

## SALVATION BY FAITH.

ACTS, xvi. 23 TO 34.

FOR THE ANXIOUS, there is salvation by faith presented in this scripture. When the apostle Paul, and Silas, had received many stripes they were cast into prison, and the jailer having been charged to keep them safely, thrust them into the inner prison and made their feet fast in the stocks. Their prayers and praises were suddenly interrupted by a great earthquake at the mid-night hour. "The foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's bands were loosed." The keeper of the prison was startled, and very likely thought of death and the judgment that follows (Heb. ix, 27), Seeing the prison doors open, and supposing that the prisoners had escaped, his first thought was self-destruction. But Paul cried out with a loud voice saying, "Do thyself no harm: for we are all here." If God awoke him in terror it was only to speak to him in grace bringing salvation (Titus ii. 11). "Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Here was "repentance toward God," it only remained for the exercise of "faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ," and salvation was his (Acts xx. 21). "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."