is a companion volume to the **Understanding How Others Misunderstand You** book and workbook which profile additional biblical characters.



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Voges & Kempainen



DISCovering the Leadership Styles of Jesus

Ken Voges
and
Mike Kempainen

FOREWORD BY C. GENE WILKES

Ken Voges and Mike Kempainen

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Dedicated to:

The Father

for giving us

His Son

and to the memory of

Susan Maddox

a co-worker at

Spring Branch Community Church

who was taken home to heaven at age 41
as the result of a tragic auto accident and
is survived by her loving husband Jimmy
and children Kara, Jake and Elijah.

About the Authors

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Mike would like to thank:

My wife, Chrys, who lovingly demonstrates to me the gifts of a I/S relational profile.

The Body of SBCC, who have been gracious “testers” of our model in my Sunday School classes.

Foreword

Ken Voges knows what he is writing about. First of all, Ken knows Jesus. He has been a follower of Jesus for many years and has given his focus to the study of the leadership styles of Jesus. Anything you read in this book has been hammered out in real-life faith. Ken's knowledge of Jesus is not textbook faith. It is trust in a Person who has changed his life. His coauthor, Dr. Mike Kempainen, has skillfully interpreted the biblical passages used to introduce you to the leadership styles of Jesus.

Secondly, Ken knows people. I learned the ins and outs of personality profiles from Ken. He has mentored me in my understanding of how people see the world and respond to change and pain. My ministry as a pastor has been enhanced immeasurably through what Ken has taught me. His years of experience in consulting and writing are the foundation of the personality models offered in this book. He has observed the life of Jesus with reverent awe through the lenses of this personality modeling. You can trust his insights on how Jesus interacted with others and modeled the complete human personality profile.

Thirdly, and this was new information to me, Ken knows military leaders. I was challenged and encouraged as I read the stories of the military leaders

from World War II who personified each of the four basic personality profiles. Ken has described these historical characters as people we can understand. He has built sturdy bridges from these well-known leaders, to biblical leaders and finally to the leadership styles of Jesus. This is the unique characteristic of this book. You will find new interest in both these leaders and the Person of Jesus as you follow Ken's lead.

Finally, the ministry of Susan Maddox is the story defining true servant-leadership...a leadership style that always transitions to meet needs. Susan's life and servanthood beautifully bridges to the transitional styles of Jesus. The reader is challenged and encouraged to model both.

DISCovering the Leadership Styles of Jesus is a unique contribution to the writings on both leadership and Jesus. Read, learn and enjoy. I did.

C. Gene Wilkes, Senior Pastor
Legacy Drive Baptist Church
Author: *Jesus on Leadership*

Preface

In the late sixties, I first became aware of the four behavioral models through the work of Tim LaHaye. This information played a major role in saving my marriage. Since then, my passion was and has been to present behavioral information through the lives of Biblical characters and their relationship with the Lord. In 1979, I became acquainted with the DISC behavioral model through Betty Bowman. In 1984, I published the Biblical Personal Profile (BPP) which remains the cornerstone product in profiling individuals in the Bible. Since then, I have expanded the information found in the BPP into a book and workbook coauthored with Dr. Ron Braund entitled, *Understanding How Others Misunderstand You*.

Several years ago I had the pleasure of meeting Gene Wilkes. Through our friendship, I was honored to offer my help in integrating the DISC information in his fine work called, *Jesus on Leadership*. It occurred to me that expanding my insights on the leadership styles of Jesus using the DISC continuums could help readers understand the DISC behavioral model more clearly. If there ever was a true DISC servant leader model, it is found in the Carpenter from Nazareth...Jesus. This is what the book is about.

To explain DISC behavioral styles, assessments and books typically cluster words together in four groups, each describing the four styles. From past

experience, I have found that if one includes a picture to enhance word descriptions of human behavior, understanding of the uniqueness of the style is more clear. In some DISC behavior books, I know authors who show themselves in four photos revealing distinctly different facial expressions. Each picture depicts a very different behavior. In the corporate community, I often use role playing videos of DISC styles in common day case studies. I have found all of these visual tools are useful in helping others understand and appreciate behavioral differences. However, these tools have their limitations because they tend to be fictional. I have found the best teaching tools to be real leaders sharing their honest problem-solving conclusions in actual case studies.

