

# Would Jesus Say #MeToo?

The #metoo proponents need a fresh understanding of what love and forgiveness really look like. “Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.’ And they divided His clothes by casting lots” (Luke 23:34).

I’m a holiness preacher. I am feverish in my pursuit of revival that will be marked by purity in the church and Mass, glorious repentance in the nation. As is true with many of today’s prophetic messengers, there’s an urgency in my spirit that can’t be shaken. We must see a move of God that both initiates and is a response to tears and mourning over the state of the church and the debauchery of our nation.

The egregious moral condition of America and the entire world is sickening beyond description. Recent news reveals the grotesque and depraved state of our culture.

For example, an abortion doctor recently boasted about her method of murder that ensures baby’s cries can’t be heard:

*On Sunday, Leah Torres, a Utah abortionist who is active on Twitter, responded with gruesome detail to someone criticizing her work.*

*When someone asked Torres if she hears the screams of the babies who she aborts, she replied:*

*You know fetuses can’t scream, right? I transect the cord 1st so there’s really no opportunity, if they’re even far enough along to have a larynx.*

*I won’t apologize for performing medicine. I’m also a “uterus ripper outer,” if that’s how you’d like to describe hysterectomy.*

*– Leah Torres, MD (@LeahNTorres) March 11, 2018*

(From : )

Just this week, a suspected mail bomber in the Austin, Texas area died as one of his bombs detonated as police were closing in.

Of course, we have recent mass shootings and other heinous assaults that are becoming normal. The status of our nation is nothing less than depraved and desperate.

**#metoo**

*"[Jesus] was delivered for our transgressions, and was raised for our justification" (Rom. 4:25).*

Jesus died so we might have life. He died so others might have life. He died so our very dark sins would not keep us from a relationship with him. He died so other people's sins, including the sins of murder, abuse and hatred, would not keep them from a relationship with him.

When I watch crime stories or hear news reports about the trials and convictions of murderers, rapists, abusers and others who have committed absolutely horrifying crimes against humanity, I find myself especially grieved when something specific happens. Time and again, I hear the family members and friends of those who were the target of the various crimes say, "I'll never forgive him." Those words wreck me. They are sealing their fate, a fate of darkness and despair that will never be escaped without true forgiveness.

*"For if you forgive men for their sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men for their sins, neither will your Father forgive your sins" (Matt. 6:14-15).*

Those who have been abused or who have been affected by the

hateful crimes of others most certainly are scarred deeply, beyond what words could ever describe. I'm a father of five and the husband of a wonderful, beautiful wife. If anything ever happened to them at the hands of another, I would experience a range of emotions that would rock me. Anger, despair, fear and other responses would be expected. But, as a Christian, forgiveness and love for the perpetrator must follow. I must shift from accuser to intercessor so both he and I are free, forgiven and healed.

*"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors" (Matt. 6:12).*

A common violation of truth occurs when we presume our sins worthy of forgiveness while the sins of others must result in punishment. The true condition of our heart is revealed as we accuse.

Forgiveness isn't easy, but it's mandatory. Even though forgiveness is potent, we can't always expect a perfect resolution to immediately follow. Restitution may not occur. Forgiveness isn't about us; it's about setting free those who have wounded us. Jesus could have screamed #metoo and demanded justice. Instead, he shouted #iforgive, as people continued to abuse and humiliate him by casting lots for his clothes. His forgiveness didn't move them, but it moved Heaven and rocked the planet.

*"At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from the top to the bottom. And the ground shook, and the rocks split apart" (Matt. 27:51).*

Forgiveness will set the abuser in place for freedom should they accept it. Forgiveness will set the abused up for healing. True love does just that. It heals and sets free.

