

## The Secret of Living July 21, 2024

**Philippians 4:8-9**, *“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable— if anything is excellent or praiseworthy— think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me— put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”*

**2 Corinthians 6:4-5**, Paul speaks of enduring, *“Afflictions, hardships, distresses, beatings, imprisonment, riots, hard work, sleepless nights, and hunger.”*

**2 Corinthians 11:23-28**, *“I have been beaten many times, often in danger of death. Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. Three times beaten with rods, once beaten with stones, three times ship-wrecked. I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers of rivers, robbers, my own people and the Gentiles tried to kill me, even false Christians tried to hurt me. There is also the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches.”*

**Acts 16:12-30**, *“We (Paul and Silas) went to Philippi, and stayed there for days. <sup>13</sup> On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, seeking a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.*

### ***First Convert in Europe***

<sup>14</sup> *A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.*

<sup>15</sup> *And when she and her household had been baptized, we stayed in her house.*

<sup>16</sup> *It happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, “These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation.” <sup>18</sup> She continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!” And it came out at that very moment. <sup>19</sup> But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them before the authorities...”*

### ***Paul and Silas Imprisoned***

<sup>22</sup> *The crowd rose up together against them, and the chief magistrates tore their robes off and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> When they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely; <sup>24</sup> and he, threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.*

<sup>25</sup> *But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them; <sup>26</sup> and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the*

*foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer awoke and saw the prison doors opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!" <sup>29</sup> And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, <sup>30</sup> and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"*

**Philippians 4:4-7**, *"Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. <sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand or comprehend. God's peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus."* (NLT)

**Philippians 4:12**, *"I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living."*

**Philippians 4:12-13**, *"I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. <sup>13</sup> For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."*

**Romans 8:31-32**, *"If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> How will He not also with Him freely give us all things?"*