

## WOUNDED BY FRIENDS

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There is a prophetic utterance concerning the Lord Jesus in Zechariah 14. 6

“And one shall say unto Him, ‘What are these wounds in thine hands?’. Then shall He answer, ‘Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends’.”

It is generally taken that the friends refer to His own nation of the Jews.

He came unto His own and His Own received Him not. (John 1.11)

Consider what He did for the Jews. He healed them. Cripples walked, the blind could see, the lepers were cleansed, the mad were restored to normal life, He fed thousands, He taught with authority upholding Jewish law, He healed people with long-term immoral addictions. He was kind to everybody. Children loved Him. He took them up by His hands.

And the Jews shouted out, ‘Crucify Him’ and said that would take responsibility for His death saying, ‘His blood be upon us and our children’. (Matthew 27. 25)

Those who inflicted Him did not love Him. Psalm 22. 16 says, ‘My hands and My feet have they pierced’. The Lord calls them wicked and dogs.

Your own people can turn against you. Christians can be hateful. There are divisions between groups of Christians with jealousy, hatred and false hoods.

If Christians love God, they will not hate their brothers (1 John 4.20). Those who inflicted the Lord did not love Him. Those who wrongly treat other believers do not love God.

Those of us who have been treated atrociously by fellow Christians with false witness, slander and libel can only concur that those who have persecuted other believers do not love God.

Even in the time of the Lord being here, one mother asked that in Heaven could one of her sons sit next to the Lord on the left side and the other next to Him on His right side? (Matthew 20. 21)

We say that we love Him but do we still wound Him?

How does the Lord feel when we let Him down and sin against Him?

We should always live each day as if it were our last when the Lord will call us home?

But we also recall that He was wounded for you and for me.

We used to sing

Wounded for me, Wounded for me,  
There on the Cross he was wounded for me.  
Gone my transgressions, and now I am free.  
All because Jesus was wounded for me.

What are these wounds in thine hands?

Those hands were healing hands; they were hands that blessed; they were hands that comforted and reassured.

Those were the hands that broke bread when He said to His disciples, 'Take, eat; this is My Body which is broken for you. This do in remembrance of me'.

Those were the hands who took the cup and said, 'Drink ye all of it, for this is the new covenant in My Blood which is shed for many for the remission of sins'.

These I received in the house of my friends.

At times the Jews loved the Lord when they saw the great works which He did, but that turned to hatred. And the Lord punished them with the destruction of Jerusalem some 37 years later.

A debate reigns about the wounds in His hands. Does He still have the marks in His hands now He is in Heaven?

The apostle Paul says that one day we shall have a glorified like unto His glorified body (Philippians 3. 20ff).

Would His glorified body show scars?

And yet in Revelation 5.6 we read of the Lamb as if He had been slain (past tense).

The majority believe that Christ's wounds are eternal.

And for us.

The old hymn says

We shall know Him by the nail prints in His hands.

Another lovely hymn says, We are safe in the hollow of His Hand.

Hands are the extension of the arms and there is a super hymn which says

Safe in the arms of Jesus,  
Safe on His gentle breast,  
There by His love o'ershaded  
Sweetly my soul shall rest.  
Hark! 'tis the voice of angels  
Borne in a song of angels  
Over the fields of glory  
Over the jasper sea.

This was sung at the funerals of the Aberfan children in 1966.

[\*\(See the Aberfan article on this site\)\*](#)

The children of Israel were told that the protection of the Lord was explained by the everlasting arms being under His people supporting them.

And we remember that the Lord's hands were wounded for that nation!

And for us!

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