The Story at a Glance

In Luke 8:31–32, we read:

> “And they begged Him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged Him to let them enter these. So He gave them permission.”

The same story is echoed in Matthew 8:29, where the demons cried out:

> “What have You to do with us, O Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?”

These verses record a strange event where Jesus allowed demons to leave a man and enter a herd of pigs. The pigs then rushed into a lake and drowned.

This raises an important question:
Why did Jesus listen to the demons at all? Why not just cast them out or destroy them directly?

Let’s look at this theologically and practically.

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 1. Jesus Was Demonstrating the Reality of the Spiritual Realm

If Jesus had simply cast out the demons without any visible effect, people might have doubted the miracle. They might’ve said, “Maybe he just had a mental illness,” or “Maybe he calmed down after seeing Jesus.”

But by allowing the demons to enter the pigs—who immediately ran into the lake and drowned—it provided undeniable, physical evidence that something real and destructive had left the man.

This act served as a visible confirmation of what had occurred spiritually.

> *Jesus knew people needed to understand that evil is not just*

> *metaphorical—it's real, active, and dangerous. In John 10:10, Jesus says:*
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> "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

The destruction of the pigs was a dramatic symbol of the true nature of demonic forces—they seek to destroy whatever they possess.

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 2. It Was Not Yet Time for Final Judgment

In Matthew 8:29, the demons ask, *"Have You come here to torment us before the time?"* This shows they were aware of their future judgment.

> *According to Revelation 20:10, the final destination of Satan and his demons is the lake of fire:*
>
> "And the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur... and they will be tormented day and

> night forever and ever.”

The demons knew this was coming, but not yet. Jesus, in His divine wisdom, respected the prophetic timeline. He didn’t rush judgment because the fullness of God’s plan—centered in His death and resurrection—was still unfolding.

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 3. Jesus Showed His Complete Authority Over the Spiritual Realm

Even though the demons begged, they did not command Jesus—He permitted them. This reveals Christ’s absolute authority.

> *Colossians 2:15 says:*
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> “And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.”

Even before the cross, Jesus was showing glimpses of that final triumph. His ability to command demons, and their submission to

Him, shows us who holds the true power.

What Does This Mean for Us Today?

You Have Authority in Christ

Jesus' authority over demons wasn't just for that one day. It was also a model for us. In Luke 10:19, Jesus tells His followers:

> "I have given you authority... to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you."

We don't engage demons in conversation or negotiation. We cast them out in Jesus' name. The demons in the story surrendered to Jesus before He even spoke—because of the power in Him. That same power now works through believers.

Takeaway: Walk in the Authority You've Been Given

Jesus allowed the demons to enter the pigs to show the reality of evil, the power of God, and the order in God's redemptive plan.

This was not about mercy to demons, but about a teaching moment for people—and for us today.

So:

- Recognize evil for what it is.
- Understand that Jesus is above every demonic force.
- Use the authority He gave you.

> *James 4:7:* “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

May the Lord strengthen your faith, sharpen your discernment, and empower you to walk in boldness.

God bless you.

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