SSS 4 **22 November 2026**
Text: Acts 16

35 And when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, "Let those men go."

36 So the keeper of the prison reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go. Now therefore depart, and go in peace."

37 But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, *and* have thrown *us* into prison. And now do they put us out secretly? No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out."

38 And the officers told these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans.

39 Then they came and pleaded with them and brought *them* out, and asked *them* to depart from the city.

40 So they went out of the prison and entered *the house of* Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

Acts 16:35-40

THE MAGISTRATES' DECISION

And when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, "Let those men go."
Acts 16:35

1. The Magistrates

    a) They sentenced Paul and without due process

    b) They were now going to release Paul and Silas

    c) They sent the Court's officials to inform the Jail Keeper

2. The word of the Jailor

So the keeper of the prison reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go. Now therefore depart, and go in peace."
Acts 16:36

a) He informed Paul and Silas of the decision of the Magistrates

b) He wished Paul and Silas well

c) They are released from their jail cell

PAUL'S RESPONSE

But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, *and* have thrown *us* into prison. And now do they put us out secretly? No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out."
Acts 16:37

1. Paul and Silas

a) They were Roman Citizens

b) Philippi was a Roman colony

c) Paul and Silas had been beaten openly

d) They had not been proven to be guilty of breaking any Roman Law

e) They had also been jailed!

2. They refused to get out of prison

a) They cannot be put away secretly

b) They were adamant about this decision

c) The Magistrates themselves must come to release them

THE FEAR OF THE MAGISTRATES

38 And the officers told these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans.

39 Then they came and pleaded with them and brought *them* out, and asked *them* to depart from the city.

40 So they went out of the prison and entered *the house of* Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

Acts 16:38-40

1. The Magistrates became afraid

2. They were dealing with Paul and Silas who were Roman citizens

3. They had to see Paul and Silas personally

    a) They came

    b) They pleaded

    c) They brought them out

    d) They asked them to leave Philippi

4. Paul and Silas

    a) They graciously accepted the unspoken apologies

    b) They went to the house of Lydia

    c) They saw the brethren in her home

    d) They encouraged all who had gathered

    e) They left Philippi