

Praise Is Important, in All Circumstances

TODAY I WANT TO TALK ABOUT, A VERY HUMBLING CHAPTER WHERE PAUL AND SILAS WENT THROUGH SUFFERING AND WERE THROWN IN PRISON, AND BECAUSE OF THERE STRONG FAITH AND THERE DEVOTION TO YAHUVEH GOD, TO JESUS (YAHUSHUA), THEY WERE SET FREE. WHAT'S HUMBLING IS THAT EVEN IN THERE PAIN EVEN IN THERE SUFFERING, THEY WORSHIPPED HIM, THEY DIDN'T SIT THERE AND COMPLAIN. THEY DIDN'T SIT THERE IN JAIL AND GET ANGRY ABOUT THE SITUATION. THEY SANG SONGS OF PRAISE TO HIM, AND I THINK THAT IS SO BEAUTIFUL AND PRECIOUS, TO REMEMBER THIS, AND TO BE REMINDED OF IT TO ME WAS REALLY SOMETHING PERSONALLY I NEEDED TO BE REMINDED OF.

I AM SURE FOR YOU OUT THERE TOO, IF YOU ARE FACING SOMETHING HARD RIGHT NOW, TRY TO REMEMBER THAT YAHUVEH GOD AND YAHUSHUA JESUS, WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU. HE ALSO DESIRES US TO NOT BE COMPLAINING TO NOT ALLOW OUR CIRCUMSTANCES TO MAKE US ANGRY. IT CAN BE EASY TO DO SO SOMETIMES. ESPECIALLY WHEN FRUSTRATED, WE HAVE ALL BEEN THERE.

LETS TAKE A LOOK AT THIS IN :
ACTS 16:16-34

THIS IS FROM THE COMPLETE STANDARD BIBLE:

PAUL AND SILAS IN PRISON **16** ONCE, AS WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO PRAYER, A SLAVE GIRL MET US WHO HAD A SPIRIT BY WHICH SHE PREDICTED THE FUTURE. SHE MADE A LARGE PROFIT FOR HER OWNERS BY FORTUNE-TELLING. **17** AS SHE FOLLOWED PAUL AND US SHE CRIED OUT, "THESE MEN, WHO ARE PROCLAIMING TO YOU[A] A WAY OF SALVATION, ARE THE SERVANTS OF THE MOST HIGH GOD." **18** SHE DID THIS FOR MANY DAYS. PAUL WAS GREATLY ANNOYED. TURNING TO THE SPIRIT, HE SAID, "I COMMAND YOU IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST TO COME OUT OF HER!" AND IT CAME OUT RIGHT AWAY. **19** WHEN HER OWNERS REALIZED THAT THEIR HOPE OF PROFIT WAS GONE, THEY SEIZED PAUL AND SILAS AND DRAGGED THEM INTO THE MARKETPLACE TO THE AUTHORITIES. **20** BRINGING THEM BEFORE THE CHIEF

MAGISTRATES, THEY SAID, "THESE MEN ARE SERIOUSLY DISTURBING OUR CITY. THEY ARE JEWS 21 AND ARE PROMOTING CUSTOMS THAT ARE NOT LEGAL FOR US AS ROMANS TO ADOPT OR PRACTICE." 22 THE CROWD JOINED IN THE ATTACK AGAINST THEM, AND THE CHIEF MAGISTRATES STRIPPED OFF THEIR CLOTHES AND ORDERED THEM TO BE BEATEN WITH RODS. 23 AFTER THEY HAD SEVERELY FLOGGED THEM, THEY THREW THEM IN JAIL, ORDERING THE JAILER TO GUARD THEM CAREFULLY. 24 RECEIVING SUCH AN ORDER, HE PUT THEM INTO THE INNER PRISON AND SECURED THEIR FEET IN THE STOCKS. A MIDNIGHT DELIVERANCE 25 ABOUT MIDNIGHT PAUL AND SILAS WERE PRAYING AND SINGING HYMNS TO GOD, AND THE PRISONERS WERE LISTENING TO THEM. 26 SUDDENLY THERE WAS SUCH A VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE THAT THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE JAIL WERE SHAKEN, AND IMMEDIATELY ALL THE DOORS WERE OPENED, AND EVERYONE'S CHAINS CAME LOOSE. 27 WHEN THE JAILER WOKE UP AND SAW THE DOORS OF THE PRISON STANDING OPEN, HE DREW HIS SWORD AND WAS GOING TO KILL HIMSELF, SINCE HE THOUGHT THE PRISONERS HAD ESCAPED. 28 BUT PAUL CALLED OUT IN A LOUD VOICE, "DON'T HARM YOURSELF, BECAUSE WE'RE ALL HERE!" 29 THE JAILER CALLED FOR LIGHTS, RUSHED IN, AND FELL DOWN TREMBLING BEFORE PAUL AND SILAS. 30 HE ESCORTED THEM OUT AND SAID, "SIRS, WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?" 31 THEY SAID, "BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS, AND YOU WILL BE SAVED—YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD." 32 AND THEY SPOKE THE WORD OF THE LORD TO HIM ALONG WITH EVERYONE IN HIS HOUSE. 33 HE TOOK THEM THE SAME HOUR OF THE NIGHT AND WASHED THEIR WOUNDS. RIGHT AWAY HE AND ALL HIS FAMILY WERE BAPTIZED. 34 HE BROUGHT THEM INTO HIS HOUSE, SET A MEAL BEFORE THEM, AND REJOICED BECAUSE HE HAD COME TO BELIEVE IN GOD WITH HIS ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD.