I am so blessed by the courage and true love exhibited by a

true victim—Rachael Denhollander, who, instead of shouting #metoo declared #iforgive:

*A former gymnast is offering forgiveness for the unspeakable crimes Larry Nassar has been convicted of – and she's being recognized by the media for it.*

*“Should you ever reach the point of truly facing what you have done, the guilt will be crushing. And that is what makes the gospel of Christ so sweet. Because it extends grace and hope and mercy where none should be found. And it will be there for you. I pray you experience the soul-crushing weight of guilt so you may someday experience true repentance and true forgiveness from God, which you need far more than forgiveness from me – though I extend that to you as well.”*

Don't misunderstand me. We need the dark side of our culture exposed. The evil in Hollywood and throughout the fabric of our nation is so vile that most of us would be shocked if we saw it in fullness. Everything from sex trafficking to the porn industry to immorality in movies that fill our theaters to drugs, addiction, murder, abortion and so much more is destroying millions of people. That darkness must be exposed and those who are perpetuating it must be held accountable.

*And do not have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness; instead, expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things are exposed when they are revealed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore He says:*

*“Awake, you who sleep,  
arise from the dead,  
and Christ will give you light'” (Eph. 5:11-14).*

Part of the account that the guilty must give is repentance.

If porn industry leaders, sex traffickers, Hollywood moguls who are abusing women (and men), drug traffickers and others would openly repent and surrender to Jesus, I think the earth would shift off its axis! This must be what drives our intercession, not retribution!

## **#iforgive**

*"Bear with one another and forgive one another. If anyone has a quarrel against anyone, even as Christ forgave you, so you must do" (Col. 3:13).*

As we have been forgiven, we must forgive. We pay it forward. Our declaration must be #iforgive.

The heart of the #metoo movement is vengeance. It's not driven by a heart of love and forgiveness, but on the contrary, one of anger and hatred. The question is simple: Will you forgive those who have abused you? Will you love them? Will you truly decree #iforgive just as you, as a child of God, have been forgiven?

Can you imagine the shockwaves that would have resulted if Harvey Weinstein's victims looked him in the eyes and said, "I forgive you. God loves you. I don't want you to be tormented because of what you did to me. I don't want you to experience shame. I want you to know the love of Jesus"?

Wow! Imagine the Oscar speeches and news reports that would have followed! What if the #metoo movement truly was an #iforgive movement!

The spirit of vengeance and hatred that is rising up in our nation as a result of a very real darkness being uncovered is also deeply evil. Yes, we must stand firm for holiness. We absolutely must see corruption and crimes and assaults against innocent people exposed. Yes, for those who have committed crimes, there is a very real price to pay. Yes, those who are

a danger to others must be apprehended. The darkness must be uncovered. There is no question about it.

The question is, how will we respond to those who are exposed? Will we heap up hatred and vengeance upon them? Will we say, "I will never forgive you." Will we shame them? Or, will we do as Rachael Denhollander did and extend forgiveness?

*"Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, outbursts, and blasphemies, with all malice, be taken away from you. And be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you" (Eph. 4:31-32).*

## **Isaiah 1**

Isaiah reveals a powerful strategy:

*When you reach out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you' even when you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil from your deeds, from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, relieve the oppressed; judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool (Isa. 1:15-18).*

God is ready to cleanse all who repent. For both those who abuse and those who refuse to forgive, God is revealing the blood on their hands. When we are clean, we most certainly can seek justice. We can trust God to expose the darkness and judge right versus wrong. We will rebuke oppressors and intercede for the weak, the fatherless, the widows—and I guarantee many of those who sexually abuse others are fatherless. The cry of our heart must be not only for our sins to be washed away, but for the sins of those who oppress us to

be as white as snow. Our cry must not only be for justice but for mercy: "In wrath remember mercy" (Hab. 3:2c)....

Will we be #metoo accusers or #Iforgive intercessors?

Our heart should follow the heart of God: "Their sins and lawless deeds will I remember no more" (Heb. 10:17).

For those who have been abused, my heart is broken for you. I am so sorry you had to endure that. My belief is your healing will rapidly come as you forgive. Forgiving doesn't mean you minimize the pain or what has occurred. It simply means you make a decision to set the abuser free. You learn to love them and desire for them to know Jesus intimately. You let them know heaven won't be the same without them. You can't fathom the thought of them being tormented forever in Hell. You become their greatest intercessor.

You simply do what Jesus did. Instead of focusing on himself by saying #metoo he focused on those who were killing him. He loved them in the midst of the assault. He said, #iforgive: "Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do'" (Luke 23:34a). {eoa}