In accurately profiling someone's leadership style who is no longer living, one needs a trusted historical description of an individual's behavior in a given situation. In my opinion, the Bible remains my most trusted document for discerning unique leadership styles. If the leadership style made a positive impact in the lives of those people, the case study is invaluable to us in applying it to current situations. But, there in lies the difficulty. How, when and why do they specifically apply to your individual situation? I believe the key is in understanding and applying the eight DISC leadership models to specific case studies and linking them to real individuals and factual case studies.

To introduce each leadership style, I have used stories involving well-known 20th century political and military figures in global conflict. Through the telling of their stories, my hope is that you will be able to more

clearly understand the uniqueness of the DISC leadership styles.

Why use leaders during war time? One, because they are easily recognized and two, the stories I have used in the book associate these individuals with decisions which were made under enormous pressure and conflict. Finally, I have found that information which accurately describes how and why an individual made a difficult and stressful decision is the best validator of a person's leadership style. There are no better case studies available than ones involving leadership decisions which determined whether people groups or nations lived or died.

Most importantly, the stories have been cross-validated as a true and accurate account of what actually happened. In addition, these firsthand historical records are supplemented with visual footage (documentary film), which further assists in confirming the accuracy of a particular person's behavioral style. My initial focus is on uniquely different leaders who made decisions which influenced the saving of lives not the taking of lives. My hope is you will be able to discern clearly the value and difference in each style.

Although these individuals were different in the way they led, each had a similar respect for the sovereignty of God. My conclusion is that the Lord placed these men in positions of authority to allow

their unique strengths to accomplish His work.

Once you understand the uniqueness of a particular leadership style, the stories transition to biblical characters who exhibit the same unique leadership traits as the secular leaders. Although the events are different, the problem-solving processes are the same. Finally, you will see the same styles again but this time with Jesus as the central character in each of the styles.

The more important message of the book is in being able to transition ones leadership style to best meet the need of any given situation. What is critical is in knowing what style to project to get the most positive result. In this, Jesus is the master servant-leader as shown in two additional case studies.

My hope for you, the reader, is to understand that no one leadership style is more important than another. Each has its strengths, impact qualities and limitations. The mature servant-leader understands this and discerns, with God's help, which type of behavior is most appropriate for each situation. My prayer is that you will be inspired to use these insights for shaping and expressing your personal leadership style(s).

In His Grace,

Ken Voges

The Behavioral Styles of Jesus

Each time I have taught a class or seminar on the behavioral styles of Biblical characters, someone invariably asks the question, "What was the profile of Jesus?" Gary Smalley and John Trent believe that He had the strength of all four basic personalities held in balance.¹ My good friend Dr. Robert Rohm supports this line of thinking. He says, "The life of Christ reveals the positive traits of each personality type. He was the perfect balance of all four types"² This is a good starting point, but this study will attempt to thoroughly investigate the DISC trait continuums to determine whether their conclusions are valid. I believe that they are.

DISC is a behavior model developed by William Marston in the early 1900's. It centers on four basic styles: "D" signifies Dominance, "I" for Influencing/Interacting, "S" for Steadiness, and "C" for Compliance/Cautious. The Dominant style desires to control the environment, whereas the Interacting/Influencer focuses on other people in building relationships. The Steadiness style values loyalty and cooperating with others whereas, the Cautious/Compliance style is compelled to do things the 'right way' or 'correct way'. This particular model has been well researched, tested for validity and is considered one of the better human resource management tools in the secular society throughout the world today.

It is important to understand that no one leadership style is necessarily better than another. Each individual style has its own set of strengths which, when left unchecked, can become unbalanced. Potential strengths can become great weaknesses. When all the styles function in concert together, balance and order have the best opportunity to occur.

