

Acts 16:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, Let those men go.

Analysis

'When it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, Let those men go.' The magistrates' change of heart may reflect regret over hasty action, fear of the earthquake's supernatural significance, or political calculation. Whatever the cause, God orchestrated Paul's release through official channels rather than miraculous escape.

Historical Context

The magistrates (duumviri) sent lictors (serjeants carrying rods) with release orders. This public reversal would vindicate Paul and protect the Philippian church from future persecution.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does God work through both miracles and ordinary circumstances?
2. Why does God sometimes vindicate His servants publicly?
3. What does it mean to trust God's timing in deliverance?

Interlinear Text

Ἡμέρας	δὲ	γενομένης	ἀπέστειλαν	οἱ	στρατηγοὶ	τοὺς
day	And	when it was	sent	G3588	the magistrates	G3588
G2250	G1161	G1096	G649		G4755	
ῥαβδούχους	λέγοντες	Ἀπόλυσον	τοὺς	ἀνθρώπους	ἐκείνους	
the serjeants	saying	Let	G3588	men	those	
G4465	G3004	G630		G444	G1565	

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