

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEK 6

MATTHEW 8:28-34

GOSPEL CLASS

Begin Next Sunday, February 19, 9:30am

8 week class that goes through basic Doctrine in Christianity & what Element believes specifically.

BAPTISMS

Are you interested in getting baptized?

We are scheduling our next baptisms and would like to know who is interested, if you would like more information or are ready to be baptized, email connect@ourelement.org or sign up at welcome center.

PLANTING ROOTS UPDATE

78% way through 3-year Journey

62% of commitments fulfilled

68% with non-commitments

AUTHORITY

OVER SPIRITUAL FORCES

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us.

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15 am service. Please understand that all of these “challenges” are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:14
Matthew 8:28-34
1 Timothy 3:6

Mark 5:5
Colossians 2:15
Mark 5:9

Matthew 14:14
Matthew 5:19

February 12, 2017

www.ourelement.org

AUTHORITY

OVER SPIRITUAL FORCES

Hollywood loves a good demon story, unfortunately, they get the facts all wrong about what demons do and how they act. Movies which portray demons as the great enemy of God exaggerate their power and influence. In the scriptures, you see the main thing demons attempt is to try to destroy the image of God that man was created be.

What's the scariest demon movie you have ever seen?

What comes to mind when you think of demons?

Do you believe demons exist?

In the scriptures there are certain facts you learn when seeing the accounts of demonic activity:

1. Demons are a problem in the northern region where Jesus had His public ministry (from the Sea of Galilee to Tyre and Sidon.)
2. Jesus always casts demons out; He doesn't leave them in people.
3. Jesus often interacts directly with demons before dispatching them.
4. When Jesus casts out a demon, there usually is no mention of what happens to the demon; this could indicate that Jesus typically eliminates them.

Read Matthew 8:28-34.

In the stories found in Matthew 8, Mark 5, and Luke 8, we find that the people are very superstitious, much like how many in our current culture act today (though in a different way). In the world of Jesus' day it was thought that if you knew someone's name and said their whole name out loud, it gave you power over them. This superstition did not work on Jesus, and because of this the demons began to be fearful about who Jesus is.

Do you have any superstitions?

Many today dismiss the idea of demons and the supernatural as being something that only primitive people believed in; we think we are more enlightened. Today we have four views of how to handle what ails us:

WEEK 6 SERMON NOTES

- The materialistic worldview says the answer is to take a pill. If something is wrong, it is an imbalance, and a pill will fix it.
- The psychological world-view says the answer is always understanding, talking, and acceptance.
- The moralistic world-view says the answer is doing the right thing.
- The biblical world-view says it could be any of the above and could also have supernatural/spiritual forces at play.

Many worldviews are more superstitious than the Bible; the Bible itself is far more nuanced and multidimensional than any of the world-views we have today.

When something melts down in your life what is normally the issue?

Do you tend to be more pragmatic or overly spiritual in your approach to your issues?

Typically, in the ancient world (and even today) people will cast out demons by invoking a higher power than themselves. Jesus is the only being throughout history that drives out demons without evoking a higher name or power because Jesus *is* that higher power. This displays Jesus's tremendous power and authority over all things.

Do you believe Jesus has authority over all life (creation)?

How is that displayed by how you live (in fear or trust in His authority)?

Jesus' driving the demons into the pigs shows Jesus' power and authority, but it also shows that if you hold anything above Jesus, that you are enslaved.

Do you value anything over Jesus?

In the story, the man who was demon possessed begs Jesus to allow him to come with Jesus when he leaves the area, but Jesus does not allow it. He has the man go and spread the Good News about who Jesus is, and what Jesus has done for him.

What is stopping you from going and sharing the news of what Jesus has done for you?