It may appear to some to be bordering on blasphemy to speak of Jesus Christ as having a behavioral style or "temperament." However, one of the main doctrines of evangelical orthodoxy is the understanding of the true humanity of the Lord Jesus Christ. Not only was He undiminished deity in nature, but at the same time full humanity, though without the sin nature. Theologian John Walvoord says, "...it is necessary to view Him as having a complete human nature including body, soul and spirit."³ If this doctrine is correct and Jesus is who He said He is, the evidence found in Scripture should show His personal profile with human behavioral traits, but always modeling balance and order.

In theory, "the DISC research evidence supports the conclusion that the most effective people are those who know themselves, know the demand of the situation, and adopt strategies to meet those needs."⁴ Although this is suggested as the ideal, no one is able to do it on a consistent basis. All of the profiles of the DISC model have imbalanced core styles that are prone to get out of control. As I associated Biblical characters with specific patterns, the behavior

of Paul, Rebekah, Abraham, Mary etc. confirmed this position. But what about Jesus' style? Does He fit into one specific pattern or does He respond according to the need of the situation with varying styles as the theoretical ideal suggests? That is the question that this study addresses.

How can one effectively research the behavior of Jesus and associate it with the DISC styles? To know how this can be done requires a basic understanding of the DISC model of behavior. It is based on a trait theory. "It classifies people according to the degree to which they can be characterized in terms of a number of traits. According to trait theory, one can describe a personality by its position on a number of scales [four continuums], each of which represents a trait."⁵ The DISC Trait Continuums chart in the Understanding How Others Misunderstand You workbook⁶ lists a series of 120 traits on four scales from high intensity to low intensity.

Below are examples of some of these traits:

High "D" Traits

direct
domineering
risk-taker

Low "D" Traits

unassuming
mild
modest

High "I" Traits

persuasive
sociable
confident

Low "I" Traits

controlled
retiring
aloof

High "S" Traits

patient
loyal
team-person

Low "S" Traits

mobile
spontaneous
active

High "C" Traits

accurate
detailed
restrained

Low "C" Traits

"own-person"
firm
defiant

By using this paradigm or template, we will attempt to associate Jesus' behavior among the eight High and Low styles of these four continuums. If our preliminary thesis is correct, Christ's behavior will not fit into one specific pattern, like normal individuals, but it will fill the entire chart. To be more specific, we are looking for situations where Jesus covers the entire range of DISC behavior. Our research will look at the Dominant continuum for situations where He is in charge, aggressive and confrontational in certain situations while being a loyal, submissive team player in other situations. In the Influencing continuum we will look at His ability to communicate and reach out to people yet observe when He chooses to detach Himself from some people-pressured events. In the Steadiness continuum, we will look at His patience with apostles contrasted by His spontaneous and aggressive behavior in the temple. In the Cautious continuum, we will study His restraint at His trial contrasted by His defiant and rebellious behavior towards the Jewish authorities who tried to hold Him accountable to their traditions.

If Jesus is the Son of God, the challenge will be for the DISC model to show that His behavior includes all the positive elements of all the profiles. In addition, His behavior would have to appear perfect, without imbalances, in complete control, and instantly able to take on whatever style is necessary to meet the need of each situation. Let's begin our study.

Notes:

1. Gary Smalley and John Trent, *The Two Sides of Love*, Focus on the Family, Pomona, CA, Copyright © 1970.
2. Robert Rohm, *Positive Personality Profiles*, Personality Insights, Atlanta, GA, Copyright © 1996.
3. John Walvoord, *Jesus Christ Our Lord*, Moody Press, Chicago, IL, Copyright © 1967, page 111.
4. *The Personal Profile System*, Carlson Learning Company, Minneapolis, MN, Copyright © 1977, page 1.
5. William Marston, *Emotions of Normal People*, Persona, Minneapolis, MN, Copyright © 1977, page xxiii.
6. Ken Voges and Ron Braund, *Understanding How Others Misunderstand You* workbook, In His Grace, Houston, TX, Copyright © 1990, 1994, 1999, page 27, 140.

“The life of Christ
reveals all the positive traits
of each DISC personality type.

