

## OUR MERCIFUL AND FAITHFUL HIGH PRIEST

*“Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” (Lu 23: 34)*

In the midst of the hellish mob were a people God loved from everlasting. They were chosen of God in Christ before the foundation of the world for whom Christ became Surety. Christ said, *“I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine: and I am glorified in them.”* (Jn 17: 9)

What mercy to intercede for those who were treating him with such base venomous enmity. What faithfulness *“having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end!”* (Jn 13: 1) In mercy and faith he was laying down his life in the room and stead for many who were consenting to and relishing in his cruel death, even for one who railed on him while he hung on a cross beside him. Yet, he would call him to faith in a few short minutes and many of those ones railing at his feet he would call to faith in just a little while on the day of Pentecost!

My brethren, what a merciful and faithful high priest is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!