

Acts # 70

“Paul and Silas; Arrested, Charged, Beaten, Imprisoned, yet always Free!”

Acts 16:16-40

It was obviously Paul’s plan to go somewhere and do something in God’s will every day.

The young church met for prayer in homes at this time.

This woman was accurate with her prophecies and she was controlled by a group of thug handlers who made big profits from her.

If Paul is going to remain in God’s will promoting God’s truth, he must be separated from the influence of demons.

We don’t need help from the devil’s advocates, from his religion or even from man-made denominations; we need help from the Lord, period.

Note that violent opposition is all around as God permitted it to open a door for a church to be planted in this city.

Whenever violence is used against God’s church, it’s a sign that Satan’s evil is at work.

In Philippi, there was a stronghold and when it was demolished, the entire area was open to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

That’s why there was so much violent opposition and why God had to sponsor many ways to break through the stronghold.

Respect for God-ordained authority causes mature believers to set aside selfish ambitions by trusting in God’s ability to bless or discipline His chosen leader’s decisions.

The jailer knew he was a goner because he thought the prisoners escaped but now that he realizes they’re still there, he’s still not yet recovered.

Paul and Silas’ peace under pressure causes the jailor to seek their advice to answer a desperate question he has.

For the first time in their lives as a result of believing in Jesus Christ, this family has real joy with inner happiness and their lives were changed permanently, so they were celebrating.

Paul’s team was arrested, charged, beaten and imprisoned without probable cause or a proper hearing.

The accusation was heard and received without counsel or a chance for Paul’s side to be heard.

So, Paul is simply claiming his legal rights.

When we studied ‘Philippians’, we noted it was written from Paul’s Roman prison cell, where he was still rejoicing over the Lord’s victory here in Acts 16.

And He is still calling on the Philippian church to rejoice, teaching and ministering to them.

Paul’s missionary journeys reveal God’s strategy for him to visit major cities on major trade routes within the Roman Empire and because he is a Roman citizen, his ministry falls under the protection of the Roman government.