

## **Cat.1 #4 Jesus on the cross, a meditation**

By Helene Bos

Some time ago I took part in a course that showed us how to address allegations from people we met and the lies of the enemy. In the days that followed I was led to meditate on the suffering of Jesus on the cross and on what must have happened there. Jesus must have heard the lying, mocking voice from the enemy. He had to walk in the truth if he wanted to accomplish what he had come for. As many people can be suffering under the lies from Satan, others or ourselves we can be comforted by the fact that Jesus paid the final price necessary to free us from all lies and allegations.

What started it?

One evening I planned to watch a (kind of) informative program on the T.V. about the political situation in our nation, when completely unexpected a shot was shown about a program that was going to be broadcasted later on that night. Just one shot, but extremely fusty. I was furious that these images are broadcasted into the homes also of many people who have chosen not to watch pornographic programs. I realized that these images "stick" easily into the minds of those who see them and may tempt them yet to watch, out of curiosity. With that a door for unclean spirits will be opened with all the resulting misery. My husband is on a journey so I had to deal with the fustiness myself and alone. I prayed and brought my anger to the Lord, and asked for cleansing of my mind through the blood of Jesus, and for the cleansing of our home from the uncleanness that was shot into it from the T.V. I prayed for those who were caught unaware and had given in to the defilement. I prayed for my nation that has lost its sense of truth, dignity and morals in such a measure that these kind of programs can be broadcasted and that the libertarians applaud it as (their deceptive way of) "freedom", not minding the destruction/havoc it brings to persons, marriages, families and society as a whole.

Not wanting to dwell on the dirty image I focussed on the holiness of God and His beauty, righteousness and on the power of the blood of Jesus. Only then my mind gradually became free from the image that had entered it. In the morning, when I woke up I had to decide not to go back in my memory but to focus again on the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Meditating about Jesus I realized that he had to withstand the most violent dirty images. Maybe already during his growing up years and the years of his single manhood. And he did not give in to them or dwell on them. He did NOT sin. During the hours before he was crucified he was tortured physically beyond imagination<sup>1</sup>. But on top of that, I deeply believe that when the time had come for Jesus to carry the load of our sins and the punishment for all the evil of all of humanity the whole demonic army of Satan was summoned to come to Golgotha/Calvary. Demons from (what is now called) the America's, from Asia, Scandinavia, etc. from everywhere were assigned to come and torment, tempt, seduce, accuse, discourage, undermine this God-man. So that he would give up his determination to persevere till the end.

I realized, also, that a part of the torment must have been imputations, allegations, and lies, in the way every person, Christian or not, suffers. But in a measure nobody ever had/has to go through. "You will not make it. You are too weak, it is beyond your power. Do you really think that you will gain victory over me? us? Don't you realize that nobody believes in your mission anymore? Not your followers, not all the crowds who listened to you, not even the people you healed, not even your father in heaven, he did not send angels to rescue you, he is no longer interested, who do you think you are? I, Satan, have the power, I am the boss over humanity, over the peoples, and I make them worship me, they will destroy what you created, I am lording over the relationships and I bring misery for everyone, I have the scientists on my side, the politicians, the technocrats, I can do with the world what I want, ha ha, I have the victory..."and at the same time all the ugly demonic faces staring at him, mocking.....

On and on and on it went, I realized. I know that no one, except the Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, will ever know, understand what it was that the Son went through. It is absolutely beyond our comprehension. But there are verses in the Bible (Old and New Testament) where through the mouths of the psalmists and prophets, Jesus speaks to us, and where he, the Word of God, describes aspects of his suffering that he knew would be his part later. That helps us, not to fantasize away, but to understand in some (small) measure the price that our Saviour paid.

And, most important, the Scriptures say: Jesus Christ DID persevere till the end! Hallelujah! In his physical excruciating pain, in his extreme loneliness, abandonment also by God, he withstood the lies, the seductive

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<sup>1</sup> I personally do believe that the Shroud of Turin was the cloth in which Jesus was buried. There are good arguments for that. The information that has become available from the research on the Shroud makes very clear that also the physical suffering is beyond imagination. But also apart from the Shroud we can assume that.

temptations, the temptation to be drugged, also the temptation to self-pity, to giving in to depression. To let go of the realisation that there was a universe to win, that a humanity was suffering and there was no other hope for the restoration ever of all things if HE, the creator of heaven and earth, would quit then and there.

Jesus Christ did not quit, he persevered in truth and holiness. He accomplished his calling.

He fulfilled the law. The enemy so often accuses us of not having met the standards of God's law. And of other people's laws and even of our own laws and standards. The law of God was not something to be despised (as some are inclined to think). The law that God gave was beautiful and wonderful and perfect. David said: how I love your law. And Jesus said: I have come to fulfil it. The holy Son of God could not, would not fulfil something despicable, he came to fulfil a holy, glorious law. But only he was the one who could fulfil it. He knew that the Holy Spirit would come in the hearts of those who would let him in, and that then that law would be written on their hearts. So, Jesus having fulfilled the law completely, nailed the law to the cross, as Paul explained. Satan had nothing any more to build his accusations on, when we come to the cross with our sins. He was disarmed. Satan had nothing to stand on anymore in the whole universe. And for the fulfilment of the new commandment that Jesus himself gave he also gave us a helper, the Holy Spirit. The "authority" of Satan was broken, and he was exposed as the defeated one.

He is a bad loser, and will still suggest that he is powerful and that he is the boss in this world. But, thanks be to God, the truth is that there is a redeemer and that he has saved us and will continue to save us. (2Cor 1:10). At a certain moment Jesus knew that the battle over the power of sin was won. He declared "It is finished". I understand this to mean that Jesus did not have to fight Satan any more in any respect. He then went, by the Spirit! (to Hades, hell (1Peter 3:19)), not to suffer again, but to proclaim the victory to the spirits in prison. We don't need to doubt whether everything was really dealt with, and his promises are true. His battle is finished, all power and authority are given to Jesus.

He is now our high- priest, who, Hebr. 7:25, "... is also able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, seeing he ever lives to make intercession for them. 26 For such a high priest was fitting for us (NIV: meets our needs): holy, guiltless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and made higher than the heavens). There is this comforting statement (Hebr. 4:14-16): *"Having then a great high priest, who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold tightly to our confession. For we don't have a high priest who can't be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but one who has been in all points tempted like we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace for help in time of need".*

So, when the enemy comes with his allegations, go to this high priest! He understands, and he IS the answer!