

NW LIFE AND MINISTRY

COMICS

★
ISSUE
#2

HOW TO **RUN A RACE** AGAINST HORSES



STUDY WEEK:

JUNE 29-JULY 5



BIBLE READING:

JEREMIAH 11-12



HOW TO **RUN A RACE** AGAINST HORSES



LIKE FAITHFUL
PROPHETS BEFORE US,
WE COUNT IT A **PRIVILEGE**
TO SUFFER FOR
JEHOVAH AND **KEEP**
PREACHING HIS
KINGDOM MESSAGE!



BROTHERS, TAKE AS A PATTERN OF THE SUFFERING
OF EVIL AND THE EXERCISING OF PATIENCE THE PROPHETS,
WHO SPOKE IN THE NAME OF JEHOVAH.
LOOK! WE PRONOUNCE **HAPPY** THOSE WHO HAVE **ENDURED**.

— JAMES 5:10, 11 —



EXPECT OPPOSITION. STAY PATIENT. KEEP PREACHING!
JEHOVAH SEES YOUR FAITHFULNESS!





TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD



RUNNING A RACE AGAINST HORSES

"Are you running
a footrace with
footmen, and they
have tired you?
How will you
contend with horses?"

—JEREMIAH 12:5



READ

TRIALS
TODAY CAN
PREPARE ME
FOR HARDER
TRIALS
AHEAD!



DON'T SLOW
DOWN IN KINGDOM
ACTIVITY—KEEP
GOING STRONG!



SOME TRIALS ARE
LIKE RUNNING WITH
FOOTMEN...



BUT SOON, THE GREAT TRIBULATION WILL COME.
THE CHALLENGES WILL BE HARDER—LIKE
RUNNING A RACE WITH HORSES!



JEHOVAH GIVES US STRENGTH TO ENDURE!

ENDURE THE TRIALS YOU FACE NOW—
THEY HELP BUILD ENDURANCE
TO KEEP GOING WHEN
HARSHER TRIALS COME!



LET'S KEEP RUNNING FOR JEHOVAH!
HE WILL HELP US FINISH THE RACE!





TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD



STRONG LOVE TODAY, STRONG PROTECTION TOMORROW!

♥ FOCUS ON
THE GOOD IN
OTHERS AND
SHOW LOVE!

♥ WHEN WE SPEND TIME
WITH OTHERS AND SEE
WHAT JEHOVAH LOVES
ABOUT THEM, **OUR LOVE
FOR THEM GROWS!**



LOVE WILL BE VITAL DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION.
WHERE WILL WE FIND **PROTECTION?**



"Go, my people,
enter your inner
rooms, and shut
your doors behind
you. Hide yourself
for a brief moment
until the wrath
has passed by."
—ISAIAH 26:20

 **READ**



OUR CONGREGATION—OUR "INNER ROOMS"
ARE OUR **SPIRITUAL SHELTER!**



JOHN 15:12
"KEEP ON LOVING
ONE ANOTHER."

WHEN WE LOVE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WE...



♥ **BUILD STRONG
FRIENDSHIPS**



♥ **SUPPORT EACH
OTHER**



♥ **STAY UNITED
WITH JEHOVAH**



♥ **PREPARE FOR
THE FUTURE!**



LET'S WORK HARD NOW TO LOVE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS!
OUR SURVIVAL MAY DEPEND ON IT!





SPIRITUAL GEMS



QUESTION: What do these verses reveal about Jeremiah's relationship with Jehovah?



JEREMIAH SAW THE WICKED PROSPER...
HE HAD A **VEXING QUESTION**.



JEREMIAH WAS HONEST
AND FORTFRIGHT WITH JEHOVAH.
HE HAD A **STRONG BOND**
WITH HIS HEAVENLY FATHER.



 **READ**

"You are righteous, O Jehovah,
when I enter into a dispute
with you. Yet I want to talk
with you about the way
of the wicked."

