

The Conversion of the Jailor

TEXT: Acts 16:16-34

INTRODUCTION:

- A. USED TO TEACH FAITH ONLY SALVATION.
1. What was the answer to the jailor's question?
 2. Only faith is mentioned, faith alone must be okay.
- B. WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT CONVERSION FROM THIS?
- I. THIS TYPE OF REASONING PITS ONE PASSAGE AGAINST ANOTHER.**

- A. **Acts 16:31. ONLY FAITH** MENTIONED.
- B. **Acts 22:16. ONLY BAPTISM** MENTIONED.
- C. **Acts 2:38. REPENTANCE** AND **BAPTISM**.
- D. THUS WE HAVE 3 DISTINCT THEORIES.
- E. THIS PASSAGE IS OFTEN LINKED WITH **Eph. 2:8-9** TO SHOW MAN HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HIS OWN SALVATION; THAT THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN SALVATION AND WORKS. BUT IN THIS PASSAGE, **FAITH IS A WORK** (**John 6:39**).

II. THE JAILOR'S QUESTION - AND PAUL'S ANSWER.

- A. "WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?"
- B. IN ANSWERING, PAUL GAVE AN ANSWER CONSISTENT WITH THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE JAILOR.
1. **He'd never heard about Jesus, or what to believe about him.**
 2. So Paul **started where he was.**
 3. Illustrations:
 - a. How do you bake a pie? In an oven, from a recipe, carefully?
 - b. Different people give differing directions when asked.
- C. CONSIDER WHAT PAUL SAID MORE CLOSELY.
1. **He didn't say faith only**, before he could do anything else.
 2. He also **spoke unto him the word** of the Lord. **Why?**

III. WHAT DID THE JAILOR DO WHEN HE HEARD THE WORD OF THE LORD?

- A. HE OBVIOUSLY **BELIEVED**.
- B. HE **REPENTED** - SHOWN BY KINDNESS AND HOSPITALITY.
- C. HE WAS **BAPTIZED IMMEDIATELY**. WHY?
1. They had spoken the word of the Lord to him.
 2. What is the word of the Lord(**Mat. 28:19-20; Mark 16:16**).

IV. WHO WAS BAPTIZED? WERE ANY BABIES BAPTIZED?

- A. WHO SAID THERE WERE BABIES IN HIS HOUSE?
- B. **BABIES DON'T NEED IT**(**Ez. 18**).
- C. IF BABIES DID, IT WOULD **DO THEM NO GOOD**.
1. Can't repent(**Acts 17:30**).
 2. Can't confess(**Matt. 10:32-33**).
 3. Can't believe(**Mark 16:15-16**).

D. THOSE WHO WERE BAPTIZED INCLUDED **ALL WHO COULD RESPOND** (**Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16**).

CONCLUSION: WHAT ABOUT YOU?