

## Luke 8:38-39

*Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.*

Don't you wish that as soon as you got saved, that you would had been taken up to heaven right away? I think we all know that the reason we are not is because we need to be a witness to others so that they to can be saved. If you think about it, if we were all taken to heaven right away, who would share the gospel with others?

Even in today's verses, this is one great example of this. This is where Jesus had cast many demons out of this man and the demons went into the swine, and ended up running down a hill and drowning themselves.

† **Luke 8:31-33** *And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned.*

But when it was all over, the people of that town were afraid and asked Jesus to leave town. I still find it strange that they cared more about the swine then the man who was healed of demon possession.

† **Luke 8:37** *Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned.*

So as Jesus was leaving, the man wanted to go with Jesus and follow Him. But instead of Jesus allowing him to go with Him, instead Jesus said to the man, "**Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you.**" and that's the same thing Jesus tells us to do, and why we are not taken directly to heaven.

The people were afraid of Jesus and what He had done. So they asked Jesus to leave town; therefore, Jesus had the man stay behind to be a witness to the people, and to let them know that there is no reason to fear Jesus, because He had come to them to do good things, not to take away their stuff. This man also needed to show them that there are more important things then having stuff, because stuff, including your job, is but for a moment in time, but that we should be looking at our, and the eternity of others.

If you think about it, when we get to heaven, we will see this man that Jesus had cast the demons out of, but we won't see the swine that the demons were allowed to enter.

So, sometimes our stuff, including our jobs we will be tested to show us what's more important, our stuff, or the salvation of others. Also what's more important, going to heaven alone (Taken up right away when we are saved) or taking others with us, because we are told to stay here and ***"Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you."***

† ***Romans 10:14-15 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"***