—JEREMIAH 12:1

"You, O Jehovah, know
me. You see me, and test
my heart toward you."

—JEREMIAH 12:3

LIKE A
CHILD WITH
A BELOVED
FATHER

JEHOVAH ASSURED HIM THAT
HE WOULD **UPROOT THE WICKED**.

"I will make an
utter end of all
such wicked
people..."

—JEREMIAH 12:14

AS HE SAW JEHOVAH'S ANSWERS,
JEREMIAH'S **CONFIDENCE** IN DIVINE
JUSTICE DEEPENED.



JEREMIAH'S HONEST PRAYERS STRENGTHENED HIS SHEPHERD'S HEART.
HE KEPT TURNING TO JEHOVAH—HIS LOVING FATHER!
WE CAN DO THE SAME!





SPIRITUAL GEMS



QUESTION: What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?



JEREMIAH 11-12

A SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT GEMS

1 JEHOVAH'S PATIENCE HAS A LIMIT

Jehovah warned Judah many times, but they refused to listen and kept doing what was wicked.

—JEREMIAH 11:7-10



2 FALSE SECURITY IN THE TEMPLE

They thought the temple would protect them, but Jehovah said true worship comes from a clean heart and right conduct.

—JEREMIAH 11:12-15



3 JEREMIAH FACED HATRED ALONE

The people conspired against Jeremiah because he spoke Jehovah's words, but Jehovah was with him.

—JEREMIAH 11:18-10



JEHOVAH IS RIGHTEOUS, LOVING, AND WILL BRING JUSTICE!

5 JEHOVAH'S ANSWER: JUSTICE IS CERTAIN!

Jehovah promised to uproot the wicked like a tree and bring them to nothing.

—JEREMIAH 12:14



4 A VEXING QUESTION FROM A FAITHFUL HEART

Jeremiah saw wicked people prosper and asked Jehovah why. His honest question showed a deep, trusting relationship with his Father.

—JEREMIAH 12:1, 3



6 ENDURANCE NOW PREPARES US

Like a race against horses, the trials we face now build endurance for even greater tests ahead.

—JEREMIAH 12:5



7 PRAYER DEEPENED JEREMIAH'S CONFIDENCE

As Jeremiah prayed and saw Jehovah act, his confidence in Jehovah's justice grew stronger and stronger.



8 GOD IS THE HEART SEARCHER

Jehovah examines the heart and rewards each person according to his ways and deeds—not by outward appearance.

—JEREMIAH 11:20



"You, O Jehovah of armies, the righteous examiner of hearts and minds, let me see your vengeance on them, for I have revealed my case to you."

—JEREMIAH 11:20



THROUGH JEREMIAH 11-12, WE SEE THAT JEHOVAH IS **RIGHTEOUS, PATIENT, AND FAITHFUL TO HIS SERVANTS.** LET'S KEEP TRUSTING HIM IN PRAYER EVERY DAY!





BIBLE READING



JEREMIAH 12:1-11

JEREMIAH BRINGS HIS HEART TO JEHOVAH—
AND JEHOVAH ANSWERS WITH JUSTICE AND HOPE!

Why do wicked people prosper while I suffer so much? How long, Jehovah?



JEREMIAH 12:1



1

JEREMIAH'S HONEST COMPLAINT

Jeremiah sees that the wicked are successful and he is treated harshly. He asks Jehovah his heartfelt question.



2

JEHOVAH UNDERSTANDS JEREMIAH'S PAIN

Jeremiah pours out his complaint, and Jehovah invites him to keep speaking openly.

Keep asking, Jeremiah. Speak freely to me.



3

JEHOVAH PROMISES TO JUDGE THE WICKED

Jehovah assures Jeremiah that He will uproot the wicked from the land because of their evil deeds.



