

Acts 16:14-40

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

1. One of the most encouraging components of God's absolute rule over the universe is His ability to bring good out of bad.
2. Satan uses two primary avenues of attack on God's church:
 - infiltration—attack from within
 - persecution—attack from outside
3. *16:14* When praying for someone who needs Jesus, pray that the Lord would open his/her heart.
4. *16:15* To have a home where travelers could enjoy Christian love, family life, and fellowship was a high priority for first-century Christian women (1 Timothy 5:9–10).
5. *16:16* No sooner had people been saved and a church took root than Satan moved to attack.
6. *16:17* Satan, the father of lies (John 8:44), knows the Truth and is willing to speak Truth when it suits his purposes.
7. *16:19-21* Rome permitted people to have their own religions but not to proselytize Roman citizens.
8. *16:25* Paul and Silas understood what many forget...We do not rejoice in circumstances; we rejoice in the God who is over the circumstances.
9. *16:25* The problem with sad Christians is not their circumstances but the lack of living a Spirit-controlled life.
10. *16:26, 28* All the prisoners were free to run, but they didn't.
11. *16:31* The answer is the same yesterday, today, and forever: Salvation is only by and through the Lord Jesus Christ.
12. *16:32* The faith of the jailer does not automatically bring salvation to his family. Each person was saved because they heard the Word and believed in Jesus.

13. *16:33-34* The only explanation for the dramatic transformation of the jailer was the grace of God's forgiveness flooding him.
14. *16:37* This was not personal revenge. Paul exercised legal protection for the church, at the same time establishing an air of respect.
15. *16:40* The persecution Satan unleashed to destroy the church merely added another family (at least!) to it.

TODAY'S SONGS

"Forever Reign" words and music by Reuben Morgan and Jason Ingram
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"I Will Look Up" words and music by Jason Ingram, Matt Redman, Wade Joye, Chris Brown, and Mack Brock
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