



Before the THRONE
The Devotional

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Psalm 129:2

“Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth; yet they have not prevailed against me.” Psalm 129:2

Why are we surprised when, as a believer, we find ourselves bearing the same malice Jesus received at the hands of the wicked? Such malice and anger may appear from those closest to you and you haven’t even uttered a word.

Jesus’ saltiness in you has spilled out and brought conviction to others.

The “preaching” that they accuse you of has only been the lifestyle of the righteous, and the preaching they hear is their own conscience convicting them of their sin! When you don’t laugh at inappropriate jokes – when you don’t join or listen to gossip sessions – when you attend prayer meetings or Bible studies rather than go to the bar or pub – your life is becoming a living epistle known and read of all men. (2 Corinthians 3:2). Such a life lived out before men inevitably bring them face to face with Jesus without the “preacher” needing to say a word!

Other times your persecutor may be the self-righteous – those who are afraid of your genuine walk with Christ. The freshness of your walk with Jesus convicts and reveals their hearts’ emptiness entrapped in religious garb and formality.

Then there are those who, simply put, hate God. Their intentions are to hurt and discredit any who claim allegiance to Christ.

So don’t be surprised. “Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hates you.” (1 John 3:13). “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you.” (John 15:18).

My sons, It is easier to take a stand from the beginning of any relationship than to try and ease into being a Christian a little at a time. You needn’t always preach, but once you have taken your stand, everyone will soon know why you are acting differently. They will either respect your integrity, or will begin to attempt to “prove” your mettle!

Stand strong in Christ, be bold, love unconditionally, and stay sweet! Looking always to Jesus!

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