It is my opinion that
Jesus was the perfect balance of
all the four types.”

Dr. Robert Rohm

Part 1

The Diverse Leadership Styles of Jesus

Most DISC assessments profile behavior on two or three graphs. The first graph measures behavior that identifies an individual's perception of how he or she must respond in order to meet the needs of a given role. It is the most dynamic of the graphs in that it is most subject to change.

Graph I's function is to identify a person's response when considering the circumstantial demands of the focused environment; it describes the behavior an individual chooses to project in order to insure the best results. It does not necessarily measure what the person's natural style really is. Graph II's function is to describe the person's response under pressure. It generally describes the person's core style behavior. Graph III's function is to show a composite picture of Graph's I & II.

To understand specific DISC styles more clearly, we will use illustrations of familiar biblical and historical events involving actions of figures whose expression of each of the eight unique DISC styles positively influenced the course of biblical and secular history. In applying Graph I to Jesus, we will look at parallel case studies involving people caught up in highly emotional situations demanding a spontaneous but appropriate response. Comparisons will be drawn; but special focus will be on the behavior of Jesus as He handled each person's needs within the complexity of both His own

and that person's circumstances. Comparisons and conclusions will be drawn between the ability of historical figures and Jesus to transition or change their behavior to meet different needs. Whereas, the other personalities tended to use one style more than any other and were not able to transition or change their behavior to meet all the needs they encountered, Jesus utilized all eight styles as needed.

While on earth, if Jesus was God yet subject to human behavior, the overwhelming evidence should show that His projected behavior in specific situations not only varied but was perfectly correct to meet the need. In addition, it should be evident from the outcome of the events that the environment Jesus created gave each individual the best chance to grow and mature.

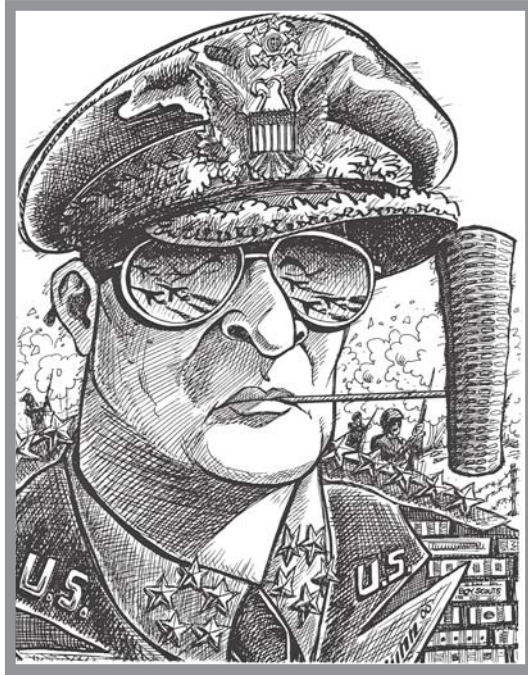
Defining the Dominant Continuum

Power:

Having the ability to exercise authority or influence over situations or persons to insure a positive conclusion.

Control:

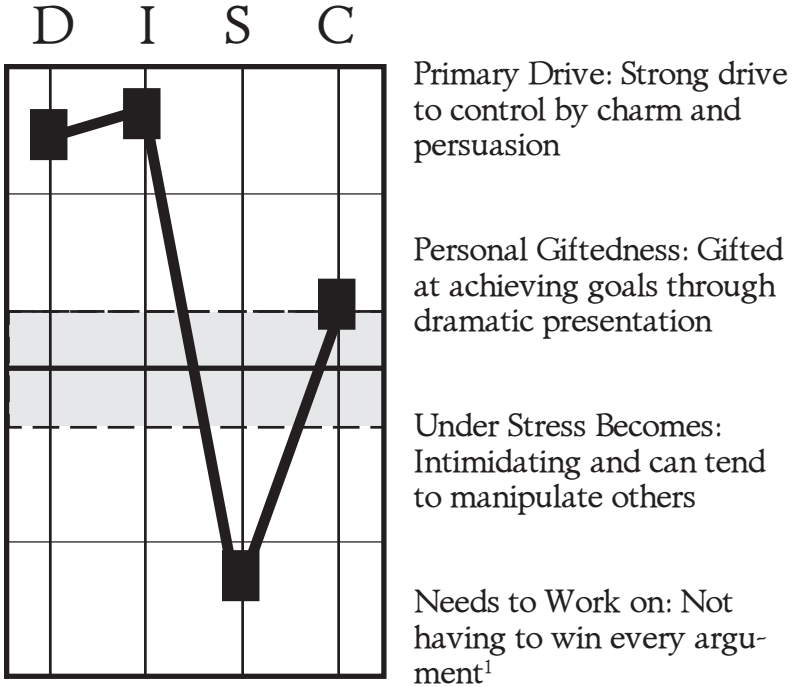
Having the ability to both give direction and exercise restraint over people and events.