4

THE WICKED WILL NOT ESCAPE

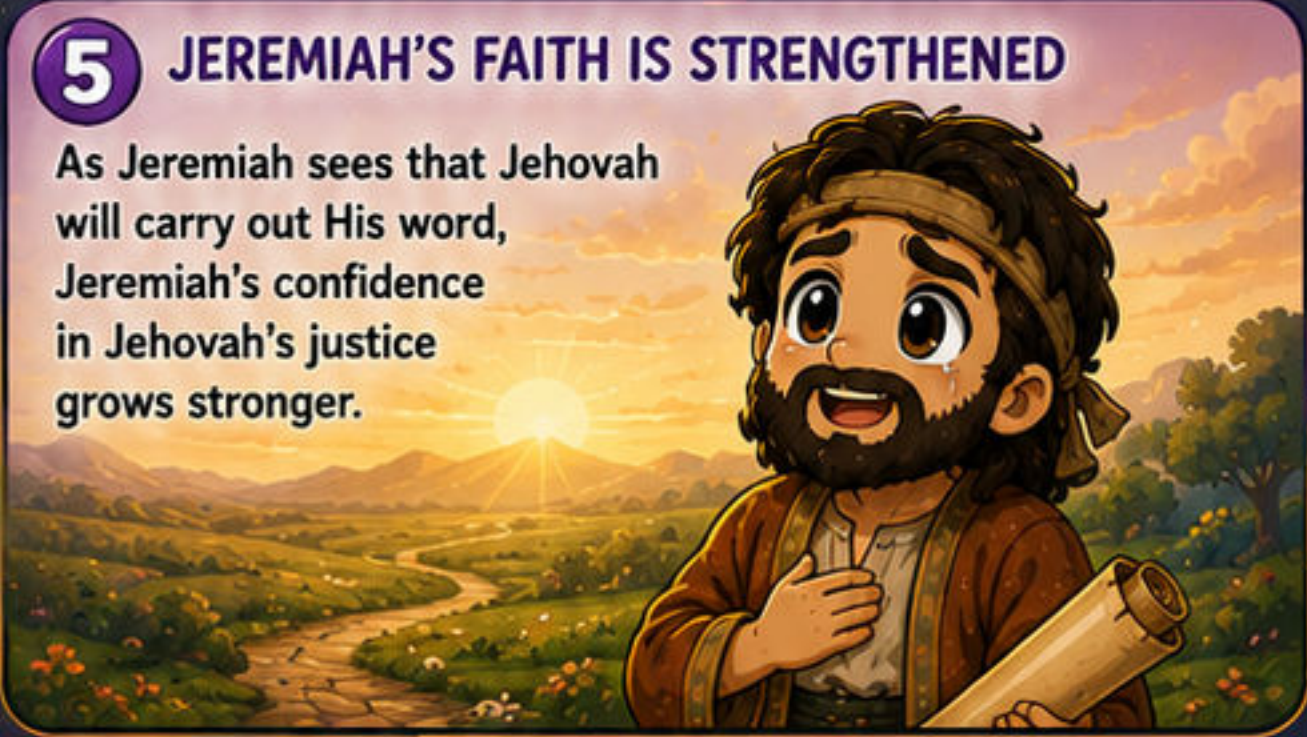
Even if the wicked are as strong as an eagle soaring high, Jehovah will bring them down.



5

JEREMIAH'S FAITH IS STRENGTHENED

As Jeremiah sees that Jehovah will carry out His word, Jeremiah's confidence in Jehovah's justice grows stronger.



6

KEEP PRAYING AND TRUST JEHOVAH

Jeremiah keeps turning to Jehovah in prayer, knowing He is a loving Father who hears and will act at the right time.



7

A LESSON FOR US TODAY

We can be honest with Jehovah in prayer, trust His answers, and keep our faith strong even when we don't understand everything.



WE CAN BE HONEST WITH JEHOVAH, TRUST HIS JUSTICE,
AND KEEP TURNING TO HIM IN PRAYER EVERY DAY!

