

*Celebrating Sacred Joy*  
*i.e., Supernatural Biblical-Spiritual Joy*  
Part 12

(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

[ Points A. through C. and all sub points see previous note sheets ]

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; Philippi. 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* cf Acts 16:16-40

[ Points a. through c. and any sub points see previous note sheets ]

d. **Condemned** Unjustly, Had **Clothing** Torn Off, **Caned**, **Cast** into Prison and **Confined** in Stocks cf Acts 16:22-24

2. **Conspicuous Expression** of Supernatural Biblical Spiritual Joy Acts 16:25

*“And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises unto God; and the prisoners heard them.”* Act 16:25

3. **Consternation** of the Jailer cf Acts 16:26-28

*“And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosened.”*  
Acts 16:26

*“And the keeper of the prison, awaking out of his sleep and seeing the prison doors open, drew out his sword and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoner had been fled.”*  
Acts 16:27

- a. Earthquakes Are a **Natural Phenomenon** in This Part of the World
- b. The Reason None of the Prisoners Tried to Escape Might Have Been Due to the People of That Time Viewing Earthquakes to be Caused by the **Anger** of the **gods** cf Mt. 27:51 and Might Have Believed the Earthquake Was Caused by the God of Paul and Silas cf Ex. 19:18; Nu. 16:31-32; Judges 5:5; 2 Sam. 22:8, 16

1 Ki. 19:11-12; Job 9:6; Psalm 18:6-7; 60:2; 66:8; 77:18; 104:32; Isa. 13:13; Isa. 29:6; Ezk. 38:19-20; Zech. 14:5; Nahum 1:5; Mt. 28:2; Heb. 12:26; Rev. 8:5; 11:3; 16:18 and Were **Fearful** of Bringing His Wrath Upon Themselves

- c. I Personally Believe the Earthquake Be It by Means of Indirect Action of God Through Natural Phenomenon or the Direct-Action God was a **Miracle**, and Definitely a **Miracle** of **Timing**

## **Doctrinal Implication and Practical Readout from Acts 16:25-26 for Them Then and for You and Me Today.**

**Adverse** Circumstances Will Not **Adversely** Affect God's **Plan** and **Purpose** for a Believer's Life but Can Enhance The Plan, Purpose and the Spiritual Well Being of the Believer

1. God's **Plan** and His Present **Purpose** for Paul and his Gospel Team Was to go into Macedonia and Proclaim the Gospel of Acts 16:6-10

*"Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the word in Asia," Acts 16:6*

*"After they were come Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia; but the Spirit allowed them not." Acts 16:7*

*"And they passing by Mysia, came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: there stood a man of Macedonia, beseeching him, and saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us." Acts 16:9*

*"And after he had seen the vision, immediately, we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us to proclaim the gospel unto them." Acts 16:10*

2. Paul and Silas Encountered **Adverse** Circumstances at Philippi They Had Been Beaten and Incarcerated but God Used Those Circumstances to Bring the **Gospel** and **Salvation** to a Macedonian Family of Acts 16:30-34
3. God's Plan and Purpose for Paul and his Gospel Team Was **Fulfilled** They Went **Through** Macedonia **Proclaiming** the Gospel of Acts 17-19:1
4. **All** the Plans and Purposes of God Will Be **Accomplished** cf Psalms 33:11; 37:23-24; 57:2 Psalms 138:8; 139:15-16; Prv. 16:9; 19:21; Isa 14:24; 46:10-11; 55:11

*"The Lord bringeth the counsel of the nations to nought; he maketh the devices of the people of no effect. The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thoughts of heart to all generations." Psalms 33:11*

*"The Lord foils the plans of the nations; He thwarts the purposes of peoples. But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of His heart through all generations."* Psalms 33:10-11 NIV

*The steps of a man are established by the LORD, And He delights in his way. When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, Because the LORD is the One who holds his hand."* Psalms 37:23-24

*"I will cry to God Most High, to God Who accomplishes all things for me."* Psalms 57:2

*"The LORD will accomplish what concerns me; Your lovingkindness, O LORD, is everlasting; Do not forsake the works of Your hands."* Psalms 138:8

*"My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; and in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them."*  
Psalms 139:15-16

*"The mind of man plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps."* Prv. 16:9

*"Many plans are in a man's heart, But the counsel of the LORD will stand."* Prv. 19:21

*"The LORD of hosts has sworn saying, "Surely, just as I have intended so it has happened, and just as I have planned so it will stand."* Isa. 14:24

*"Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure.'" Isa. 46:10-11*

*"So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it."* Isa. 55:11

5. God Has **Purpose** for the Lives of **Everyone** of His Children cf Est. 4:14; Psalm 138:8  
Jer. 1:5; Acts 9:15; Rm. 8:28, Eph. 2:10

*"For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there relief and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place, but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed. And who knoweth whether thou are come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"* Est 4:14

*"The LORD will accomplish what concerns me; Your lovingkindness, O LORD, is everlasting; Do not forsake the works of Your hands."* Psalm 138:8

*"Before I formed thee in the womb, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb, I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."* Jer. 1:5

*“But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way, for he is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel.” Acts 9:15*

*“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Rm. 8:28*

*“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.” Eph. 2:10*

The Good Works Which God Has Prepared Beforehand for us Include Our Living of Life in the Sphere of: **Attaining**, **Maintaining** and **Manifesting** Supernatural Biblical Spiritual Joy