

HELEN SANDERS

10-25-2024

## OUR PRAISE REMOVES BONDAGE

Often in scripture we see different prophets and apostles beaten, stoned, and bound in chains in prison. One particular story in scripture is about Paul and Silas as told in Acts 16:16-34.

They had been teaching in the city of Thyatira and a demon possessed woman kept following them. She spoke flatteries over them, but it was not God speaking through her. After so many days, Paul commanded that spirit to leave her, and it came out.

The problem was she was making money for her masters. You could say she was a type of psychic with a spirit of divination, receiving her information from demons rather than God. Now her masters were cut off from this income and they did not like it. Her masters made a stir and Paul and Silas were arrested. After being beaten, they were thrown into the inner prison where they were bound in chains.

Most of us would say, "Lord, why? What did I do wrong to be put in this place?" But not Paul or Silas. In verse 25 it says, ***"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them."*** This praise was so profound that it caused an earthquake, and their chains fell off. Then they had the opportunity to be a witness to the keeper of the prison and their family and they received salvation. Then, the next day they were released from prison. Oh, what a mighty move of God!

When God is glorified in our lives, no matter what the circumstances we may find ourselves in, He will move on our behalf. Instead of questioning why we are in a hard place, let your praise ring forth and watch God remove the bondage. If it worked for Paul and Silas, it will also work for you and me!

I see many days of persecution coming for the true remnant of Christ. We must stay focused on God even in the hard times that will come. Let your praise be the weapon that frees you from any bondage that the adversary may bring into your life.!