JEREMIAH 12:1-11



APPLY YOURSELF

TO THE FIELD MINISTRY



INFORMAL WITNESSING

Initiate a conversation after a person says or does something kind.

Imitate Jesus. Be observant.



Notice acts of kindness—they open the door to conversation!



ASK YOURSELF:

- 1** What is the person currently doing? What might he be thinking about?

- 2** What do the person's clothing, appearance, or home tell me about his beliefs or culture?

- 3** Is this a good time to talk to the person?



**BE KIND.
BE OBSERVANT.
BE READY TO SHARE
THE GOOD NEWS!**



A kind word at the right time can help someone draw closer to Jehovah!



APPLY YOURSELF

TO THE FIELD MINISTRY



HOUSE TO HOUSE

The householder is a parent.
Imitate Jesus. Empathize with the person.
Try to imagine how he feels.



ASK YOURSELF:

1 What may he be concerned about?



2 What might he find helpful and appealing?



3 Is this a good time to talk to the person?



SHOW THAT YOU CARE BY LISTENING

If he tells you how he feels about something or mentions a problem he is facing, do not change the subject.

✓ LISTEN WITH CARE



✗ DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT



When we show kindness, listen with care, and understand how others feel, we follow Jesus and help others feel valued.





APPLY YOURSELF

TO THE FIELD MINISTRY



JESUS WAS A GREAT TEACHER WHOSE ADVICE ALWAYS WORKS

 MATT. 6:14, 15, 34; 7:12



Jesus gave simple,
practical advice that
brings peace, happiness,
and strong friendships!



1. FORGIVE OTHERS

Jesus said that if we forgive
others, our heavenly Father
will forgive us.

—Matt. 6:14, 15



Forgiving others helps us have a
clean heart and close friendship
with Jehovah.

2. DON'T WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW

Jesus taught us not to worry about
tomorrow. Jehovah takes care of us
each day.

—Matt. 6:34



When we trust Jehovah today,
we can enjoy peace and joy!

3. TREAT OTHERS THE WAY YOU WANT THEM TO TREAT YOU

Jesus said: "Do to others whatever you
would like them to do to you."

—Matt. 7:12



This is the golden rule! It helps us
show love and build strong friendships.

JESUS' ADVICE ALWAYS WORKS!



When we follow Jesus' wise advice,
it helps us now and in the future!



**JESUS' TEACHINGS ARE SIMPLE,
BUT THEY CHANGE OUR HEARTS AND LIVES!**

Let's follow his advice every day and make Jehovah proud!





Question: How many preaching tours did Paul embark on? (Acts 13:1–23:35)



1st PREACHING TOUR (47 C.E.)

Antioch to Asia Minor and Cyprus

Paul and Barnabas traveled across Asia Minor and to Cyprus, preaching the good news about Christ to everyone.

1. THEY PREACHED EVERYWHERE



They preached to everyone—rich or poor, young or old. Many people accepted the truth about Christ.

2. A SORCERER OPPOSED THEM



When they preached to Sergius Paulus, the governor of Cyprus, a sorcerer tried to stop them.

