## **LOVE, ALWAYS LOVE**

Have you had your crucifixion moment?

Been unjustly accused?

Taken on the burdens of multiple people?

Been seen through blinded eyes?

Missed your love for them?

Bypassed what you did on their behalf?

Overlooked their better circumstances were because of your path?

Family? Friends? Collegaues

Heavy, shamed, exhausted, crippled, beaten up, let down, lonely?

Nowhere to go but by yourself to God?

Resigned to your fate?

Destiny awaits; forward bound.

Life would fall into place, but you had no idea how?

Stepped forward in blind faith?
Taken it up or walked away?
Haunted you for years to come?
Dealt with anger, loss of hope,
bitterness, and bile, and yet,
worked to forgive, and love,
always love?

Realized this is only a smidgeon of what our Lord felt when he took on your sins; along with the sins of the world?

Recognized this experience was a blessing from our Lord; that you have had a small taste of what He shouldered for the world?

Reconciled that when you serve, this may very well be what you can expect?

Found examples in your life; witnessing others in their crucifixion moments? Father and others wrongly accused, sued, and endured court; wondering if life and financial well-being was to be ruined; only to have our Lord right the wrong and release the just; shaming those who perpetuated the lie.

Has it come to you in a flash, that this was part of your Lord's plan? That only then could you even slightly begin to understnad what He did for you; what He did for all creation and the world; and how deeply that love goes as a result; that you could not serve without this minor comparison, so you would know a little of what He felt, and how to love, always love.

You had to have your "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do" moment, even though you may still have a hard time forgiving them yourself; to love, always love.

That is the proof to you of how much He loves, because your human love is so hard to show when you have been wounded. Even though He was God, He felt the same human rejection, fear, "This is not mine," and "Can't you see?" that you did. And still, He loved; always loved.

So when you recall and feel all of the wretchedness that unjustly attached to you during your crucifixion moment, remember that this is a blessing from your God, who is letting you experience a tiny bit of His journey, as He continues to mold and build you for service from love, always love.

It doesn't mean that you want to repeat it. It doesn't mean that you enjoyed it. It does mean that you are being prepared with new eyes to see, in order to do His work. It does mean that our response is to be from love, always love, as His was for us.

You would not be ready without your crucifixion moment to love, always love.

Cynthia Mills, June 2016