*THEY REFUSED TO ALLOW THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES TO DICTATE THEIR TRUST IN GOD (PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13). * BIBLEREF.COM*

I LOVE THAT TOO. SOMETHING TO REFLECT ON, WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT AS WELL, NOT ONLY TO KEEP FIRM IN OUR FAITH, BUT ALSO IN OUR TRUST IN YAH, AS THAT GOES HAND IN HAND AND BOTH ARE IMPORTANT.

*CONTINUING WITH, THIS BELOW *CREDIT TO BIBLEREF.COM*

WHEN AN EARTHQUAKE OPENS ALL THE PRISON DOORS AND UNLATCHES ALL THE SHACKLES, PAUL, SILAS, AND THE OTHER PRISONERS STAY. IN DOING SO, THEY SAVE THE JAILER'S LIFE FROM EXECUTION. THE JAILER, WHO APPARENTLY KNOWS THE

PAIR WERE ARRESTED FOR SPREADING A MESSAGE OF SALVATION, ASKS IF HE CAN HAVE THAT MESSAGE. HE AND HIS FAMILY BELIEVE. HE WASHES THE BLOOD FROM PAUL'S AND SILAS'S BODIES AND THEY SYMBOLICALLY WASH HIS FAMILY'S SINS AWAY IN BAPTISM (ACTS 16:27-33).

NOW, LIKE PAUL AND SILAS IN THE PRISON, THE FAMILY REJOICES. AFTER BEING BOUND TO THE ROMAN EMPIRE'S HUNDREDS OF HOUSEHOLD, CIVIL, AND NATIONAL IDOLS, THEY HAVE FOUND THE TRUE GOD. THE FAMILY THAT MAKES A LIVING CHAINING UP PRISONERS IS FREE.

THIS IS THE FIRST RECORD OF PAUL BEING IMPRISONED, BUT IT'S FAR FROM THE LAST. IN HIS FIRST IMPRISONMENT IN ROME, HE WILL BRING THE MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION WITH GOD TO CAESAR'S HOUSEHOLD (PHILIPPIANS 4:22) AND IMPERIAL GUARD (PHILIPPIANS 1:13) AND WRITE HIS LETTERS TO THE EPHESIANS, PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSIANS, AND PHILEMON. IN ANOTHER IMPRISONMENT, HE WILL WRITE HIS PERSONAL LETTER TO TIMOTHY (2 TIMOTHY 1:8). PAUL KNEW FROM THE BEGINNING HE WOULD SUFFER IN HIS MINISTRY (ACTS 9:16); WHEN PERSECUTION COMES, HE DOESN'T LET IT SLOW HIM DOWN.

WHAT ARE SOMETHING'S YOU CAN TAKE AWAY FROM THIS VERSE?

WHAT IS FASCINATING TO ME, IS THAT BECAUSE OF THERE SUFFERING TOO, AND THEM PRAISING YAHUVEH GOD, & BEING SET FREE LIKE THAT, HELPED THE GUARD AND HIS FAMILY TO COME TO KNOW YAH AND BE SAVED , PRAISE YAH. IT IS ALSO A GREAT REMINDER THAT OUR SUFFERING IS NEVER WAISTED, YAH ALWAYS USES EVERYTHING TO BRING HIM GLORY.