3. JEHOVAH HELPED



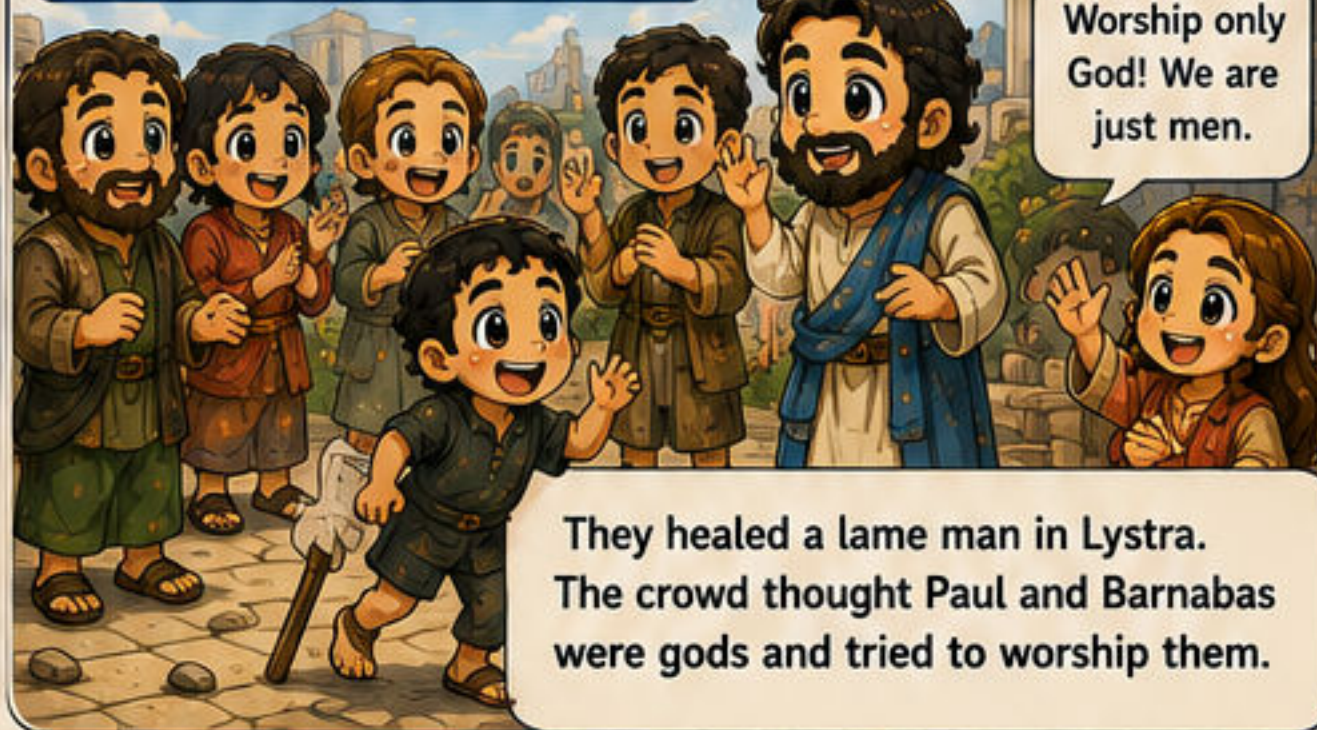
Paul told the sorcerer: “Jehovah is against you.” Instantly, the sorcerer went blind!

4. THE GOVERNOR BECAME A BELIEVER



At seeing that, Governor Paulus became a believer.

5. A MIRACLE IN LYSTRA



They healed a lame man in Lystra. The crowd thought Paul and Barnabas were gods and tried to worship them.

6. PERSECUTION IN LYSTRA



Some Jews turned the crowd against Paul. They stoned him, dragged him outside the city, and left him for dead.

7. PAUL WAS RESCUED



But Paul was still alive! Right away, the brothers came to his rescue and took him back into the city.

8. RETURN TO ANTIOCH



Later, Paul and Barnabas returned to Antioch and reported all that Jehovah had done with them.

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of people of all the nations.”

—Matthew 28: 19



CONGREGATION BIBLE STUDY – LESSON 98

Christianity Spreads to Many Nations



Question: How many preaching tours did Paul embark on? (Acts 13:1–23:35)



2nd PREACHING TOUR (49 C.E.)

From Asia Minor to Europe

Paul went on a second tour after returning to see the brothers in Asia Minor. He took the good news even farther—into Europe!

1. RETURNED TO ASIA MINOR



Paul returned to see the brothers in the congregations in Asia Minor.

2. TOOK THE GOOD NEWS INTO EUROPE



He traveled to Athens, Ephesus, Philippi, Thessalonica, and other places.

