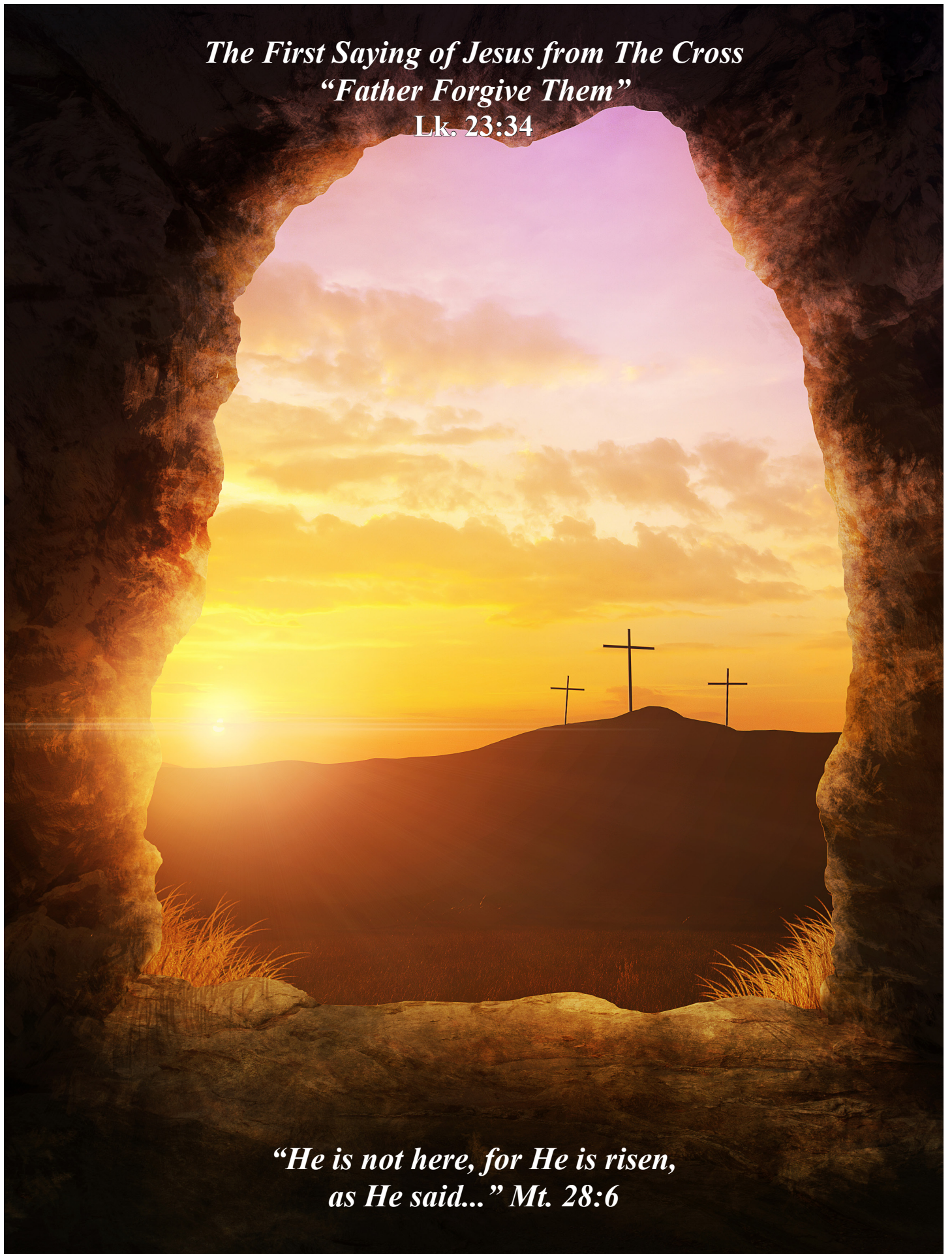


*The First Saying of Jesus from The Cross*  
*“Father Forgive Them”*  
Lk. 23:34



*“He is not here, for He is risen,  
as He said...” Mt. 28:6*

**Words from The Cross Assured by The Resurrection**  
**'Father Forgive Them'**  
Lk. 23:34

- I. The Words 'Father forgive them. . .' Form An **Intercessory** Prayer On Behalf Of **Others**
- A. The **What** Of The Intercession: 'Father forgive them'
1. The Word 'Forgive' Is The Translation Of The Greek Verb (ἀφίημι); English Transliteration *aphiemi*; The Verb Is In The *Imperative Mood Form*; This Is A Command, An *Imperative Of Entreaty* Which Stresses The **Intensity** And The **Importance** Of The Request To The Petitioner of Mt. 26:39, 42; Mk. 9:22; Lk. 17:5; Jn. 17:11; 19:21
  2. The Word Means: "1. to dismiss or release someone or someth. from a place of one's presence. 2. to **release** from legal or moral obligation or **consequence**, cancel, remit, pardon." A Greek-English Lexicon of The New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature of Mt. 6:12; 18:27, 32
  3. In This Verse The Word Is Expressing That Jesus Is Asking The Father To Release Them From The **Guilt** And The **Consequences** Of Their Sin
- B. The **Whom** Of The Intercession 'Them' In The Immediate Context Probably Denotes The Soldiers And The Crowd Of Onlookers And Mockers of Lk. 23:34-37; But Also Includes **All Mankind** Who Acting In Ignorance Caused Christ To Have To Suffer The Cross, So That God Might 'Forgive' (i.e. release human beings from the guilt and consequences of their sin) Sin of Acts 2:36; 3:12 – 4:12; 13:27; 17:30; Rm. 3:10-12; Rm. 3:23; 6:23; 10:3; 1 Cor. 1:13, 23; 2:8; 1 Tim. 1:13
