

# SIRS WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED ACTS 16:16-36

Text: Acts 16:30

(Acts 16:30 KJV) "And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Introduction:

We are living in a day where people are looking for the answer to this question on a daily basis. The problem is that most are looking for the answer in the wrong places, and turning to the wrong things.

This story reveals several things that I believe brought about this jailor to ask this question, "Sirs what must I do to be saved?" Paul and Silas had been thrown in prison, and some amazing things happened.

Notice with me:

## **1. CHARGE OF THE SOOTHSAYERS (VSS. 19-21)**

(Acts 16:17-20 KJV) "The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the

most high God, which show unto us the way of salvation. {18} And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour. {19} And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, {20} And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,"

A. Servants of God.

B. Soul winner

C. Stirrer of Trouble

## **2. CONSISTENCY OF THE SERVANTS**

A. Consistent in the Word (vs 32)

(Acts 16:32 KJV) "And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house."

(Acts 17:1-10 KJV) "Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: {2} And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, {3} Opening and alleging, that Christ must

needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. {4} And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few. {5} But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. {6} And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also; {7} Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus. {8} And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things. {9} And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go. {10} And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews."

## B. Work

(Acts 20:31 KJV) "Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears."

## C. Way (vs 25)

(Acts 16:25 KJV) "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them."

### **3. CHARACTER OF THE SAINTS**

(Acts 16:26-30 KJV) "And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. {27} And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. {28} But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. {29} Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, {30} And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

A. Had the opportunity to do the wrong thing but chose to do right.

1. He and all the prisoners could have escaped.

Illustration: Bob Jones Sr. "Do right; do right if the stars fall, do right.

B. Because they did right many things happened.

1. A life was spared. (vss. 27)

(Acts 16:27 KJV) "And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled."

2. A family was saved. (vss. 33)

(Acts 16:33 KJV) "And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway."

3. Their needs were met. (vss. 33-34)

(Acts 16:33-34 KJV) "And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. {34} And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house."

a. Cleaned up and filled up.

#### **4. CRY OF THE SINNER (VSS. 30)**

(Acts 16:30 KJV) "And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

A. The Gospel that was given. (vss 31)

(Acts 16:31 KJV) "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

(John 14:6 KJV) "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

(Rom 3:10 KJV) "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:"

(Rom 3:23 KJV) "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

(Rom 5:12 KJV) "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"

(Rom 6:23 KJV) "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

(Rom 5:8 KJV) "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

(John 5:24 KJV) "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

(John 3:36 KJV) "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

(Rom 10:9-10 KJV) "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. {10} For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

(Rom 10:13 KJV) "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

B. The Gospel was excepted.

C. Obedience followed. (vss 33)

(Acts 16:33 KJV) "And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway."

## **5. CELEBRATION AT THE SUPPER (VSS. 34)**

(Acts 16:34 KJV) "And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house."

A. Home was rejoicing.

## B. Heaven was rejoicing. (Luke 15:7)

(Luke 15:7 KJV) "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

Close:

What are those out in the world saying of you? Are they calling you a servant or a soul winner?

Are you who have trusted Christ as your personal Saviour consistent in the Word, in your Work and in your Ways?

Do you have character. Do you do the right things regardless?

Possibly you are here this evening and have never trusted Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. And you are saying I want to go to Heaven, but I'm not certain that I am ready. Why not trust Him tonight?

Remember there will not only be celebration here but in Heaven as well. And one day we all celebrate in Heaven because of what Jesus has done for the saved in salvation.