

Acts 16:16-40
A Vital Question: What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Introduction:

People come to know the gospel in all sorts of ways. Some come rather quietly others come to faith in Christ more dramatically and still others are brought up in Christian homes learning the Bible's teaching on salvation as soon as they are able to understand. But the gospel message remains the same. The vital question still confronts all of us: What must I do to be saved? The answer is not complicated. It is to the point immediately, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved"

I. Hostility Toward God's Messengers – v.1-27

A. The Slave Girl

1. Disruptive with a demon spirit – II Thess. 2:9,10
2. The most dangerous errors are not the most obvious – v.17
3. Jesus is the Most High God – Luke 4:31-41

B. Paul and Silas Jailed:

1. The devil's mouthpiece was gone and the devil now seeks plan B. v.19; I Tim. 6:9,10
2. The slave girl's master retaliates – v.20-24; II Tim. 2:8,9

C. Freedom – v.25

1. Paschal Psalms or the Great Hallel
2. The prisoners were listening to the singing
3. A word about suicide – Matt. 10:28

II. Hope in Christ For Salvation – v.28-40

A. Observe:

1. Let us not confuse fear to be faith nor confuse remorse as repentance – Eph. 2:8
2. The natural man thinks there is something he can do that will save him – Mark 10:17
3. Paul told the Jailer not to do any deed but believe in the Divine Son of God (Ferguson, Warfield and Temple comments)
4. True faith is evidenced by obedience as it was in the case of Lydia, she had given a desire to be baptized – v. 33-34;
5. Justification before a holy God is by faith but God given faith works – Rom. 4:25-5:1
6. Faith and conversion are contagious – "household" v.31,33,34

B. The Aftermath of the gospel preached:

1. Paul would not leave the prison without a rightful public apology and compensation – v.37
2. For the sake of future Christian witness in a Roman world for Roman Christians – Rom. 13:1-7; I Pet. 2:14

Conclusion:

1. *There will always be those who are hostile to us because of our relationship to Christ and His gospel. II Tim.2:9,10*
2. *Our hope alone is in Christ's atoning substitutionary death for us. The church will be built by Christ and His promise to us. As the Philippians' church was built – Turn To: Philippians 1:1-11*

207 South First Street, Fulton, NY 13069 Web Site fultonrpc.org
6/20/2010