

## The Heart of Forgiveness

I question those Christians,  
who say they love the Lord  
and yet to forgive others  
their hearts can't get on board.

They tithe and go to church,  
sometimes they read their Bible  
but to those who have hurt them  
they still hold them accountable.

Forgiveness is an eleven-letter word,  
that they know how to spell out  
but to understand it's full meaning  
they are full of hesitation and doubt.

They have chosen not to forget,  
nor give to God their pain  
to do so would mean to them  
all their suffering would be in vain.

For deep in their souls,  
they have become the judge  
and to forgive others means  
their hearts would have to budge.

And so they cling on to the past,  
with hearts as cold as stone  
instead of giving over their grief  
to the One who judges from the throne.

I wonder if they ever think,  
what if Jesus had thought this way?  
I wonder what these Christians . . .  
would then have to say.

Deborah Ann Belka

There is nothing quite like,  
the power of forgiveness  
nothing is so freeing  
as letting go of bitterness.

There nothing quite like,  
forgiving and forgetting  
undoing the damage done  
without doubt or regretting.

There is nothing quite like,  
a heart willing to believe  
the words ~ I am sorry  
so peace it can receive.

There is nothing quite like,  
mending hurt feelings  
resolving lifelong issues  
to bring inner healing.

There is nothing quite like,  
the attitude of humility  
letting go and letting God  
turn discord into tranquility.

There is nothing quite like,  
the power of God's grace  
the pure joy of release  
when forgiveness we embrace!

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