

# Songs in the Night: Finding Joy in the Prison

## (Acts 16:25-40)

- I. **Praise in the Midnight Hour (v. 25-26)**
  - a. **Situation of Suffering** Paul and Silas were beaten, bleeding, and chained in the inner prison, yet they chose to pray and sing.
  - b. **A Witness to Others:** The other prisoners were listening to their praise.
  - c. **The Divine Intervention:** God answered with a violent earthquake that opened doors and loosened chains – an act of God’s power.
- II. **The Urgent Question and the Simple Answer (v. 27-34)**
  - a. **The Jailer’s Despair:** Facing death due to the presumed escape of prisoners, the jailer nearly commits suicide.
  - b. **The Gospel Defined:** Paul responds to “What must I do to be saved?” with: “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.”
  - c. **The Fruit of Salvation:** The jailer moves from fear to compassion (washing wounds) and joy (baptism and feeding the apostles)
- III. **The Aftermath: Truth and Freedom (v. 35-40)**
  - a. **Standing for Integrity:** Paul refuses to leave quietly, challenging the unlawful beating of Roman citizens to protect the young church.
  - b. **A New Beginning:** They encourage the believers in Lydia’s house before departing, showing that gospel victory often comes through, not around, suffering.

**Key Takeaway:** When we trust God in our “prison” situations (suffering, trials), God uses our testimony to bring others to Him.