

## **Forgive and Forgiveness**

**By: Hazel Gay Lee © 2013**

**My Dear Father,**

**I am the one who forgives, and I am the one needing forgiveness. I am the one who shows mercy and I am the one who needs mercy. I am both the transgressor and the one who stands before thee broken.**

**When Jesus stood before the multitude of people he simply asked that the one who was without sin to cast the first stone. One by one they left because sin was found in each of them. Is there any human without sin? I look within myself and ask the same question. What about me? What sins are found in me?**

**I know that in the Book of Hazel there are many sins. Some small and some large. Some insignificant and others almost beyond forgiveness. So I come before you Jesus with my accusers and you ask again who will cast the first stone. Any volunteers? One by one they may leave, but I have one who picks up a stone and cast it at me. It is me. Maybe others will cast stones too. Be merciful on them Jesus for their stoning of me may be justified.**

**No one can cast a stone harder at me than I can. I can forgive others, but it is hard for me to forgive myself. I hurt others, but it is I who is hurt the most by my actions, deeds, and words. My expectations of me is far more rigid than what I require of others. Why am I so harsh on myself?**

**My sweet Father, I know why, because I have been touched by thy hand. He that knows much, much is required. Much is required of me because of thee. You have saturated my soul. Therefore, much is required. When I fall, I fall to devastation. When my heart breaks, it is crushed. When I repent, I repent from the deepest depth of my soul. Those I repent to do not know this. They do not know how deep my repentance is because they have never been in the depths of my soul. But thee Father has been there. It is there you remain. You know I am broken. I fall upon you, my rock, and I am broken.**

**I am reminded that I am human, so full of sins and faults. My spirit, my soul, my heart, and my being is broken. With a contrite and remorseful soul I am broken. I ask for your mercy and forgiveness. I have asked those I have wronged for their mercy and forgiveness too. It is up to them to forgive me. It is up to you to forgive me too.**

**I am truly sorry. I am remorseful and broken. Extremely sorry and without excuse. Please forgive me.**