II Cor. 3:17 - "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is...

LIBERTY

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At Calvary'

Years I spent in vanity and pride, Caring not my Lord was crucified, Knowing not it was for me He died On Calvary.

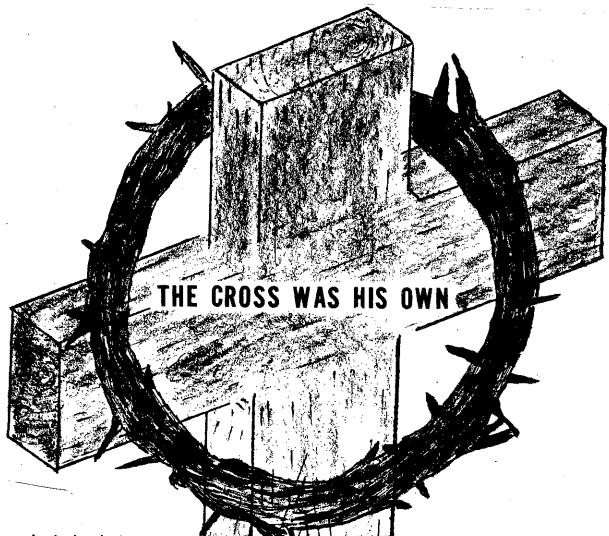
By God's Word at last my sin I learned; Then I trembled at the law I'd spurned, Till my guilty soul imploring turned To Calvary.

Now I've given to Jesus everything, Now I gladly own Him as my King, Now my raptured soul can only sing Of Calvary.

Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan! Oh, the grace that brought it down to man! Oh, the mighty gulf that God did span At Calvary!

Chorus:

Mercy there was great, and grace was free; Pardon there was multiplied to me; There my burdened soul found liberty, At Calvary.



They borrowed a bed to lay His head
When Christ the Lord came down;
They borrowed the ass in the mountain pass
For Him to ride to town;
But the Crown that He wore and the Cross
that He bore
Were His own—
The Cross was His own.

He borrowed the bread when the crowd He fed
On the grassy mountain side;
borrowed the dish of broken fish
With which He satisfied;
But the Crown that He wore and the Cross
that He bore
Were His own—
The Cross was His own.

He borrowed a ship in which to sit
To teach the multitude;
He borrowed a nest in which to rest,
He had never a home so crude;
But the Crown that He wore and the Cross
that He bore
Were His own—
The Cross was His own.

He borrowed a room on His way to the tomb,
The Passover Lamb to eat;
They borrowed a cave for Him a grave;
They borrowed a winding sheet;
But the Crown that He wore and the Cross
that He bore
Were His own—
The Cross was His own.

Author unknown

"NOW WHEN THE CENTURION,

and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God."



Surely this Centurion had been at the scene of many crucifixions; maybe even responsible for them. He had watched people die and no doubt was somewhat calloused toward the thought of death. To this Soldier, this was just punishment - another menace to society removed - and so, he was somewhat relieved that another job was done for the Roman government! BUT . . .

... STRANGELY it began to darken around him - a veil of blackness was enveloping the earth - so dense that he, like the Egyptians of long ago, could "feel" the darkness (Exodus 10:21). Then the earth began to tremble, ... the very foundations began to move and all around him was motion. The 'earth quaked; the rocks rent, tombs were opened, and FEAR filled the heart of this Centurion!

It was then that he heard the inquiry of Deity: "...My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" In a moment the earth rang with the voice of triumph! This crucified One among the thieves cried with authority as though He were on a throne, "IT IS FINISHED!" And then, with astonishment to this seasoned Soldier, the Lord Jesus bowed His head in prayer and expired!

The Divine record says that the Centurion's response to this scene was, "Truly this was the Son of God."