

Script – Paul and Silas Sing in Jail

Person 1: [loudly] Paul and Silas are causing trouble!

Narrator: A crowd was forming around Paul and Silas. The people lied about them.

Person 2: They are Jews and teaching people to break the laws of the Romans.

Person 1: [angry and loud] Beat them!

Person 2: [angry] Put them in prison.

Narrator: The rulers of the city grabbed Paul and Silas. They tore off their clothes and commanded that they be beaten. Soon Paul and Silas' backs were cut and bleeding from being hit again and again.

Ruler 1: [to the jailer] Now put these men in prison. Make sure they do not escape.

Jailer: [nodded, then to himself] I better put them in a basement room. [Leads the prisoners away.]

[Scene change to the prison, part of the jailer's house]

Narrator: The stone floor of the prison was cold. The men's backs ached and their legs were sore from being clamped in the stocks. Each still felt the sting where the whip had broken the skin. Later that night, Paul and Silas could not sleep so they began to pray.

Paul: [to Silas] Let's pray and thank God.

Narrator: Soon the men began to sing and praise God.

Silas: [to God] Praise you, Lord God almighty!

Paul: [singing] Praise the Lord!

Narrator: They knew that they were in prison because they obeyed God. They sang even louder. All of the prisoners could hear them sing, even the jailer.

Narrator: [excited] Suddenly, around midnight, there was a great earthquake. The whole prison shook. Doors rattled off their hinges. Locks were shaken apart. The jailer could hear the doors of the prison open and the chains rattling. He grabbed a lamp and quickly hurried to the prison.

Jailer [excited and worried]: The prisoners are going to escape. The ruler will kill me for letting them get away. I am going to die.

Narrator: The jailer drew his sword and was going to kill himself.

Paul: [calling out] Don't harm yourself. We are all here!

Narrator: The jailer hurried down the prison steps to Paul and Silas. He saw that the door was opened and Paul and Silas standing besides the broken stocks and chains.

Jailer: [holding up a lamp] Oh sirs, your God is great and awesome. Please tell me what I must do to be saved.

Paul: [with confidence] Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ! He will forgive your sins.

Jailer: [excited] Come, follow me. Tell my family about the Lord Jesus.

[Scene change to the Jailer's home]

Silas: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and he will forgive your sins.

Narrator: The jailer's wife and children were glad to know about Jesus. They believe what Paul and Silas told them.

Jailer: Let me wash your backs. I will put some oil on the cuts to help them heal.

Narrator: Then Paul and Silas baptized the Jailer and his whole family because they believed in Jesus.

Jailer: [comforting]: You are weak and tired. Eat this food and you will feel better.

Narrator: Later that morning a soldier arrived at the prison.

Soldier: The ruler says that the men, Paul and Silas, may now go. Release these men and set them free.

Paul: But we did not have a trial and everyone saw them beat us. We are Roman citizens. We were beaten without a trial and that is against the Roman law. Tell the rulers of the city to come here and bring us out of prison.

Ruler 2: [worried] We didn't know that they were Roman citizens!

Ruler 1: [concerned] This is terrible. We are in trouble. If the emperor hears about this we could lose our jobs.

Ruler 2: We will do what Paul says.

Ruler 1: [going to the prison, speaking to Paul and Silas] This was all a mistake. We didn't know that you were Roman citizens.

Ruler 2: You are free to go. It might be best if you left the city.

Narrator: Paul and Silas went to tell their friends goodbye.

The End