

A Girl Healed of a Demon



Acts 16:16-19

- Soon after a lady by the name of Lydia was saved, as well as the conversion of others, then Satan began to try to hinder the work of God.
- Paul and Silas went to pray, and were met by a girl who was possessed with a spirit of divination.
- This is a descriptive picture of the world's power vs. the power of Jesus' name.

1. The power of human sin (v. 16-17).

A. There was the slave girl possessed by a spirit of divination, or foretelling the future and fate of people.

- Note the Scripture says that the young slave girl was possessed by an evil spirit (v. 18).
- The point to see is the power of sin to enslave and bind a person in the dark world of divination, fortune telling, witchcraft, black magic, sorcery, and astrology.
- Just imagine! People trust such things instead of God.
- The power of sin is strong, very strong in the dark world of evil spirits.

B. There were the men possessed by the spirit of greed and materialism.

- The point to note is this: the strong and the wealthy always have and always will exploit and use the weak for their own ends.
- Whatever the form, the purpose of the strong and wealthy is always one-fold: to satisfy both their desires and urges or to fill their pockets.

C. There is the young slave girl and the evil spirit of deception within her.

- 1) The testimony of the evil spirit was a true testimony.
 - 2) The testimony of the evil spirit was also a false testimony.
 - 3) The testimony, although partly true, is unacceptable.
- The point is the power of human sin.

- 2. The power of Jesus' name (v. 18).**
 - A. The false witness was a barrage that lasted many days.**
 - B. The day arrived when Paul became grieved.**
 - C. The moment came when Paul called upon the strong name of Jesus Christ.**
 - 1) He addressed the evil spirit within the girl.**
 - 2) Paul called upon "the name of Jesus Christ."**
 - D. The enslaved girl was immediately and completely delivered.**