

“Jailhouse Rock Sets The Captives Free!”

Acts 16:23-34

And when **They** had inflicted many blows upon **Them**, **They (Magistrates)** threw **Them** into prison, ordering the **Jailer** to keep **Them** safely. Having received this order, **He (Jailer)** put **Them** into the inner prison and fastened **Their Feet** in the stocks. But at midnight **Paul** and **Silas** were **Praying and Singing Hymns** to **God**, and the **Prisoners** were **Listening (Rhema)** to **Them**. Suddenly there was a **great earthquake**,¹ so that the **foundations of the prison were shaken**; ¹ and immediately all the **doors were opened**, ² and **Everyone's Chains (Paul, Silas & Prisoners) were loosed** ³ and the **Keeper of the Prison (Jailer)**, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the **Prisoners** had fled, **drew his sword and was about to kill Himself**. But **Paul** called with a loud voice, saying, **“Do Yourself no harm, for We are all here!”** Then **He** called for a light, ran in, and **fell down trembling before Paul and Silas**. And **He** brought **Them (Paul & Silas)** out and said, **“Sirs, what must I do to be Saved?”** So, **They** said, **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and You will be Saved, You and Your Household.”** Then **They (Paul & Silas)** **Spoke (Rhema)** the **Word of the Lord** to **Him** and to **All Who Were in His House**. And **He** took **Them (Paul & Silas)** the same hour of the night and washed **Their Stripes**. And immediately **He** and **All His Family** were **Baptized**. Now when **He** had brought them into **His House**, **He** set food before **Them**; and **He Rejoiced**, having **Believed in God** with **All His Household**.

REVIEW

Q

“What Was The Immediate Outcome Of The **Crowd Of People Becoming Angry, Incensed, & Attacking **Paul & Silas**?”**

A

The Proconsul / Magistrates Of The City Had Paul & Silas Beaten With Rods!

... And the **Magistrates tore the garments off **Them** and gave orders to beat **Them** with rods ... Acts 16:22b**

Q

“What Did The **Proconsul / Magistrates Of The City Do Next After Having **Paul & Silas** Beaten With Rods?”**

A

They Had Them Imprisoned!

... And when They had inflicted many blows upon Them,

... They (Magistrates) threw Them into prison, ordering the Jailer to keep Them safely ... Acts 16:23

Q

“What Did The **Jailer Do After He Was Given His Orders?”**

A

He Carried Them Out Exactly & Immediately!

... Having received this order,

He (Jailer) put Them into the inner prison and fastened Their Feet in the stocks ... Acts 16:24

CQ1

“What Is The Most Frequent Outcome To The Disciple / Follower Of Christ Jesus Who Removes Evil From The World By Setting Tortured & Captive Souls Free In The Name Of Jesus Christ?”

CA1

Persecution By The Evil One Or His Demons Directly!

CA2

Persecution Ordered By People Knowingly Doing Satan’s Bidding!

CA3

Persecution Thought Up / Tempted Into By People Unknowingly Doing Satan’s Bidding!

CQ2

“What Is The Most Frequent Outcome To The Person Who Has Their Tortured & Captive Souls Free In The Name Of Jesus Christ?”

CA1

They Are Free To Start Their Life All Over Again With A New Spiritual Beginning Or Rebirth!

CA2

They Will Be Immediately Tempted To Go Back Into Bondage & Slavery By The Devil & His Demons!

CA3

They Are Free To Worship Jesus Christ As Their Lord & Savior!

CA4

They Are Free To Join With Other Believers & Followers Of God In A Community Of Faith – The Church For Fellowship & Support!

Q

“What Did Paul & Silas Do Next After Their Beating & Imprisonment?”

A

They Praised God In True Joy For Being Counted Worthy Of Persecution!

... But at midnight Paul and Silas were Praying and Singing Hymns to God ... Acts 16:25a

Jesus Taught Us To Praise God & Be Glad When We Are Persecuted For His Name's Sake!

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My Name's Sake. Rejoice and be Exceedingly Glad, for great is your Reward in Heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Matthew 5:10-12

Paul Also Taught Us To Praise God & Be Glad

When We Are Persecuted For His Name's Sake – Even While Chained In Prison In Philippi

“But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the Gospel, so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; and most of the Brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to Speak the Word without fear. Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the Defense of the Gospel! What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice. For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless, to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith, that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again. Only let your conduct be worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the Faith of the Gospel, and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of Salvation, and that from God. For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me.”

Philippians 1:12-30

“I implore **Euodia** ¹, and I implore **Syntyche** ² to be of the same mind in the Lord. And I urge you also, true companion (Epaphroditus),³ help these women who labored with me in the Gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life. Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men.” ... [**Euodia & Syntyche** – Women Leaders in the Church of Philippi] ^{1&2} [**Philippians 2:25 & 4:18**] ³ ... “The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the Peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy, meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of Peace will be with you. But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things, I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me. Nevertheless, you have done well that you shared in my distress. Now you **Philippians** know that in the beginning of the Gospel, when I departed from **Macedonia**, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. For even in **Thessalonica**, you sent aid once and again for my necessities. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. Indeed, I have all and abound. I am full, having received from **Epaphroditus** the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. And My God Shall Supply ALL Your Needs According to His Riches in Glory by Christ Jesus. Now to Our God and Father Be Glory Forever & Ever. Amen!” Philippians 4:2-20

Q

“What Did God The Holy Spirit Do With Paul & Silas’ Joy, Praise, & Worship?”

