

Aching for Spring

Spring begins in March, but it truly blossoms in April. You take a walk outside on a spring day and you understand what Mark Twain said about spring:



*"It's spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you've got it, you want—oh, you don't quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!"*¹

You come to the end of a hard winter- especially hard this past year- and you just take a deep breath and enjoy this season.

I wonder if this is how one person from the Bible felt after having a very hard life. It's not someone I usually think about, but consider this person:

*Mark 5:2-9*² And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit.³ He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain,⁴ for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him.⁵ Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones.⁶ And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him.⁷ And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me."⁸ For he was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!"⁹ And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." (ESV)

1. Project Gutenberg's Tom Sawyer, Detective, by Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens), at <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/93/93-h/93-h.htm>, accessed on 3/23/2021.

This poor man was suffering with demonic possession and roamed the cemetery all alone. But when he met Jesus, things changed in His life. Jesus had cast the demons out of him and people noticed.

Mark 5:15 And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. (ESV)

This man wanted to follow Jesus and His group of disciples, but Jesus had a very important job for him.

Mark 5:18-19¹⁸As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him.¹⁹And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." (ESV)

Spring is a season that you want more of every day. It is so wonderful after a hard winter.

The demon-possessed man had a hard life and then came Jesus. Coming into spring is like coming to Jesus. He brings new life to you after a hard life. And when you come to Jesus, let your friends know what Jesus has done.

In Him and for His glory,

Pastor Art