General Douglas MacArthur

Representative Profile of
General Douglas MacArthur*

HIGH D DISC PROFILE



* Based on the historical evidence, the above profile best parallels the behavior style of General MacArthur but is not intended to be absolute or final.

Notes:

1. Ken Voges & Ron Braund, Understanding How Others Misunderstand You book, ©Copyright 1990, page 96.

High D Behavior

Scriptural Case Study
Mark 5:1-20, Mark 1:21-28

For 123 generations, the people of Japan were ruled by an emperor who was considered to have been divine and possessed absolute power and control. The emperor was never seen in public nor had anyone ever heard his voice. Following his nation's defeat in WW II, Emperor Hirohito's power was severely challenged as a result of President Truman's appointment of General Douglas MacArthur as viceroy of Japan. As far as the United States was concerned, MacArthur's position gave him absolute power and authority to rule over Japan. However, to the Japanese people, his authority remained a question mark because the terms of surrender included retaining the emperor's position.

Then at the request of the emperor in early September, 1945, the two men met for the first time. The meeting was held at a neutral site, the American embassy. One picture was taken. It appeared in the local newspapers the next day. The people beheld their little

sovereign standing with hat in hand beside a towering Douglas MacArthur.¹ With this public exposure, the people took ownership of the fact that a new form of power had truly arrived.

After Hirohito renounced his deity or claim to having been divine, MacArthur's natural skills of independence, decisiveness and demand for absolute authority, coupled with lordly graciousness, filled the Japanese people's need for spiritual leadership. Some Japanese went so far as to say, "We look to MacArthur as the second Jesus Christ."²

MacArthur yearned for power to shape, not merely implement, national policy. Being named viceroy of Japan allowed him to serve in a position that satisfied his need to exploit this desire. MacArthur preferred being in total control and exercising complete power over his environment. These traits worked well during his time in Japan.

MacArthur ruled for five years as a benevolent autocrat initially saving millions of Japanese from starvation. He also introduced numerous reforms, including the rewriting of their constitution, allowing for labor unions, providing equal rights for women and instituting land reforms. His High D expression of power met the needs of the situation. It resulted in the rebuilding of a nation totally destroyed by war. Later, in a different situation, this same style would be MacArthur's downfall.

9 KINGS 3:16-28
SOLOMON

“Then the king gave his ruling: ‘Give the living baby to the first woman. Do not kill him; she is his mother.’”



“When all Israel heard the verdict the king had given, they held the king in awe, because they saw that he had wisdom from God to administer justice.”

High D traits are characteristic of individuals who impose powerful control over their environment and the people with whom they come in contact.

Word Pictures - dominant, direct, demanding, powerful, independent, authoritative, in control of the environment and intimidating.

What High D Behavior Produces in Others - a sense of fear, awe and respect knowing what the High D can do; a personal feeling of weakness when having face-to-face encounters; being terrified in their presence knowing the atmosphere and environment can be demanding and confrontational.

Solomon's Dominant Leadership Style

In exercising independent control and power over lives and events, we have the biblical example of Solomon who used his wisdom in the governing of his people.