A

God By His Indwelling Spirit, He Used Their Joy, Praise, & Worship
To **Speak RHEMA** To The Other Prisoners, Guards, & The Head Jailer
... And the **Prisoners** were **Listening (Rhema)** to **Them (Paul & Silas)** ... **Acts 16:25b**

Q

“What Did God The Holy Spirit Do To Accompany His Words – **RHEMA & Inner Voice**
To Prove He Alone Is God To The Prisoners, Guards, & Head Jailer?”

A

A **Miracle (Sign & Wonder)** In The Form Of: **Earthquake** ¹,
Prison Doors Opened ² & **Loosened Chains** ³ (A Trinity Of Signs & Proofs),
By The **Power Of Faith** Found In The Jailhouse Rock **Praise & Worship** Backdrop
... Suddenly there was a **great earthquake**, ¹ so that the **foundations of the prison were shaken**; ¹
and immediately all the **doors were opened**, ² and **Everyone’s Chains (Paul, Silas & Prisoners)**
were loosed ³ ... **Acts 16:26**

God The Father All Mighty Moves Heaven & Earth By Signs & Wonders For Us ¹
Jesus Christ The Son of God Opens The Holy of Holies
Making A Way Into His Divine Presence For Us ²
God The Holy Spirit Sets Our Spirit’s Free & Comes To Live Within & Empower Us ³

Q

“What Did The Jailer Do In Response To The Miracle?”

A

He Rushed To See What Had Happened & Decided To Despair & Kill Himself
... And the **Keeper of the Prison (Jailer)**, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the **Prisoners** had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill Himself... Acts 16:27

Q

“What Did Paul Do As He Perceived The Jailer’s Thoughts & Actions?”

A

He Pleaded With Him To Stop & Rethink His Situation

... But **Paul** called with a loud voice, saying,

“Do Yourself no harm, for We are all here!” ... Acts 16:28

Q

“What Did The Jailer Do In Response To Paul’s Pleading?”

A

He Called For Light To Shed A New Perspective On His Situation,
He Literally Physically, Mentally, & Spiritually - Stepped Into The LIGHT!
... Then **He** called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas ... Acts 16:29

Q

“What Did The Jailer Do Next With His New Revelation?”

A

He Literally Asked These True Christians, **“What Must I Do To Become Like You!”**

... And **He** brought **Them (Paul & Silas)** out and said,

“Sirs, what must I do to be Saved?” ... Acts 16:30

Q

“What Did Paul & Silas Tell Me He Must Do?”

A

Believe In Jesus Christ Alone, God the Father’s Only Son,
And You Will Be Saved & Reborn A Friend & Follower of the One True God!

... So, **They** said, **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ,**
and **You** will be **Saved, You and Your Household.**” ... Acts 16:31

Q

“What Five Things Did The Jailer Do In Response To Their Teaching?”

A1

He Took Them To His Own House To Hear More Of The Gospel’s Message From Them

... Then **They (Paul & Silas)** **Spoke (Rhema)** the **Word of the Lord (The Full Gospel)**

To **Him** and to **All Who Were in His House** ... Acts 16:32

A2

He Took Them To His Own House To Care For Their Wounds

... And **He** took **Them (Paul & Silas)** the same hour of the night

and washed **Their Stripes** ... Acts 16:33a

A3

He Took Them To His Own House

So, His Entire Family & Household Servants

Might Hear The Gospel & Decide For Themselves

... And immediately **He** and **All His Family** were **Baptized**... Acts 16:33b

A4

He Took Them To His Own House To Care For Their Other Basic Needs – Food & Drink
... Now when **He** had brought them into **His House**, **He** set food before **Them** ... Acts 16:34a

A5

He Took Them To His Own House
To Rejoice, Praise, & Worship God With His New Family Of God
... And He Rejoiced, having Believed in God with All His Household ... Acts 16:34b

***“Let Us Be Jesus’ True Followers Ready To Die To Self
& Live For Him & His Mission Alone,
Not Counting The Cost, Rejoicing, Praising, & Worshipping,
In Good & In Bad Times, In Freedom & In Persecution!
Let Us Tell The Good News Of The Full Gospel Message To All,
So That We May By God The Father’s Help Shake Up Their World,
& Not Leave Them The Same Way, We Found Them!
Let Us Open The Doors That Liberate Them
From Insult, Injury, Guilt, Shame, & Sin
That Keep Them In Bondage To The Evil One,
By Introducing Them To Jesus Christ Their Lord & Savior!
Let Us Loosen The Chains Of Their Past,
And Lead Them Into A New & Vibrant Relationship
With The Holy Spirit Who Indwells Their Minds, Hearts, & Souls,
Giving Them A New & Eternal Life To Live Abundantly!”***