**Black Preacher Sermon.Com**

**The Night The Jail House Rocked**

(Acts 16:25-26 KJV)

*25And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. 26And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.*

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hockingly my Brothers and Sister late one night, a burglar broke into a house that he literally thought was empty. He tiptoed through the living room but suddenly he became paralyzed in his tracks when he heard a loud raspy voice say, "Jesus is watching you!" Eerily the silence returned to the house, so the burglar crept forward again. "Jesus is watching you," came a loud audible voice once again.

The burglar stopped dead in his tracks again. Indeed this time he was frightened. Frantically, he looked all round. In a dark corner, he spotted a bird cage and in the cage was a parrot. He asked that pink and purple parrot: "Was that you who said that Jesus is watching me?"

"Yes I did and what you gone do about it," said the parrot.

The burglar breathed a sigh of relief and asked the parrot: "What's your name?"

"My name is Clarence idiot," said the bird.

"That's a dumb name for a parrot," sneered and laughed the burglar. "What idiot named you Clarence?" The parrot said, "The same idiot who named that Rottweiller Jesus that’s standing behind you."

Ironically many criminals often end up in the city jail or prison, but, in ancient times, many people who committed no legitimate crime ended up in jail. Then there are thousands that are in jail because they have dared to share their Christian faith. The worst offender is North Korea—Ryan Morgan, an analyst with International Christian Concern in Asia has stated, “the regime still has up to 70,000 Christians locked away in virtual concentration camps."

Paul and Silas were faithful to God even while they were in prison. Their faithfulness led them to experience God’s sovereign power in a supernatural way. After going through a trial in pains and suffering, their faith in God was strengthened as they were filled with more of God’s power. Although everything around them was not going as planned, their trust in God was not shaken or traumatized.

In our sermon on Paul and Silas in prison, we’ll point out the importance and rewards of faithfulness to God. God loves and helps all those who remain obedient to his teachings. And just as he saved Paul and Silas from the hands of their enemies, he will do the same for you. Start by learning his ways and honoring his Holy name. And by so doing, he’ll protect you even while you dine on the table with your enemies.

1. **Courage Rocked The House**

(Acts 16:20-26 KJV)

*20And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, 21And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. 22And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. 23And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:24Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. 25And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.* *26And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.*

Paul and Silas were servants of the Most High. They had consecrated their lives to God’s service. Upon proving their faithfulness, Jesus Christ gave them the mandate of preaching the Holy Gospel and winning more souls. They happily received this mandate and took it seriously as they went around preaching, healing the sick, and freeing those in captivity. It so happened that they drove an evil spirit which was giving supernatural abilities to a lady to see the future. After driving this spirit, the lady could no longer work as a fortune teller for her owners.