

“Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities; Who heals all your diseases; Who redeems your life from destruction; Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies.” Psa.103:1-4

SUNDAY: HOW CAN I NOT LOVE AND OBEY YOU JESUS WHEN YOU...

...looked inside of my heart and saw what was totally horrifying to Your pure soul, my sin nature which was dead in trespasses and sins (**Eph.2:1**) - dead (separated from God)! These filthy dead things in my soul were spiritually decaying and rotten-smelling to You! Only You Lord Jesus could handle that bitter smelling odor. It was what hell smells like. You saw all of my filthy deadness in the cup You were offered by Abba Father in the Garden of Gethsemane and wept. You willingly took that sickening cup of my sin, my iniquities and my transgressions and drank it up fully (**Mark 14:36**). And now Lord you fill me with Your cup of love! ***OH THE WIDTH, LENGTH, DEPTH AND HEIGHT OF CHRIST'S LOVE THAT IT COULD CONTAIN ALL THE HELL THAT I DESERVED AND BE VICTORIOUS OVER IT.***

MONDAY: HOW CAN I NOT LOVE AND OBEY YOU JESUS WHEN YOU...

...loved me so deeply? **I am never to forget** the beatings by the soldiers hitting You with a rod on Your head! **I am never to forget** the cruel slapping on Your face; **I am never to forget** the soldiers' spit running down off of Your cheeks; **I am never to forget** the crown of thorns pressed down on Your head; **I am never to forget** the mocking worship of the soldiers while bowing on their knees to You. **I am never to forget** how Your body was torn apart over and over again by the whip when You were scourged for me. **I am never to forget** the nails in Your hands and feet! **I am never to forget** the redeeming blood flowing from every wound all over Your body and most of all from the spear thrust into Your side. **I am never to forget** Your prayer my Savior when You prayed to Abba Father while hanging on the cross, *"Father forgive them for they know not what they do!"* **I am never to forget** that all my sins were there causing You inexpressible inward spiritual torture as You bore them in Your body on the tree (**1Peter 2:24**)! Lord, You said through the prophet Jeremiah these wonderful words, ***"...I HAVE LOVED YOU WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE..."*** (**Jer.31:3**) May I lovingly obey Your Word as never before and truly be a **Romans 12:1,2 and 1 Cor.13** believer!

TUESDAY: HOW CAN I NOT LOVE AND OBEY YOU JESUS WHEN YOU...

...saw that I was without hope (**Eph.2:12**). There was absolutely nothing that I could do to save myself. Your anger was hanging over my head every single minute (**John3:36**) and I did not know it. But You Father did not spare Your own Son, but delivered Him up for me, how shall You not with Your Son also freely meet all of my needs? (**Rom.8:32**). How can I not love and obey You when You have the dear Holy Spirit praying for me in my weakness because I don't always know how or what to pray? Holy Spirit You love me so fully and deeply that You pray for me with groanings that cannot be uttered (**Rom.8:26**)! Jesus, You loved me sooo much that You went further, as my High Priest to ever make intercession for me (**Heb.7:25**)! Oh what a precious gift of love You daily watching over me so fully. Thank You for what it cost You to remove the wrath which hovered over my head everyday! Thank You for this glorious promise: *"Much more then, having been justified by (Your) blood, (I) shall be saved from wrath through (You Lord Jesus!)"* (**Rom.5:9**). ***BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF LOVE THE FATHER HAS BESTOWED ON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD!"*** (**1John 3:1**).

WEDNESDAY: HOW CAN I NOT LOVE AND OBEY YOU JESUS WHEN YOU...

...actually became my sin and my curse (**Gal.3:13; 2Cor.5:21**)? You not only took my sin (**John 1:29**) but You BECAME IT! Dear Lord, that overwhelms my heart that when You were crucified, Your soul was being completely flooded with what You hated. Lord in **Isa.53:5** it declares You were "wounded" for my transgressions; what a terrible word "wound" is in the Hebrew (*"chalal"*) - to bore, profane, defile, stain, wound, to lay open, destroy, to cast down! All my sins did all that to Your holy, sinless, pure soul! You felt fully the wickedness and evil of every kind of sin, iniquity and transgression crushing You (**Isa.53:5**). That Hebrew word for "crushed" (*"daka"*) is also deep in meaning: to crumble, bruise, beat or break into pieces, destroy, oppress, humble, to trample, to break the spirit! Oh dear Lord Jesus all that happened to You! Because of me dear Abba Father what You did to Your Beloved Son in crushing Him cannot be described (**Isa.53:10**). You had to sacrifice Your Son completely if I were to be saved, healed and delivered! What a cost! It says in Your Word Lord that You DESPISED THE SHAME of that torture (**Heb.12:2**)! *May I love You so much that Your Word Lord Jesus teaches about walking the separated life I will gladly do!* ***"...THAT YOU MAY WALK WORTHY OF THE LORD, FULLY PLEASING HIM, BEING FRUITFUL IN EVERY GOOD WORK AND INCREASING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD."*** **COL 1:10**

THURSDAY: HOW CAN I NOT LOVE AND OBEY YOU JESUS WHEN YOU...

