

A Jailor's Conversion: Acts 16:22-34

Paul and Silas are put into prison. An earthquake comes, and shakes the prison. The Jailor, thinking all his prisoners have escaped, is about to kill himself when Paul says, *"Do thyself no harm: for we are all here."* The Jailor comes in, falls down before Paul and Silas, and asks,

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Notice the Jailor's question:

1. The Jailor saw there was a difference between being saved and being lost! (read Matthew 12:30; John 5:28-29; Matthew 7:13-14).
2. The Jailor saw that he was lost! *To be lost is to be spiritually separated from God by sin (read Isaiah 59:1-2; Ezekiel 18:20; Ephesians 2:1-2)*
3. The Jailor used the word "must." *There are some requirements in the Bible (read Mark 8:31; John 3:7; John 4:24; Hebrews 11:6).*
4. The Jailor asked about himself. *The Bible places emphasis on individual responsibility (read John 21:21-22; Acts 2:40).*
5. The Jailor knew there was something for him to DO! *Man must do what God to be saved (read Hebrews 5:8-9; Matthew 7:21-23; Romans 6:16-18).*
6. The Jailor asked the right men. *Paul was an apostle who spoke the Word of God (read John 16:12-13; 1 Corinthians 14:37; 2 Timothy 3:16-17).*

The answer the Jailor was given:

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

What is saving faith? It is faith that obeys God! Read Matthew 7:21-23; Hebrews 11; Galatians 3:26-27

How was the Jailor converted?

1. *He had the word of God preached to him* (verse 32).
That's how faith comes! Romans 10:17.
2. *He has a change in attitude – now washing the stripes of Paul and Silas, implying his repentance.*
Repentance is a Bible command! Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Peter 3:9.
3. *He was baptized.*
Baptism is for the remission of sins! Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21.

Having heard the word of God, believing it, and obeying it, the Bible says, *"...he...rejoiced, believing in God with all his house."*

Have YOU done what the Jailor did?

-Study by John M. Brown