I Kings 3 tells us that the people were still offering sacrifices at Gibeon, on the high places, because there was no "house of God" yet built. Solomon went to sacrifice there and God appeared to him in a dream and said, "Ask what you wish me to give you", (v.5). After Solomon had thanked God for His loving kindness to his father David, and to him, Solomon said, "So give thy servant an understanding heart to judge Thy people, to discern between good and evil." (v.9) Solomon acknowledged

his youthfulness and inexperience and the greatness of the multitude he was to rule over. Thus he needed God's wisdom to do the job right.

In verses 11-14, we are told that Solomon's prayer pleased the Lord and He granted Solomon's wish. God also granted him that which he had not asked for, namely, earthly blessing of riches and honor.

An example of his wisdom to govern is given in verses 16-28. This is a well know account of two mothers, both harlots, who laid claim to the same child. While some dispute from linguistic consideration that they were "harlots", but rather "hostesses", since a harlot probably wouldn't be so concerned about having a child, that point is not really relevant. The point is that two mothers claimed the same child and wanted Solomon to make the decision as to who was the real mother.

They both had newborn sons, three days apart, and they lived in the same house. One of the mothers had rolled over on her infant during the night and when she discovered her son was dead, she traded her dead son for the other mother's living son as she slept. They both claimed that the other mother had done that and wanted Solomon to sort it out!

Solomon's wisdom included an understanding of motherly instincts and human behavior. His High D bottom-line style assisted in quickly determining who the real mother of the living child was. His challenge to both was rather dramatic. He said, "Bring me a sword, and we will cut the child in half, and give each mother

half.”

Instinctively, Solomon reasoned in his mind, that the true mother would not let any harm come to her child. He would make his decision based on the responses of the two women to the announced action plan he was about to take. The true mother immediately said to give the child to the other woman, so no harm would come to the child. However, the false mother agreed that Solomon’s proposed actions were reasonable and that dividing the child in half was fair. Solomon then knew who the real mother of this child was.

The wisdom God gave to Solomon worked within the parameters of his God-given High D behavior. Someone else with a different personality might have used God’s wisdom in a less dramatic and bottom-line way to decide the case.

However, in this case study, Solomon’s dominant leadership style worked to produce a rather unique response from those observing the events just discussed. The crowd was awed to the point of never questioning his authority or ability to rule over people and events set before him. When this type of style is properly expressed, it tends to create an immediate, profound memory in people’s minds.

Jesus Projects a Dominant Leadership Style

It is sometimes difficult to perceive Jesus projecting this type of behavior; however, when He came in contact with the demons and Pharisees, He did just that. Mark 1: 21-28 and Mark 5:2-20 give compact capsules of this type of behavior.

Jesus entered the synagogue and began to instruct the people. They were astonished at His teaching for He taught them as one having authority, but not as the scribes...the professionally trained scholars. He did not defer to the authority of others, but instead gave a more personal interpretation of the Scriptures.

In reviewing the Scriptural passages, the reader is encouraged to focus on Jesus' dominance over the demons and their response to Him. Furthermore, observe the tone and message of Christ and its impact on these demonic creatures.

Expression of Power and Absolute Control

And they went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and began to teach.

And they were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

And just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, saying, 'What

do we have to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who You are---The Holy One of God!’

And Jesus rebuked him saying, ‘Be quiet, and come out of him!’

And throwing him into convulsions, the unclean spirit cried out with a loud voice, and came out of him.

And they were all amazed, so that they debated among themselves, saying ‘What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him.’

And immediately the news about Him went out everywhere into all the surrounding district of Galilee.

Mark 1:21-28

And when He had come out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met Him, and he had his dwelling among the tombs. And no one was able to bind him any more, even with a chain; because he had often been bound with shackles and chains, and the chains had been torn apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces, and no one was strong enough to subdue him.

And seeing Jesus from a distance, he ran up and bowed down before Him; and crying out with a loud voice, he said, ‘What do I have to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God, do not torment me!’

For He had been saying to him, ‘Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!’

And He was asking him, ‘What is your name?’ And he said to Him, ‘My name is Legion; for we are

many.'

And he began to entreat Him earnestly not to send them out of the country.

