Matthew 27:25              Sunday of the Passion          March 31, 1996

“This blood be upon us and upon our children.”

These words have been an excuse to hate. We are innocent of Jesus blood, they are guilty.

“His blood be upon us and upon our children,” they cried.

“Let them pay. Forever.”

But whose blood are we talking about here? The blood of Jesus. The blood that washes sin-stained robes white - the blood that is offered to God, like blood of a lamb bringing forgiveness.

The blood of Jesus is not like the blood of Abel, crying out from the ground where it was spilled, crying out for revenge. No, the blood of Jesus cross has made peace between us and God.

“His blood be upon us and our children.”

The story of all that Jesus suffered does not mean much to us until we know that his death was for us - until we know that Jesus died because of our sins – until we know that there is no "I'm innocent and they are guilty." No, Jesus died for me, because of me. You and I day after day in our sin are condemning Jesus to death.

And God takes the blood which you are guilty of spilling and washes you in it and gives it for you to drink. Jesus takes your death, gives you his life.

You'll have no life in him unless you confess, “Jesus died for me, can you all confess: Jesus died for me.”

Confess: “Jesus died because of me”.
Confess: Jesus died in place of me.

“His blood be upon us and our children.”

Please Lord, let the blood of Jesus be upon us all.