

# **A stark realization A Palm Sunday Reflection by Brian Wigger**

Jesus looks at all of us in the midst of our business, our activity, our money-making, our careers, and our traveling. If we heed that look and it leads us to open our eyes, to shed tears of regret and shame and repentance for the times we have denied Him by what we have said and done, then we are on our way to a closer relationship with Him. Then He is with us no longer as a betrayed friend, but as a close friend, Lord and liberator.

For the look of Christ, as Peter found out, is one of understanding love.

Jesus let Himself be sold for silver by one of His closest friends. Condemned on false charges, lashed with whips and crowned with thorns, nailed to a bloody cross.

He died murmuring God's mercy on His enemies, and love on all of us.

Yes, Jesus had thrown everything off balance, all right. A cross of Death is the tree of life! In the words of scripture, "If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men and all women to myself." ALL people. No matter who they are or what they have done, He will still look on them with love and forgiveness.