

A JAILER
SAVED AND CERTAIN

The story of the Philippian jailer's conversion is unique. It tells how a man was suddenly converted to Christ, changing his eternal destiny forever. Paul and Silas, two preachers of the Gospel, had been falsely accused and imprisoned. And the jailer, taking his job very seriously, put them in the innermost dungeon. Let's now look at some things about this man.

His Sleep

The jailer, although on guard, fell asleep. He was unaware of what was happening in the prison: that Paul and Silas were singing hymns to God. But suddenly, a great earthquake occurred, which immediately awakened the jailer from his sleep. Perhaps you too, find yourself like the Philippian jailer, unaware of what is happening around you, of your proximity to eternity, and of the soon coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Scriptures admonish you: *"Seek the Lord while He may be found"* (Isaiah 55.6 NKJV).

His Supposition

After the earthquake, and seeing all the prison doors open, the jailer assumed that the prisoners had escaped. Although his hypothesis was quite logical, it still wasn't true, and it almost

cost him his life! Perhaps you, too, have made certain assumptions about eternity, which may seem logical and correct to you, but will cost you not only your life, but your soul. One of the most common beliefs is that entry into Heaven can be achieved through good works. The Bible is very clear on this point: *“All our righteous deeds (works) are like a polluted garment”* (Isaiah 64.6 ESV). Heaven is too pure to enter this way.

His Salvation

Fearing the consequences of not having kept the prison safe, the jailer was about to take his own life. But Paul cried out in a loud voice, *“Do yourself no harm, for we are all here”* (Acts 16.28 NKJV). Understanding that his assumption was incorrect, and that it made no sense to take his own life, the jailer now begins to think about his spiritual condition and asks, *“What must I do to be saved?”* (Acts 16.30 NKJV). He had obviously heard the message that Paul and Silas had been preaching in Philippi, where he worked and, presumably, also lived. The jailer now takes the message seriously. His question is honest and urgent: *“What must I do to be saved?”* And the answer is clear and simple: *“Believe on the Lord*

Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16.31 NKJV). The message today has not changed and if you, with an awakened conscience regarding your guilt before God as a sinner, place your faith and trust in Christ, you too will be saved.

His Certainty

"You will be saved." What confidence and assurance! Having trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior, this man now has the confidence that his salvation is assured. Why? What is it about trusting in Christ that makes salvation so certain? The reason is that Christ's sacrifice for the sinner has already satisfied the demands of God's righteous judgment against sin. God raised Him from the dead and seated Him in the highest place in Heaven. And because of that, all who trust in Him will be saved for eternity.

Samuel Chesney



Publicaciones Pescadores
publicacionespescadores@gmail.com