



## Westside Baptist Church Bible Study

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### Translations Dr. Delvin Atchison

#### Books of Acts, Chapter 16, Verses 25-31

#### Amplified Bible (AMP)

<sup>25</sup> But about midnight when Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them;

<sup>26</sup> suddenly there was a great earthquake, so [powerful] that the very foundations of the prison were shaken and at once all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.

<sup>27</sup> When the jailer, shaken out of sleep, saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, thinking that the prisoners had escaped.

<sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted, saying, "Do not hurt yourself, we are all here!"

<sup>29</sup> Then the jailer called for torches and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas,

<sup>30</sup> and after he brought them out [of the inner prison], he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

#### Living Bible (TLB)

<sup>25</sup> Around midnight, as Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to the Lord—and the other prisoners were listening—

<sup>26</sup> suddenly there was a great earthquake; the prison was shaken to its foundations, all the doors flew open—and the chains of every prisoner fell off!

<sup>27</sup> The jailer wakened to see the prison doors wide open, and assuming the prisoners had escaped, he drew his sword to kill himself.

<sup>28</sup> But Paul yelled to him, "Don't do it! We are all here!"

<sup>29</sup> Trembling with fear, the jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down before Paul and Silas.

<sup>30</sup> He brought them out and begged them, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

<sup>31</sup> They replied, "Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, and your entire household."



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### The Message (MSG)

<sup>25-26</sup> Along about midnight, Paul and Silas were at prayer and singing a robust hymn to God. The other prisoners couldn't believe their ears. Then, without warning, a huge earthquake! The jailhouse tottered, every door flew open, all the prisoners were loose.

<sup>27-28</sup> Startled from sleep, the jailer saw all the doors swinging loose on their hinges. Assuming that all the prisoners had escaped, he pulled out his sword and was about to do himself in, figuring he was as good as dead anyway, when Paul stopped him: "Don't do that! We're all still here! Nobody's run away!"

<sup>29-31</sup> The jailer got a torch and ran inside. Badly shaken, he collapsed in front of Paul and Silas. He led them out of the jail and asked, "Sirs, what do I have to do to be saved, to really live?" They said, "Put your entire trust in the Master Jesus. Then you'll live as you were meant to live—and everyone in your house included!"

### The Passion Translation (TPT)

<sup>25</sup> Paul and Silas, undaunted, prayed in the middle of the night and sang songs of praise to God, while all the other prisoners listened to their worship.

<sup>26</sup> Suddenly, a great earthquake shook the foundations of the prison. All at once every prison door flung open and the chains of all the prisoners came loose.

<sup>27</sup> Startled, the jailer awoke and saw every cell door standing open. Assuming that all the prisoners had escaped, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself

<sup>28</sup> when Paul shouted in the darkness, "Stop! Don't hurt yourself. We're all still here."

<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for a light. When he saw that they were still in their cells, he rushed in and fell trembling at their feet.

<sup>30</sup> Then he led Paul and Silas outside and asked, "What must I do to be saved?"

<sup>31</sup> They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved—you and all your family."<sup>[a]</sup>



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### The Voice (VOICE)

<sup>25</sup> *Picture this:* It's midnight. *In the darkness of their cell, Paul and Silas—after surviving the severe beating—aren't moaning and groaning; they're praying and singing hymns to God. The prisoners in adjoining cells are wide awake, listening to them pray and sing.*

<sup>26</sup> Suddenly the ground begins to shake, and the prison foundations begin to crack. You can hear the sound of jangling chains and the squeak of cell doors opening. Every prisoner realizes that his chains have come unfastened.

<sup>27</sup> The jailer wakes up and runs into the jail. His heart sinks as he sees the doors have all swung open. He is sure his prisoners have escaped, *and he knows this will mean death for him*, so he pulls out his sword to commit suicide.

<sup>28</sup> At that moment, Paul *sees what is happening and* shouts out at the top of his lungs,

**Paul:** *Wait, man! Don't harm yourself! We're all here! None of us has escaped.*

<sup>29</sup> The jailer sends his assistants to get some torches and rushes into the cell of Paul and Silas. He falls on his knees before them, trembling.

<sup>30</sup> Then he brings them outside.

**Jailer:** Gentlemen, please tell me, what must I do to be liberated?

**Paul and Silas:** <sup>31</sup> Just believe—believe in the ultimate King, Jesus, and not only will you be rescued, but your whole household will as well.