

How can God be both merciful and just?

**Because mercy and judgment are two edges of one sword –
made to remove all evil.**

**The Sword might become the knife of a surgeon
cutting away the cancer of sin.**

**The Sword might become the axe of the executioner
removing sin and sinner alike.**

**The Sword will do its job – but how?
It's up to you!
Will it strike in judgment then –
or cut in mercy now?**

(Hebrews 4:12-13: "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.")

**Where's that place, oh where's that sight
where peace and righteousness reside?**

In the *world*? For righteousness, we go to war.

In our *society*? For justice, we hunt the criminal.

In our *families*? Even there, our children quarrel for their right.

**But in our *hearts*!
the war is over!
and we will find:
joy, righteousness and peace of mind.**

(Psalm 85, 10b: "Righteousness and peace kiss each other.")

(Romans 14,17: "The Kingdom of God is righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit")

**To forgive and to be forgiven is a ‘win-win’;
it accomplishes the same thing:**

**The one who is forgiven is set free,
as is the one who forgives.**

**God will eventually deal with our sins and put
them away from His face forever.**

**The only question we must answer in this life, is:
when this happens, are we still sticking to our sins
or not?**

Question:

**What is called good in this world,
called evil in the Kingdom of God,
but we all teach it to our children?**

Answer:

To be proud.

(The paradox of the Gospel)

What is the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

**Is it that sinners will go to hell
but saints will go to heaven?**

No!

**Jesus tells sinners that they can be forgiven
but He tells saints that they might be judged!**

**There is some pleasure in every sin
and some pain in every sacrifice.**

**The good news for us is
that time
will kill that pleasure,
and time
will also heal that pain.**

**The joy of doing good however –
will increase, increase more,
and last forever.**

**Works without faith
is like the slave obeying his master.**

**Faith without works
is like the spoiled child doing whatever it
pleases.**

**Works of faith, Biblical faith,
is like the prince fighting the dragon.**