Now there was a big herd of swine feeding there on the mountain side.

And they entreated Him, saying, 'Send us into the swine so that we may enter them.'

And he gave them permission. And coming out, the unclean spirits entered the swine; and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, about two thousand of them were drowned in the sea.

And those who tended them ran away and reported it in the city and out in the country. And the people came to see what it was that had happened.

And they came to Jesus and observed the man who had been demon-possessed sitting down, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had the 'legion'; and they became frightened,

And those who had seen it described to them how it had happened to the demon-possessed man, and all about the swine.

And they began to entreat Him to depart from their region.

And as He was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed was entreating Him that he might accompany Him.

And He did not let him, but He said to him, 'Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you.'

And he went off and began to proclaim in Decapolis what great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone marveled."

In these two passages there are eight significant elements of control mentioned regarding the situations in which Jesus found Himself.

(1) In Mark 5:6, it is mentioned that a demon-possessed man, who was mentally deranged, saw Jesus from a great distance and came running toward Him. His intent was to terrorize Jesus as he did everyone else; however, when he came closer he “fell down before Jesus.” The man was controlled by legions of spirits and they caused the man to fall down and submit to Him.

(2) In verse 7, the demons pleaded for Jesus to stop tormenting them (the text shows that Jesus had been ordering the demons to depart from the man). They had no option; disobedience only resulted in further torment.

(3) In verse 10, the demons begged Jesus not to send them to another country. They were completely at His disposal.

4) In verses 12-13, the demons begged permission from Jesus to enter the swine.

5) In verse 18, the healed man requested to accompany Jesus, but was refused, and told to go home and share what Jesus had done for him.

(6) In the Mark 5 encounter, the people were “amazed” at the authoritative style of His teaching. It was on His own authority that He taught. He did not quote the teachings of former rabbis or scribes as all the other teachers did.

(7) In Mark 1:24 and Mark 5:7, the demons cried out saying , “Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are --the Holy One of God!” The demons expressed this as a statement of fact. It is obvious the demons recognized who He was...the One who had the ultimate authority to judge them. They also said they had nothing in common with Him. Their point was that they were operating in different realms, so please leave them alone... which He did not do!

(8) In Mark 1:25, Jesus gave a simple command: “be quiet and come out” which the demons had to obey.

Jesus' Tone Throughout the Encounters

Jesus' tone was both firm and gracious. As He encountered demons, He set forth His authority in a uncompromising way. In Mark 1:25 it says “he rebuked” the demons and said “be quiet and come out.” In Mark 5: 8, He says “come out...you unclean spirit.” Those commands are both very firm and without wiggle room. However, the grace of the Lord even extends to these demons, where in 5:12-13 it says, “and He gave them permission” when they humbly asked to enter the swine. He didn't have to consent to their request, but He did give them permission.

The Response of the People

When the people saw the man who had been demon-possessed dressed normally and in his right mind, “they were frightened.” They recognized that a

supernatural event had just taken place. They then asked Jesus to leave their region! Then when the man went and shared with others what Jesus had done for him, the people “marveled.” In Mark 1:27, the people in the Synagogue were “amazed”, “astounded” and “profoundly impressed” at the authority present in His teaching. Their strong statement was: "What is this? A new teaching with authority, that even the unclean spirits must obey Him?" The word “new” implies new in quality as distinct from new in time. Jesus’ action totally outstripped any authority they had ever seen.

Conclusion

When Jesus came in contact with demons, He consistently reflected the traits of a High D...having the power to control with absolute authority. Although they had impressive powers, the demons never challenged Him. Instead, they were terrified when in His presence. "Powerful and fearful as they are, demons are no match for the Savior, their Creator and Judge." ³ If we claim Jesus as our personal Savior, the demons have no rights or authority to influence or control us.

Notes:

1. William Manchester, *American Caesar*, Dell Publishing, New York, NY, Copyright© 1978, page 545.
2. *Ibid*, page 556.
3. C. Fred Dickason, *Demon Possession and the Christian*, Moody Press, Chicago, IL, Copyright© 1987, page 31.

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