...said, "My God, My God why have You forsaken Me?" You knew that the judgment for all those who die not accepting Your sacrifice would be separated from You forever. They would be made to declare in their own words, "I DID IT MY WAY!" "I didn't need You or Your sacrifice." Lord You would have to say to them, "IT WAS NOT ENOUGH!" Jesus, You were totally forsaken so that I would not be forever forsaken in a place where God does not exist. Those who reject the offer of Your salvation, a completely free gift to them (**Rom. 6:23; Eph.2:8,9**); are rejecting Your suffering love; are rejecting Your forgiving love; are rejecting Your guiding love to never leave them nor forsake them! They will never forget what they refused. It will be in their burning, suffering minds forever! Oh dear Lord Jesus I love You, I love You, I love You! I can't say that enough when You bring to my mind what Your suffering saved me from!!! I can't even think about the punishment Your rejecters will go through. Abba Father I bow my knees to You and ask You to fill me constantly with Your Holy Spirit causing me to be a 1Corinthian 13 child of Yours everyday walking in complete obedience. **"AND WALK IN LOVE, JUST AS CHRIST ALSO LOVED YOU, AND GAVE HIMSELF UP FOR US..."** (Eph.5:2)!

FRIDAY: HOW CAN I NOT LOVE AND OBEY YOU JESUS WHEN YOU...

... love me so much that You came to live inside of me and will never leave me (**Gal.2:20; Deut.31:6,8**). You actually feel all the pain that I go through because when I am afflicted You are afflicted also (**Isa.63:9**). You sympathize and are deeply touched in all my weaknesses because You experienced them all while You walked on earth without sin (**Heb.4:14,15**). You give meaning to my troubles You allow me to go through so later I can help others going through the same difficulties with the comfort and healing You gave to me (**2Cor.1:3-5**). You give me Your promise to limit the temptations and testings (**1Cor.10:13**). You love me so much that You will discipline me in the right way to live which will give me peace and assurance I am pleasing You my Lord (**Phil.4:6,7; Heb.12:6**). You love me so much that when I surrender my all to You, Your precious Holy Spirit produces His fruit in me to bless You and others (**Gal.5:22,23**). How can I not out of sheer love present my life to You promising not to be conformed to this world but have my mind transformed allowing Your Word to control me and live through me. I love You sooooo much my Lord, my King, my Shepherd! You didn't die to just be my Savior for **Romans 14:9** declares by the Holy Spirit, **"For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living."** You want to be Lord of my life and guide it in a holy walk. Again, why did You die for me? I will let **2Cor. 5:15** answer that, **"AND HE DIED FOR ALL, THAT THOSE WHO LIVE SHOULD LIVE NO LONGER FOR THEMSELVES, BUT FOR HIM WHO DIED FOR THEM AND ROSE AGAIN."**

SATURDAY: HOW CAN I NOT LOVE AND OBEY YOU JESUS WHEN YOU...

...the Good Shepherd surrendered Your whole spirit, soul and body for me to make me Your own.

PRAY WITH ME: Dear Lord, the choice of my heart is to surrender all things each day to Your loving, caring, guiding and protecting heart. My choice is to have You daily change my life. I do not want to go back to the old life. I want more of Your life Lord seen in me. I don't want to lead my life. I no longer own my life! You have all the rights to it! You died not to just save me but that You would be Lord and Leader of it (**Rom14:9**). As I present myself to You (**Rom.12:1-2**), I proclaim these words, *"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. You make me to lie down in green pastures; You lead me beside the still waters. You restore my soul; You lead me in the paths of righteousness for Your Name's sake! Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod to beat off the enemy and Your staff to draw me closer to You - they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."* Lord, I love You even more now because of how far You would go to save me! Always, for Your Name's sake alone Lord Jesus, AMEN! **"...LET SUCH AS LOVE YOUR SALVATION SAY CONTINUALLY, 'THE LORD BE MAGNIFIED!'"** Psalm 40:16

Psa.103:10-12 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.