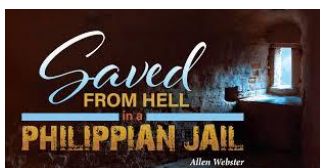


Don't Miss It: Conclusion



September 9, 2018

Acts 16:16-39

You never
day will
how quickly

And when they had laid many stripes upon them, **they cast *them* into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: ²⁴ who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.**

know what a
bring and
your life can

change.

A review of the passage

Lydia's salvation

A woman who practiced divination- fortune telling and her masters

Paul and Silas

Prison

No matter what affliction or crisis we may face, we too can decide how we will respond. With the enablement of the Holy Spirit, we can refuse to paint our lives in the dull gray of grumbling and complaining. Instead, our chosen color can be the azure blue of contentment because God's help is always available.

God chooses what we go through; we choose how we go through it.

He gives me joy in place of sorrow;

He gives me love that casts out fear;

He gives me sunshine for my shadow,

And "beauty for ashes" here. —Crabbe

¹⁶ And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

¹⁷ the same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. ¹⁸ And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

¹⁹ And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, ²⁰ and brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, ²¹ and teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. ²² And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. ²³ And when they had laid many stripes upon them, **they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: ²⁴ who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.** ²⁵ And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the **prisoners heard them.** ²⁶ And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. ²⁷ **And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.** ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. ²⁹ **Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, ³⁰ and brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?** ³¹ And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. ³² **And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. ³⁴ And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.** ³⁵ And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, Let those men go. ³⁶ And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace. ³⁷ But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and

fetch us out. ³⁸ And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans. ³⁹ And they came and besought them, and brought *them* out, and desired *them* to depart out of the city. ⁴⁰ And they went out of the prison, and entered into *the house of Lydia*: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

Consider what Paul and Silas went through and the major impact all of this had on the Philippian jailer, his family and thousands of people beyond!

17 facts about the Philippian jailor

1. He thrust them into prison

Verse 24

An instrument of torture having five holes, four for the wrists and ankles and one for the neck

2. He heard about the prisoners

Verse 24

3. He heard the prisoners sing

Verse 25

4. He experienced the earthquake

Verse 26

5. He panicked

Verse 27

Roman law stated that if a guard lost a prisoner, he was given the same punishment the prisoner would have received. It follows that the jailer knew that there were some men in the prison who had committed capital crimes and were being held for execution. The jailer would rather commit suicide than face shame and execution

6. He called for a light

Verse 29

7. He sprang in

Verse 29

To rush in impetuously

8. He came trembling

Verse 29

Terrified

Trembling with fear (entromos from en = in + tromos = tremor or terror) means to be terrified, quaking or trembling with extreme fear. It pictures a person in a quivering condition because of exposure to an overwhelming or threatening circumstance.

9. He fell down before Paul & Silas

Verse 29

This is how God wants our lives to be: Natural magnets drawing people to Him. Our Christianity should make others want what we have with God.

10. He brought them out

Verse 33

11. He believed

Verse 33

Faith can be summarized in the acrostic

Forsaking

All

I

Take

Him

12. He washed their stripes

Verse 33

Wiersbe - It is touching to see the change in the attitude of the jailer as he washed the wounds of these two prisoners who were now his brothers in Christ. One of the evidences of true repentance is a loving desire to make restitution and reparation wherever we have hurt others. We should not only wash one another's feet (John 13:14-15), but we should also cleanse the wounds we have given to others.

13. He was baptized

Verse 33

The first step of obedience

14. He brought them to his house

Verse 34

A new friendship was formed that very day!

15. He fed them

Verse 35

Hospitality should be automatic!

16. He rejoiced

Verse 35

Rejoiced (Exulted, Jumped for joy) (21)([agalliao](#) from **agan** = much + **hallomai** = jump; gush, leap, spring up) means literally to "jump much", "leap for joy", skip and jump with happy excitement and so to be exceedingly joyful, overjoyed or exuberantly happy. The idea is this person shows their excessive, ecstatic joy by leaping and skipping. It describes jubilant exultation, a quality of joy that remains unhindered and unchanged by what happens.

17. He believed in God with all his house- He led his family

Verse 35

His family had no idea that their husband and dad came close to dying that day.

III. I thank God for the day my daddy was saved!

His family had no idea that life would be forever different.

"Thanks to Calvary"