

# **The Gospel comes to Philippi – Part 2**

Sermon 2 in the Philippians Series

## **Acts 16:16-40**

### **I. A Possessed Girl and those who profited from Her 16:16-24**

#### **A. The Girl who was Possessed -- 16-18**

**v. 17** – “the way” in Greek is not being used in the technical sense “the Way” as a name for the Christian faith as Luke does 5 times in Acts.

The gospel message was in danger as it first appears in Europe of being combined with the pagan religion of the day.

Calvin says, “If Paul had acceded to that testimony, there would have been no difference between the saving doctrine of Christ and the mockeries of Satan. The splendor of the gospel would have been enveloped in the darkness of falsehood and so would have been extinguished.”

**v. 18** – What became of the girl?

#### **B. The Motivation of her Masters -- 19**

#### **C. Her Masters Hatred toward Paul and Silas -- 20-24**

Philippi was a Roman colony – so every Philippian Citizen was a Roman Citizen. They used anti-Jewish rhetoric to incite the crowd.

### **II. The Mighty Deliverance of God 16:25-30**

### III. The Conversion of the Philippian Jailer and his Family 16:31-34

Not only would he be saved.  
Paul promised his entire house would be saved by believing.  
And that is exactly what happened – v. 32

Talking of the jailer -- Chrysostom said, “He washed and was washed. He washed them from their stripes, and he himself was washed from his sins.”

### IV. A Solid Church is Established in Philippi -- 16:35-40

v. 35 shows the magistrates had found out something – most likely they had found out they had beaten and imprisoned Roman citizens.

- A. Why didn't Paul and Silas claim Roman Citizenship before their arrest?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. Why did Paul and Silas claim Roman Citizenship after the fact, and demand the authorities treat them with respect.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- C. How did the Philippian Church become such a strong and mature church in such a relatively short period of time?

Notice Luke's use of “they” and “them”, instead of “we”.

**17:1** – it appears that Luke was no longer with them and stayed in Philippi.

**20:5-6** – Paul comes into Philippi, meets up with Luke, as they near the end of the Missionary journey – and Luke now departs with Paul.