

# Acts 16:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

## Analysis

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'When they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely.' Severe beating followed by maximum security imprisonment shows the perceived threat Paul posed. The jailor's charge 'to keep them safely' made him liable for their escape, ensuring harsh treatment.

## Historical Context

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Roman scourging (verberatio) involved leather whips embedded with metal or bone. Paul later referenced this beating (2 Cor. 11:25, 1 Thess. 2:2). The severity indicates how seriously authorities took the charges.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How should we respond to severe, unjust suffering?
2. What comfort comes from knowing Christ's servants have always faced persecution?
3. How does suffering for righteousness differ from suffering for wrongdoing?

## Interlinear Text

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πολλάς τε ἐπιθέντες αὐτούς πληγὰς ἔβαλον εἰς  
many And when they had laid them stripes they cast them into  
G4183 G5037 G2007 G846 G4127 G906 G1519

φυλακήν παραγγείλαντες τῷ δεσμοφύλακι ἀσφαλῶς  
prison charging G3588 the jailor safely  
G5438 G3853 G1200 G806

τηρεῖν αὐτούς  
to keep them  
G5083 G846

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 2:10** (Parallel theme): Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

**2 Timothy 2:9** (Parallel theme): Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.