

"Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots." Luke 23:34 KJV



Jesus is the jewel of Love! Railed on, whipped, and crucified by the hands of the ones He came to save, He forgave; His work finished. *"For the Joy that was set before Him...He endured the cross."* Do we forgive as Christ? Do we endure slight by remembering the Joy that is set before us? Have we resisted unto death? Sad to say, believers can hardly endure one another, let alone real persecution which leads me to ask, "Are you really a Christian?" Jesus said, *"Love one another as I have loved you. By this shall all men know that Ye are MY disciples."* Paul wrote, *"Be kindly affectioned one to another. Let each esteem other better than themselves."* It's not talking about loving the wicked, but fellow believers. We're starting to get an idea how deadly it is to be a believer in un-Christian nations. We live a posh Christianity that suffers little and complains a lot with unfettered freedom of speech that is fast disappearing, because we take it for granted. The Gospel is not yet hindered in the U.S., and yet we do little to further its message. We get all up in arms about rights and liberties, while true *"liberty"* lays on our coffee tables gathering dust. If we'd get busy reaching lost souls with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and His forgiveness, we'd have a lot less *"wickedness in high places."* Satan has true believers so embroiled in bickering over nuances of doctrine that the enemy has crept right up to our campfire. He is silently stealing our children. TV now readily displays what would have closed it down 20 years ago. It's no good to be 100% Biblically correct and lose your family to the destroyer. Jesus endured the *"contradiction of sinners against"* His Holiness and we should let that *"mind of Christ dwell in [us] richly."* Did He rail on the lepers for their misdeeds or did He forgive and heal them? Shouldn't we at least be willing to forgive and endure the ignorance of a brother in Christ so that together we may reach the lost and dying? If we can agree on salvation by grace through God's gift of faith in Jesus Christ alone with no admixture of human effort, then we can move forward together, prayerfully reaching the world around us. The Holy Spirit will lead all true believers *"into ALL Truth!"* Not everyone is an adult and not everyone is a child. The older must lead, not drive, the younger. There's no such thing as a "sheep drive!" Be a shepherd not a cowboy!

"Forgive them, Father!" Thus He cried,
Our Lord and Saviour as He died,
His precious Blood was spilled for all,
Wretched sinners who on Him call. -CGP

If we stay focused on *"the Author and Finisher of our faith,"* more will be accomplished for God. *"Being confident of this very thing; that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the Day of Jesus Christ."* We need to quit PLAYING soldier and start BEING soldiers of Christ. *"Pray without ceasing."* Give the enemy no quarter or opportunity to advance. If we are born again of the Spirit, then we are forgiven. Be less critical and more willing to *"let your light so shine."* We're forgiven much, so we can, at least, forgive a little.

"But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the Truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:7-9 KJV