

# How To Face Trials Through Forgiveness

(Part 3)

“<sup>32</sup> Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup> When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. <sup>34</sup> Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. <sup>35</sup> The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.” <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar <sup>37</sup> and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.” <sup>38</sup> There was a written notice above him, which read: **THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.** <sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!” <sup>40</sup> But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” <sup>42</sup> Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.” <sup>44</sup> It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, <sup>45</sup> for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup> Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last. <sup>47</sup> The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.” <sup>48</sup> When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. <sup>49</sup> But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.” (Luke 23:32-49)

Forgiveness is the right action that we need to take for every trial and hardship we face in life. Forgiveness it open our minds to understand the Scripture and see the word of God alive and in practical way.

*The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself:* That is another humiliation that Jesus received from those who crucified Him. But how he looked at it and how He responded that is important. In many times you might receive insults and offenses from people, and that you cannot avoid, but how you are going to respond to such harm is important for the outcome of your life. How you look to what people do to you and your respond to them that will be the important thing. Let us read *John 19:28-30* to what the writer of John notice and wrote down of a same Event: <sup>28</sup> *Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”* <sup>29</sup> *A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips.* <sup>30</sup> *When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.* Jesus did not focus on the mocking of the soldiers by offering Him wine vinegar, but He saw through it an opportunity to fulfill the Scripture. In *Psalms 69:21* David prophesy about Christ suffering the following *“They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst.”* They might laugh on the Lord but that is not a problem for Jesus; His real responsibility is that He needs to fulfill the Scripture. Sometime people meaning to do bad to you or to mock you and laugh on you, but as you have the attitude of forgiveness you can see through it new opportunity to fulfill the Scripture and to progress. It is not your problem if the people are saying bad comments on you and it is not your fault if some they don’t like you according to their own opinion. You should not bother yourself with such comment. Ignore it fully and keep your mind clear toward God and what

He wants you to do in your life unto Him by fulfilling the word of God and put it in practice. Therefore forgiveness teaches you to live the Word and ignore the world.

*There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS:* Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. That what the notice speaks is true and He showed that by His attitude, humility, forgiveness and responsible behavior toward God and what God wants Him to do and achieve through the cross to offer salvation to the whole mankind.

*One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!* Jesus never answered that thief back because there is no use. In fact the other criminal rebuked him for that insult and explained to him the truth in clear way *“But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”* You must know that you don’t need to answer many bad comments, wrong opinions and bad views about you, there is no use; do as Jesus did.

*Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise:* That was the time that Jesus spoke to answer a need and to help a man who was in need of help and who was really in repentance. Jesus as he had the attitude of forgiveness toward the criminal who insulted Him He was able to hear and responded to the need of the other criminal who was in repentance. The same for you as you are willing to forgive those who hurt you and speak badly against you then God will open your ears to hear the voices of those who are really willing to be helped and you will be able to introduce them to Christ and be part of His kingdom. Forgiveness will open our ears to hear the voice of God who called us saying *“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” (Mark 1:17)*

*“Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.” (Acts 16:6-10)* In the mid of trails, pain and hardships where we are passing through suffering God still voice will reach us if we paid attention to Him and clear our minds and thoughts from anger, hatred, revenge and retaliation

*My Dear and Beloved:* God wants to speak to you, but your mind and your thoughts are full occupied with plan of revenge, retaliation, hatred and fighting back. Unless you clear your mind of such things God voice will never reach to your ears. Repent and be blessed as you agree to pray.

*My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I ask you forgiveness for all my anger, bitterness hatred and desire to revenge from people. Lord I release my forgiveness toward those who hurt me \_\_\_\_\_.* *Lord open my mind to understand the Scripture and apply them in my life and open my ears to hear your voice and your calling unto me, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name Amen.*