

# Chapter 13

## The Wounds Jesus Bore - His Heart

The soldiers came to break the legs of the three men hanging on crosses that day. When they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead. To give final proof that he had in fact died, a soldier took a spear and thrust it through his side and into his heart. The scriptures tell us that blood and water poured out of his side. They needed no further proof.

He had taken it all: our sins, our pains, our griefs, and sorrows. In his last breath, our savior spoke his final words, "It is finished." It was there, in the very last act of brutality done to him, Jesus opened his heart to all mankind. His words were compassionate as he hung suspended between heaven and earth. "Father, forgive them."

Now his heart was literally broken. How infinitely wise of our God to go beyond descriptive words to give the world the visible picture of the heart of the savior being broken on that day.

It was our sin that had placed him in that position. Our failures and woes had caused him to come to offer his life as a sacrifice in order to give us the abundant life of the redeemed. The last wound that man would give him was the lancing of his loving heart.

Only days before, Jesus had ascended to a mountain to overlook the city of our God, Jerusalem. His heart was grieved as he recounted the insensitivity of the people that God had chosen to be his own. They had stoned prophets and imprisoned the teachers that God had mercifully sent to lead them in his ways.

Yet in spite of all of their callousness, the heart of the savior was broken for them. He wept over them. His plaintive cry was for a moment's attention, just a turning of their hearts toward God.

"How often I would have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wing, and you would not!"(Matt. 23:37)

It is true that the hen gathering her own together under her wings is a sign of protection and covering. It is also true that in that position, they are closer to her heart.

Jesus had not come merely to have a following, a people to come to him, he was calling a people to come near his heart.

John, the apostle, had leaned his head over upon the chest of Jesus at the Passover supper. At that moment, the disciple that Jesus loved, the one who wrote so eloquently that God is love, could feel the heartbeat of the Master. Jesus' heart did not beat only to keep him alive. His heartbeat, his purpose in coming in the flesh, was to give life to men.

# Chapter 13

(continued)

Of all the things that those who were near the cross had viewed, this scene of the spear piercing the flesh and then the heart of Jesus must have been especially wrenching. The offering was complete. It was finished. There was no doubt at all that Jesus was dead.

If they only could have known that the rending of his flesh was the opening of the veil into the very presence of the Father. The writer of Hebrews said that we are allowed to enter into the holiest of all because the veil was rent, that is, his flesh. It is true that the veil in the temple was rent in two from top to bottom, but only after the heart of Jesus was pierced.

When we gather together in his name, when we praise him with our whole heart, we are not just entertained by the presence of the Almighty. We are brought under his wings, close to his heart.

We may come into the presence of the majesty and brilliance of the Almighty because of the blood that was shed on Calvary's hill. Our minds are renewed because his brow was pierced. Our walk is sanctified because blood flowed from his feet. We can place our hands in the nail-scarred hands of the savior and walk with him through this sinful world. His back was plowed in long furrows in order that we might be healed.

Dear friends, may we see that his heart was broken on that fateful day. God does not allow the Bible to come to a close without giving a series of invitations to come to him. Just as Jesus cried out over Jerusalem, our Father is crying out to a world that he does not want to condemn, but to save.

“The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely.”(Rev. 22:17)

The wounds that Jesus bore, he bore for you. Everything that he did, he did for you. Are you scarred, carrying the reminders of things that you think no one else could possibly understand? Let there be no doubt, Jesus knows, and as no one else can, he understands.

**This was only one chapter of "Scarred But Healed - Moving From Victim to Victor. If you are interested in reading more and want to order this book, you will find it Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com. Get it for yourself or as a gift for someone you care about.**