

The Sounds of Silas

Original music by Paul Simon, new lyrics by James Gilliland, based on Acts 13

Intro: **C#m**

Stanza 1

Hello prison, my old friend, I've come to be with you again
But I'd rather be free, preaching, but another way I see, reaching,
Is writing letters to the churches across the plains
Yet still remains is the sound of Silas

Stanza 2

In restless dreams he tends to snore; restful nights I have no more
Inside this jail down here in Philippi, I tossed and turned, and my throat is dry
When my eyes were stabbed by the flash of angelic light
That split the night and stopped the sounds of Silas

Stanza 3

And in the shaking jail I saw all the chains and all the doors
Chains unlocking without creaking, cell doors clearing without squeaking
We'd be fleeing, but our jailer would take his life
He had much strife, but for my shout with Silas

Stanza 4

"Do not give yourself such pain," said I, "for in our cell we've stayed."
The jailer called the cell, "Illuminate!" And then before us, fell the man prostrate
Asking, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
He was deprived, down on the ground near Silas

Stanza 5

"Believe in Jesus," we relayed, and at the jailer's home we stayed
And our wounds were washed before morning, and more relationships with God forming
And the household was also baptized in the holy name
That we proclaim, the God of Paul and Silas