

THE CHRISTIAN AS A CITIZEN

Acts 16:35-40

Introduction:

- A. Paul and Silas had been arrested
 - 1) They cast out a demon
 - 2) Shut down a profitable business

- B. They had been charged in court
 - 1) These men have caused a riot
 - 2) They have violated religious laws

- C. They had been punished
 - 1) Beaten with rods - 40 save 1
 - 2) They had been imprisoned
 - 3) They had been placed in stocks

- D. God freed them
 - 1) The earthquake
 - 2) The Jailor was saved

- E. They are now declared "free"
 - 1) They refuse to leave!
 - 2) Why does Paul refuse to leave?

- I. The Message From The Magistrates Vs. 35-36
 - A. At the time of daylight Vs. 35
 - 1) They sent the sergeants
 - 2) "Let these men go"
 - 3) How did the Magistrates know?

 - B. The advice of the Jailor Vs. 36
 - 1) "depart" = exerchomai = "to go forth"
 - 2) "go in peace"

II. Paul's Affirmation of Citizenship Vs. 37

A. The wrong they had suffered

- 1) "They have beaten us openly uncondemned"
- 2) "being Romans"
- 3) "and have cast us into prison"

B. The cover-up attempted

- 1) "and now do they thrust us out privily?"
- 2) "nay, verily"
- 3) "but let them come themselves and fetch us out"

C. The magistrates feared Vs. 38

- 1) The Sergeants told the Magistrates
- 2) "and they feared"
- 3) "when they heard that they were Romans"

D. They did what Paul suggested Vs. 39

- 1) "And they came and besought them"
- 2) "and brought them out"
- 3) "and desired them to depart"

E. Paul and Silas' deliberate action Vs. 40

- 1) "And they went out of the prison"
- 2) "and entered into the house of Lydia"
- 3) They comforted them, and departed

III. The Christian and His Citizenship

A. I Timothy 2:1-3

B. I Peter 2:13-17 Acts 4:19

C. Romans 13:1-7