



Before the THRONE
The Devotional

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Psalm 137:1 – 3

“By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yes, we wept, when we remembered Zion. We hung our harp upon the willows in the midst of it. For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us *songs*, saying, “sing us one of the song of Zion.” Psalm 137:1 – 3

Sin hurts! No matter whether the sin is ours or another’s – sin hurts. It is cruel and it breeds children that can be even crueler.

Is there anything more shaming than when we have been wounded by another and we take our pain to the Lord in prayer only to have our spiritual ears opened to the words of anger and hatred that have become lodged with our own hearts?! Often our prayers are full of such poison. Healing cannot begin until we first really hear our own words of hurt and allow Jesus to pinpoint those sins in our heart.

“Why do you behold the speck in your brother’s eyes but don’t consider the tree that is in your own eye?” (Matthew 7:3)

Jesus’ words cut to the heart of the matter, don’t they? But such words are not meant only to cut, but they are meant to cut that they might heal.

There may be no higher verification of our faith than to forgive and bless someone who has hurt us. Jesus always acted redemptively even to those whose sole intent was to hurt Him. “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”

“Father, help me to always act in such a manner as Jesus acted! Help me to bless and not curse! Help me to not act out of hurt and pain, but rather, help me to respond out of Your gracious compassion and mercy! Help Lord!”

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