3. WORKED WITH FAITHFUL COMPANIONS



Silas, Luke, and young Timothy joined Paul. They worked together as a team.

4. FORMED AND STRENGTHENED CONGREGATIONS



They formed congregations and helped them become strong in faith.

5. WORKED HARD TO SERVE JEHOVAH

Preached

Taught

Wrote Letters



Paul preached, taught, and wrote letters to many congregations.

Worked as
a Tentmaker



He also did work as a tentmaker.

6. STAYED IN CORINTH FOR A YEAR AND A HALF



He stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, strengthening the brothers there.

7. RETURNED TO ANTIOCH



In time, Paul returned to Antioch.

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of people of all the nations.”

—Matthew 28:19





Question: How many preaching tours did Paul embark on? (Acts 13:1–23:35)



3rd PREACHING TOUR (52 C.E.)

From Asia Minor to Jerusalem

Paul went on a third tour, traveling across Asia Minor and returning to Jerusalem after preaching the good news in many lands.

1. STARTED IN ASIA MINOR



In 52 C.E., Paul went on a third preaching tour, starting in Asia Minor.

2. TRAVELED NORTH TO PHILIPPI



He traveled as far north as Philippi.

3. WENT SOUTH TO CORINTH



Then he went down into Corinth.

4. SPENT YEARS IN EPHESUS



Paul spent several years in Ephesus, teaching, healing, and helping the congregation.

5. GAVE PUBLIC TALKS EVERY DAY



He also gave public talks every day in a school auditorium. Many people listened and changed their ways.

6. TRAVELED WITH FAITHFUL COMPANIONS



SILAS LUKE TIMOTHY

Silas, Luke, and young Timothy supported Paul on this journey and helped form strong congregations.

7. PREACHED, TAUGHT, AND WORKED



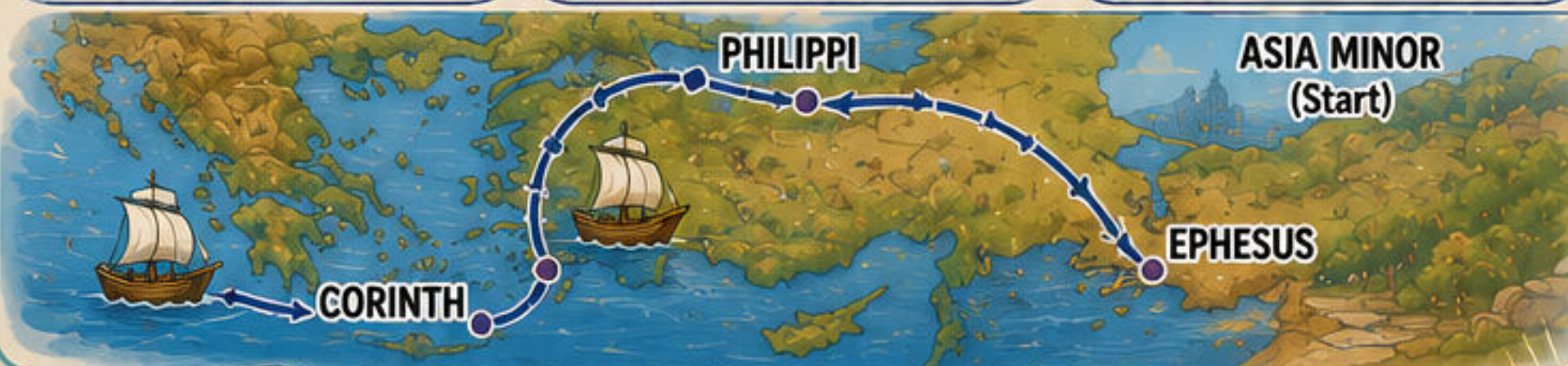
Worked as a tentmaker

Paul preached, taught, wrote letters, and worked as a tentmaker to support his ministry.

