

Celebrating Sacred Joy
i.e., Supernatural Biblical-Spiritual Joy
Part 8

(Points I. and II. and all sub points see previous note sheets)

- III. **Why** Is It Important for Believers to **Attain** and **Maintain** and **Manifest** Supernatural Biblical Spiritual Joy
- A. God **Commands** Believers it and Believers Are to **Express** Supernatural Biblical Spiritual Joy in Their Lives cf Duet 33:18; 1 Chr. 16:10; Psalm 2:11; 14:7; 32:11; 42:11; 48:12; 53:7; 64:11; 97:12; 105:3; 149:2; Isa. 12:6; 54:1; 65:18; 66:10; Joel 2:21, 23; Zeph. 3:14; Zech. 2:14; Mt. 5:12; Lk. 10:20; Rm. 15:10; 2 Cor. 13:11; Philipp 2:4,18; 3:1; 4:4^{2x}; 1 Thess. 5:16; 1 Pet. 4:13
- B. Because **God** the **Son** Left the Glorious Regal Majesty of the Throne of Heaven and Became **Incarnate** in the Person of Jesus the Messiah Who Came to Give Us **His** Joy, **Prayed** That We Would Have His Joy, **Died** to Make it Possible for Us to Have His Joy and Rose from the Dead So That We Might Have Supernatural Biblical Spiritual Joy cf Jn. 17:5 cf Isa. 6:1-3 cf Jn. 12:41 2 Cor. 8:9; Jn. 1:1-2 cf Jn. 1:14; Philipp. 2:5-8; 1 Tim. 3:16; Lk. 1:14; 2:10-11; Jn. 15:11; 16:22, 24; Jn 17:13; Heb. 12:2; Jn. 20:20
- C. Joy or Delight in God and with God Maybe Among the Most **Effective Ways** to **Glorify** the Lord cf Psalm 96:1-13; Lk. 1:46-47; Acts 13:48; Rev. 19:7
- D. Because It **Enhances** the **Quality** of One's Earthly Life and Spiritual Life cf Acts 5:29-42; 16:21-34; 2 Cor. 7:1-4; Philipp. 1:25; 4:4 cf 4:11-13; 1 Thess. 1:6; Heb. 10:32-34
1. The **Circumstances** of Paul and Silas at Philippi Which Most Would Deem to be: *Disappointing, Distraught full, Dismissal, Depressing, Devoid of Justice* Acts 16:16-40
- a. The **Confrontation** of Acts 16:16-18

“And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain maid possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much gain by soothsaying. The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying These men are the servants of the Most High God, who show us the way of salvation. And this she did many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned, and said to the spirit, I command thee, in the name of Jesus Christ, to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.”
Acts 16:16-18

“The same followed Paul and us, and cried, (κράζω = krazo = continually loudly crying), These men are the servants of The Most High God, who show us the way of salvation.” Acts 16:17-
“And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved / greatly disturbed. . .” Acts 16:18

QUESTIONS and THOUGHTS to PONDER

1. **Why** was the Apostle Paul '**being grieved**' / '**greatly disturbed**' / '**greatly agitated**'?

"The same followed Paul and us, and cried, These men are the servants of The Most High God, who show us the way of salvation." Acts 16:17- "And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved / greatly disturbed (διαπονέομαι = diaponeomai. . ." Acts 16:18"

"διαπονέομαι: to be strongly irked or provoked at something or someone—"to be irked, to be provoked, to become angry." Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 762.

"διαπονέομαι diaponeomai be very angry." 1 Horst Robert Balz and Gerhard Schneider, Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1990–), 310.

Possible **Reason** or **Answer** Number One: Perhaps Many People Considered This Slave Girl Being One with a πύθων English Transliteration puthon / python spirit to be a **Speaker** of the **gods**

Possible **Reason** or **Answer** Number Two: she was not continuously crying out shouting, *show us the way of salvation* but **A WAY OF SALVATION** – the Greek does not have the definite article 'the' before the word way ὁδός English Transliteration = hodos = *a way of salvation.*"

Conclusion: Her Crying Out, Loudly Publicizing Paul's Message Might Have Led to People Thinking Paul and Silas Were Just Proclaiming Another Message of Salvation of **Another** of the Pantheon of Greek and Roman **gods** cf Acts 17:16-23

2. **Why** Wouldn't Her Identification of Paul and Silas' God as '**The Most High God**' Been Sufficient to Reveal That Paul and Silas Were Servants of the One True God, 'Yahweh'?

Answer: '**The Most - High God**' Was **Commonly** Used in the Graeco-Roman World to Denote the god who Was The **Supreme** Ruler over The Pantheon of gods That Existed in Every Culture in the Graeco-Roman World.

Also, Each Nation or City State Had Its **Own** Primary god or goddess and **The Most - High God** Was Used to **Denote** that god or goddess cf Acts 19:23-28, 34-35

3. **PRACTICAL** APPLICATION from the Revelation Provided in ACTS 16:17 – 18^a Believers Must Undertake to **PROTECT** the **PURITY** of The Gospel cf 1 Tim. 1:3, 18- 19; 6:20-21; 2 Tim. 2:1-2, 8 2 Tim. 4:7; Titus 1:11
4. Jesus Christ Is **NOT** Just Another Way to Salvation and Everlasting Life with God; Jesus Is the **ONLY WAY** cf Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:10-12; 1 Tim. 2:5