

Episode: Other Letters Series No. 20

Narrator: Mary Magdalene

Primary Scriptures: Luke 8:2

Story Summary: Mary Magdalene talks about demons

Location: Israel

Time: circa 30 AD

Suggested Memory Scriptures: Luke 8:2

Mary Magdalene is an important figure in the life and death of Jesus. She was a loyal follower of Jesus, she was at his crucifixion, and was the first to see him after his resurrection. One of the specifics known about her is found in Luke 8:1-3. Jesus is traveling from town to town proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. With him are the twelve apostles and some women cured of evil spirits and diseases. These women helped support Jesus and the apostles out of their own means.

That passage specifically says Mary Magdalene “from whom seven demons had come out.” It’s not known if Mary’s previous behavior could be associated with seven specific behaviors or if the seven demons could be separately identified as Jesus cast them out. It is clear that Mary had been demon-possessed, not just ill or diseased.

From stories about demons in the New Testament, certain characteristics of them can be determined. Demons were evil spirits who caused such things as: people to harm themselves and others; physical harm to those they inhabited; controlled people’s thoughts and actions; and, kept people from following Jesus.

In the modern world, there are many things that act as demons. Some of these are obvious, such as many types of addictions.

There are many more types of things that act as demons that are not overly recognizable as being harmful, such as: social media, busyness, self-centeredness, and entertainment.

In the modern world, it is likely many more people are harmed by things that act as demons than by actual demon possession. How do you determine something is harming you? You could check your calendar to see whether you are scheduling godly activities or not, check your phone for how much daily screen time you have, determine whether you are spending time on entertainment that could better be spent improving your relationship with people, and look at how you spend your money.

In the time of Jesus, the solution for demon-possession was to have them cast out by Jesus. That is still the solution today. It is through Jesus that you can eliminate powerful harmful things from your life.