

Jesus Broke the Gates of Hell with More Than a Rebuke

Written by Bill Perkins

"This kind can only come out by prayer and fasting."

-Mark 9:29

Mark ten opens with glory and descends into chaos.

Jesus had just been transfigured-radiant,

affirmed by the Father's voice.

But at the foot of the mountain,

He stepped into desperation: a demonized

boy convulsing, a father pleading, disciples powerless.

They had tried to cast out the demon-but failed.

The father cried, "If You can do anything?"

Jesus replied, "Everything is possible for one who believes."

The man responded with raw honesty:

"I do believe; help my unbelief."

Jesus rebuked the spirit.

The boy collapsed-lifeless.

But Jesus took his hand and raised him.

And he stood.

Later, the disciples asked privately,

"Why couldn't we cast it out?"

Jesus didn't shame them.

He revealed a truth: "This kind can

only come out by prayer and fasting."

Without that question, we wouldn't know what caused their impotence.

Or ours.

Jesus knew what they had to learn:

authority over evil flows from the Father,

not from words without prayer.

He didn't just rebuke darkness—
He lived in communion with God.
His power came from intimacy, not technique.

Prayer and fasting aren't formulas.
They're surrender.
They shape us in secret.
They align us with the Father's
will and prepare us to confront
darkness with light that doesn't flicker.

This passage isn't just about deliverance—it's about formation.
Jesus invites us to seek
the rhythm of His prayer life,
not just the power of His name.

You may not know this about
Jesus—but He broke the gates of hell
not merely with a rebuke,
but with a life rooted in prayer.
And He calls us to do the same.