

# Acts 16:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

## Analysis

'The multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.' Mob violence led to official persecution. The public stripping and beating was designed to humiliate and intimidate. This illegal treatment of Roman citizens shows how prejudice overrides legal protections. Passion eclipses justice.

## Historical Context

Roman law forbade beating citizens without trial (Lex Valeria, Lex Porcia). The magistrates' haste to please the crowd led them to violate Paul and Silas's legal rights, creating later embarrassment (Acts 16:38).

## Related Passages

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

1. How does mob mentality lead authorities to abandon justice?
2. What should we expect when legal protections fail believers?

3. How can we respond to unjust suffering with grace?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ συνεπέστη ὁ ὄχλος κατ' αὐτῶν καὶ οἱ  
And rose up together G3588 the multitude against their And G3588  
G2532 G4911 G3793 G2596 G846 G2532  
στρατηγοὶ περιρρήξαντες αὐτῶν τὰ ιμάτια ἐκέλευον  
the magistrates rent off their clothes and commanded  
G4755 G4048 G3588 G2440 G2753  
ῥαβδίζειν  
to beat  
G4463

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Thessalonians 2:2** (Parallel theme): But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention.

**2 Corinthians 6:5** (Parallel theme): In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;

**Hebrews 11:36** (Parallel theme): And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

**1 Peter 2:24** (Parallel theme): Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.