

An Escape From Suicide & Sin in One Night (1)

Read Acts 16:16-27 to learn about the events in Philippi that led to a jailer preparing to kill himself. He stopped when he heard Paul say, *Do yourself no harm, for we are all here* (v28). The jailer then asked Paul, *What must I do to be saved?* (v30)—the jailer was lost and knew it!

First, Paul told him to *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved*. Not many people in Philippi knew the gospel yet, so this is a good “starting place” for the jailer. But this is not all that Paul told him. In verses 32-33, Paul taught the jailer what it meant to believe on Jesus, and in response, *immediately he and all his family were baptized*. This is exactly what happened when the Ethiopian heard Philip preach Jesus (read Acts 8:35-38).

Is that what happened when you learned about Jesus? Today, when someone is told to believe on Jesus, they often wait days, weeks, or months to be baptized, but this man was baptized immediately, even though it was after midnight! If this is different than your story of learning about Jesus, ask yourself what is different and why. Then read our article next week or at our website today: www.QVCO.com

An Escape From Suicide & Sin in One Night (2)

Last week, we studied from Acts 16, noticing that when the jailer knew he was lost and was taught to believe in Jesus, he was immediately baptized. Why be immediately baptized?

Peter preached repentance and baptism *for the remission of sins* and baptism saves (Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21). Paul was baptized to wash away his sins (Acts 22:16). Jesus said, *He who believes and is baptized will be saved* (Mk. 16:16). This baptism is part of the *word of the Lord* Paul taught the jailer (vs. 33). Now we realize that he was immediately baptized so his sins would be immediately forgiven by God!

Today, most people are not immediately baptized because they believe God gives salvation before and without baptism. Baptism for someone who was already saved by Jesus is absent from the book of Acts. The Bible says Jesus' blood was given *for the remission of sins* and baptism is *for the remission of sins* (Matt. 26:28; Acts 2:38). Baptism is the time when Jesus' blood removes our sin—this is God's purpose and plan. If you were not taught this baptism, contact us for further study or with any related question. We invite any comments or questions (www.QVCO.com).