EPISODE NO. 309

Acts 16:16-24

A Slave-Girl in Philippi

16 Once we were going to the place for prayer. A slave-girl met us. She had an evil spirit in her. This spirit gave her the power to tell what would happen in the future. By doing this, she earned a lot of money for the men who owned her. 17 This girl followed Paul and us everywhere. She said loudly, "These men are servants of the Highest God! They are telling you how you can be saved!" 18 She continued doing this for many days. This bothered Paul, so he turned and said to the spirit, "By the authority of Jesus Christ, I order you to come out of her!" At that moment, the spirit came out. 19 The men who owned the slave-girl saw this. These men knew that they could no longer use her to make money. So they grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them into the meeting place of the city. The city officials were there. 20 The men brought Paul and Silas to the leaders and said, "These men are Jews who are making trouble in our city. 21 They are telling the people to do things which are not right for us. We are Roman citizens and cannot do these things." 22 The crowd was against Paul and Silas. Then the leaders tore off the clothes of Paul and Silas and ordered some men to beat them with rods. 23 The men beat them many times. Then the leaders threw Paul and Silas into jail. The leaders commanded the jailor, "Guard them very carefully!" 24 The jailor heard this special order. So he put Paul and Silas into the inner prison, far inside the jail. He locked their feet in wooden stocks.