8. RETURNED TO JERUSALEM



Finally, after preaching the good news in many lands, Paul went to Jerusalem.



“Go, therefore, and make disciples of people of all the nations.”
—Matthew 28:19

Paul faithfully obeyed Jesus' command and helped millions learn the good news about God's Kingdom!



A Jailer Learns the Truth



Question: Why were Paul and Silas thrown into prison? How did the jailer learn the truth? (Acts 16:16-34)



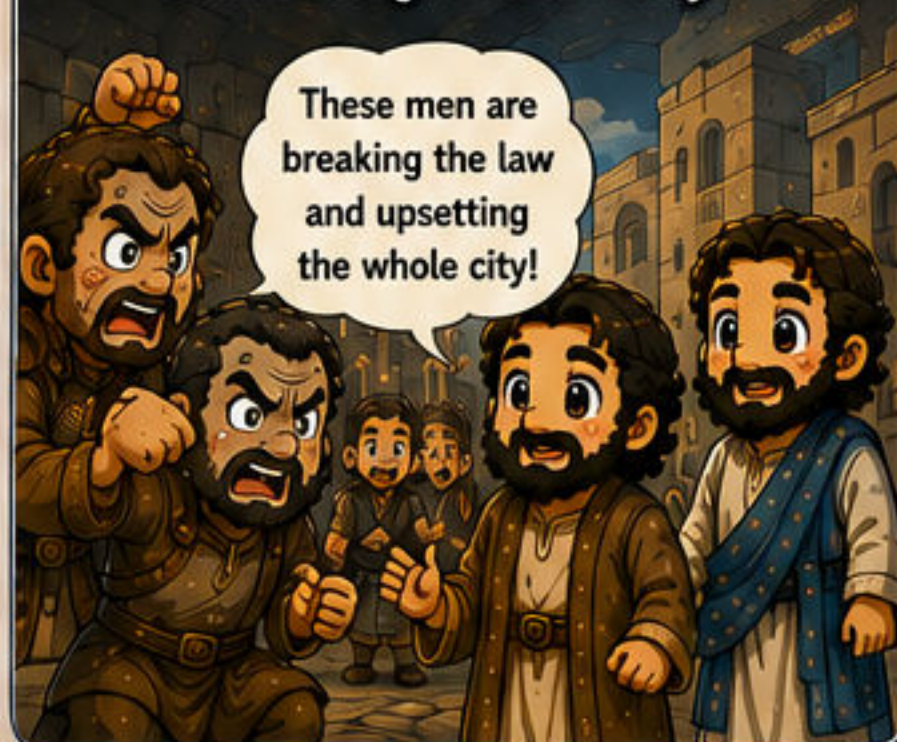
1 In Philippi, a slave girl had a demon that made her a fortune-teller. She shouted that Paul and Silas were slaves of the Most High God.



2 Paul told the demon: "In the name of Jesus, come out of her!" The demon left.



3 Her owners were angry because they could no longer make money.



4 The magistrates had Paul and Silas beaten and thrown in jail.



5 The jailer put them in the deepest, darkest part of the prison and fastened their feet in stocks.



6 Paul and Silas sang praises to Jehovah. Suddenly, a powerful earthquake shook the prison. The doors opened and the chains and stocks came loose!



7 The jailer woke up, saw the doors open, and was sure all the prisoners had escaped. He was about to kill himself!



8 Paul called out: "Don't hurt yourself! We are all here!" The jailer rushed in and fell down before Paul and Silas.



9 The jailer asked: "What must I do to get saved?" They told him: "You and your household need to believe in Jesus."



10 The jailer and all his household believed in Jesus. Paul and Silas taught them the word of Jehovah, and they were all baptized.



"People will lay their hands on you and persecute you, handing you over to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and governors for the sake of my name. It will result in your giving a witness."

—Luke 21:12, 13

Through trials, Paul and Silas kept trusting Jehovah and helped others learn the truth!

