

FOR LOVE OF THORNS

By Steve Wessels © 6-3-06
For Amber from Heb. 11:6

**We have an addiction in this society – something guaranteed by our Constitution –
the right for the pursuit of happiness.**

**Most of the successful commercials shout the positive, joy-filled life,
the fleeting pleasures, the abundance and the blessings
while ignoring the reality of sorrows and suffering.**

**Great marriages are constructed one day at a time
by two inherently selfish persons, who choose
to agree with each other and with God
to enter into a Holy Contract,
with each giving up their rights for the benefit of the other.**

**Great families are likewise constructed day by day as self-less parents
choose to sacrifice their time and money and love, their lives,
for the benefit of their children.**

**But what of the thorns? What when a child turns a cold shoulder
from a hardened heart, disdaining the decades of showered love?**

**God allows us to suffer from the natural consequences of our conduct,
the thorns of our sins, which are many.....
But He also asks that we willingly accept the thorny crowns bestowed
by suffering and sorrow for the sins and benefit of others,
just as Jesus did for us.**

What will you choose?

**I choose to love the thorns of life
to look for Purpose in the strife
to see if I can really see
Your plans with all humility,**

**to listen for Your every thought
Your Spirit's Holy guidance bought
with the blood of Your Dear Son
with thorns secured, the battle won,**

**the choice to love the thorns so deep
and with the pain to softly weep
the tear filled prayers for other's good,
despite the past, misunderstood.**

**And though I'll never comprehend
the mysteries of Your Holy blend
of love and thorns within my life
I'll choose to worship midst the strife**

**and fully trust You will someday say:
*"Well done, My son, you really prayed,
now enter in to My sweet space -
your thorns will bring eternal peace***

***to your own child, just wait and see
she'll come around eventually
to see My grace in her own pace
before she starts to run My race.***