

GOSPEL PEARLS

Five reasons to thank Jesus

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And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes two demon-possessed men met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many pigs was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, saying, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of pigs." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the pigs, and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the waters. The

herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, especially what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus, and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their region. (Matthew 8: 28-34)

The Son of God became incarnate by sharing in our human nature. Jesus did not call us slaves, but His friends. It is on this same relationship that we must base our love and faith in Him. When we pray, think of at least five reasons to thank Jesus for what he has done for us on this very day. At least today, let's avoid the need to complain about the evil we experience, and try and endure it without lamenting at all, unlike the possessed man's fellow villagers who grumbled and wanted Jesus to go away.