

Bible/College Class Notes – Journeys of Paul – Lesson 20

The Philippian Jailor's Conversion

This week we learn how the rough Jailor was changed as he found forgiveness from Jesus Christ

**“What must I do to be saved?” ...
‘Believe on The Lord Jesus Christ,
and thou shalt be saved’. Acts 16 v30 & 31**

Bible Readings for this week

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Acts 16v16-26 (Paul and Silas thrown into prison)	
Monday	Acts 16v27-40 (The Philippian Jailor is saved)	
Tuesday	Philippians 1v1-24 (Paul's Letter to the Philippian Believers)	
Wednesday	Philippians 1v25-30, Philippians 2v1-11 (Every Knee shall bow)	
Thursday	Philippians 2v12-30 (Paul wrote when in prison in Rome)	
Friday	Philippians 3 (Knowing the power of Christ's resurrection)	
Saturday	Philippians 4 (Rejoice in the Lord, always)	

Important Lesson for us today: *The conversion of the Philippian Jailor shows how a Christian's witness (Paul & Silas) can be used by God the Holy Spirit to convert hardened sinners. If we believe that we are a Christian, would our lives bring others to trust in our Lord? How do we react in trouble or happiness? Is our praise and trust in The Lord God alone?*

Have we been completely changed in our character? - *No longer controlled by our sins. The Jailor was changed from being rough, and cruel to being kind, and compassionate.*

Hymn 401 – Praising the Saviour for His Substitutionary Death for a Sinner like Me.

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| 1. My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Saviour divine:
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
O, let me from this day
Be wholly Thine. | 2. May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire:
As Thou hast died for me,
O, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire. |
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EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

The Jailor's Conversion - A Complete Change of Behaviour.

- **Paul & Silas spent many days at Philippi – Preaching the Gospel to All.**
 - Everyone heard the Gospel message, and God's pending Judgement against sin.
 - Even a damsel, who was possessed of an evil spirit and being used to make money by evil men from her 'fortune telling', heard the Gospel message.
 - She followed Paul and Silas calling out repeatedly, **“These men are the servants of the most-high God, which show us the way of salvation”**.
 - Paul, in the Name of The Lord Jesus Christ, commands the evil spirit to come out of her. Immediately she is freed – the men are very angry at losing their income.
 - Uproar - Paul and Silas are arrested, beaten with rods, and imprisoned.
- **Paul and Silas' Brave Testimony to God.**
 - Paul and Silas, although in agony from the rough treatment of their jailer, sang praises to God, throughout the evening, and even at midnight.
 - What must the Jailor and other prisoners have thought?
 - Surely, normal people would be cursing, swearing, showing their hatred, and anger towards God for allowing this to happen to them – **not** praising Him.
 - These men are **different**, they pray and sing as if they personally **know** their God.
- **The Lord Miraculously Intervenes at Midnight.**
 - God sends an earthquake, and all the prisoners are free to escape.
- **The Jailor Has Two Great Fears: -**
 - His conscience was pricked. **‘This could be God's Judgement on me.’**
 - My masters will put me to death for letting the prisoner's escape.
- **God Shows His Great Mercy to the Jailor, and To Us.**
 - Paul's cry, **“Do yourself no harm, we are all here”**, saves him from suicide.
 - Realising that Paul's God is the One true God, he fears God rather than men, and cries out from his heart, **“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”**
 - Paul replies, **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved”**.
 - The change in this rough jailer is so striking that his witness impacts on his grown-up family. They repent their sin and believe in Christ too; all are baptised.
 - With changed hearts they all tend to the wounds of Paul and Silas.
- **Being Converted To Christ Means We Want To Live For Him.**
 - It will be obvious to all around that we are different, changed with new desires, committed to living **only** to please the Lord Jesus.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Put off concerning the former conversation the old man (our old lifestyle), which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, (to be like Christ), which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”
Ephesians 4 vs21-24.