

Church – The Beginnings, Part 46
Prayer, The Python Demon, Prison, and Salvation
Acts 16:16-34 | 09/17/2017
NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP
<https://NLFJI.org/ACTS>

For Today's Teaching, please go to: <https://wp1.NLFJI.org/313> (will be uploaded later)

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After spending some time in Philippi with Lydia and her household who were just saved in Christ, in the Messiah of Israel (all Jewish believers in their Messiah) ... Paul and Silas set out to go to the place of Prayer and then ...

1. Who met Paul and Silas while they were attempting to go to the “place of prayer”?
a certain “slave girl” who was a Fortune Teller / “Prophetess”
2. What did she do for a living? By what “means” did she do this?
Fortune Telling – she was demon possessed with the spirit of python
This was related to the Oracle of Delphi and the god Apollo, etc.
Was she Free to do whatever she wanted? **No, she was a SLAVE**
3. How did Paul react to her? He was very **annoyed** for many days (Acts 16:18)
Why do you think it took so long for Paul to react? **Good Question, Patience, maybe?**
4. What did Paul finally do about this “slave girl”? (Acts 16:18)
He commanded the Demon of Python to leave that slave girl, and it was cast out.
5. How did her “owners” take the news of what Paul did for that girl? **They were very angry**
What was the result of Paul and Silas’ actions? **They were arrested**
6. Those owners – who did they go to, to get some “action” done?
They went to the Political Authorities and lied about Paul and Silas
Can this be a pattern of “worldly people” regarding how they react to the Gospel?
Yes, this has been a very common pattern from Bible-times until the present
Who else got involved in helping those “owners” of that “slave girl”?
The town’s folk got stirred up, because of those “Jews” (see verses 29-22)
7. How did Paul and Silas respond to being put in prison on trumped-up charges? (vs. 25)
Praying and Singing Praises unto God (thanksgiving, praise, worship)
How did that influence the other prisoners? **They were listening intensely, closely**
It seemed that this greatly influenced them, to be quiet, and not to want to flee after the earthquake happened. God’s Peace seemed to overwhelm everyone in prison.
8. What was the jailer going to do after the Earthquake, and why? **He was going kill himself (suicide). Roman law, if you are jailer, or someone who watches prisoners, or help with executions (e.g. crucifixions, etc.). If prisoners escape, you would suffer their fate if you are put in charge over them, etc. (see verses 25-28)**
9. What was the Answer to the Jailer’s crisis? How did that affect his whole family?
Jesus Christ, The Good News of Jesus Christ – personal trust, rescue by Jesus.
Paul spoke “the Word” → the whole Gospel (creation, fall, sin, and redemption, etc.)