

PRAYER – 11
AUGUST 17, 2016

INTRODUCTION: Last week we studied the prayers of Paul for the Ephesians and learned some valuable lessons on prayer. Tonight, we are going to study how Paul, Silas, and Jehoshaphat prayed when facing life threatening challenges.

PAUL AND SILAS – ACTS 16:19-26

1. They were in the Lord's will doing His work yet they found themselves accused, arrested and imprisoned in miserable accommodations.
 - A. Jesus said there would be days like these. **ACTS 9:15-16**
2. Jesus also must have taught him what to do.
 - A. They prayed and sang praises.
 - B. They were hurt, humiliated and facing death.
3. They prayed and their prison was transformed from a place of pain to a place of praise.
 - A. If anyone could sing gloom, despair and agony on me, deep dark depression, excessive misery, they could have!
 - B. They were wounded, bleeding, chained and in filth.
4. By prayer, they brought their problem to God. By praising, they brought God into their problem.
 - A. **EX. 12:29** – How we enter a situation determines the outcome. They applied the Blood.
 - B. **PS. 119:62** – By practicing prayer and praise during the midnight hour of peace, we can be prepared for the midnight hour of war!

JEHOSHAPHAT – 2 CHRON. 20:3-13

1. The scene: The outer court of the Temple in Jerusalem.
2. The assembly: People of Jerusalem, their wives and children.
3. The prayer:
 - A. To Jehovah, covenant God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. **V6**
 - B. He brags about God's all pervasive power. **V6**
 - C. You're our God. **V7**
4. Certain facts:
 - A. You defeated our enemies and gave us the land. **V7-8**
 - B. The promise to hear and help. **V9**
 - C. The ingratitude of the enemy. **V10-11**
 - D. The helplessness of the people. **V12**
 - E. The attitude in which they stood. **V12**
5. The instructions: **V14-17**
 - A. Don't fear or lose heart, the battle is God's.
 - B. Advance, set, see, stand.
6. The response: **V18**
 - A. The king bowed in humility, reverence, and submission.
 - B. The people worshipped, and bowed in adoration.
 - C. The Levites praised loudly before anything occurred.
7. The outcome. **V20-25**
 - A. God brought confusion to the enemy and victory to Judah.
 - B. Our greatest need is to believe the battle's been won, and victory is ours.
 - C. Our enemy's nightmare is to have to face our God!

CONCLUSION:

Once we get God's mind on it, we can set ourselves, stand still and see the salvation of God. Once we pray, we can praise Him for the answer even before we see it physically. **PS. 118:21**