- C. The Father Answered Jesus' Prayer To Release Sinners From The Guilt And Consequences Of Their Sins **Affirmatively For All Who Are In Christ**, As Is Attested To By The **Death** And **Resurrection** Of Jesus Christ of Acts 2:36-38; Rm. 8:1; 1 Cor. 15:17
- II. Practical Lessons To Believers For **Contemplation** And **Application** From The Example Of Jesus And His Words: 'Father forgive them. . . '
- A. Christians Are To **Follow** The **Example** Set Forth By Jesus of 1 Cor. 11:1; 1 Pet. 2:21
  - B. Follow The Example Of Jesus And *Do Not Allow Sufferings* In Your Life To Drive You **Away** From God Your Father, But Rather Let Affliction Cause You To **Draw** Closer To God Your Father
  - C. Follow The Example Of Jesus And *Do Not Allow Sufferings* To Cause You To **Doubt** That You Are A Son Or Daughter Of God of Heb. 12:5-6; 2 Tim. 3:12
  - D. Follow The Example Of Jesus And *Do Continue To Cultivate A Christ-Like Spirit* Of **Forgiveness** And **Unselfishness** of Acts 7:60; Rm. 13:9; Philipp. 2:4

- E. Follow The Example Of Jesus And *Do Continue To Cultivate A Spirit Of **Love*** For Your Enemies cf Mt. 5:43-44; Lk. 6:27-28; Rm. 12:20
  - F. Follow The Example Of Jesus And *Never Cease From **Prayer*** cf 1 Thess. 5:17
- III. The Resurrection Of Jesus Christ **Assures** Believers That God Makes The Power, Which He Used To Raise Jesus From The Dead **Available** To Believers; So That They Might By God's Grace And Power Follow The Example Of Jesus
- A. Jesus Was **Raised** From The Dead By The **Power** Of God cf Eph. 1:19-20
  - B. Believers May Live By The **Power** Of God Which **Raised** From The Dead cf Rm. 6:4

