For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. [2 Corinthians 5:21]

Does not seem fair, does it? To make Jesus know sin; the one who lived a sinless life in obedience to God. It does not seem fair that God made Jesus experience the weight and judgment of sin because we are so stupid and unfaithful. I mean, Jesus took upon himself that which he did not deserve. Jesus took upon himself sin; something that he had not known except for the sinners he compassionately received, dined with, healed and forgave. Jesus took upon himself that which God hates; so much so, that God turned his back on His son as he hung on the cross dying: "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*" Or how about the prophet Isaiah's description:

"*Surely he has born our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was CRUSHED (emphasis mine) for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.*" (Isaiah 53:4-5)

I cannot imagine what that would be like; to be forsaken by God and to be crushed. But this is what Jesus did. He died for you. He rose from the grave for you. But Jesus was also forsaken for you that you may not be forsaken by God. Jesus was crushed for you that you may not be crushed by God. Think about that for a moment and you too might think this sin-placed-on-Jesus-shoulders thing is unfair too. But praise be to God that he is "unfair" because if He were fair, we would certainly be forsaken and crushed for our iniquities.

And so, on Easter, we sang beautiful refrains of Jesus dying and rising for us. But these refrains should not be sung only once a year or even once a week. They should be sung daily; as often as you can, as you give thanks to God for His wonderful gift of grace.

Jesus was crushed for you. Jesus was bruised for you. Jesus was forsaken for you. Jesus was pierced for you. And I am joyful, excited and exuberant when I think about Jesus dying the cross for the forgiveness of sins, my sins, and then rising from the grave on the third day. I mean, what a show of grace. What a show of love.

Jesus has risen! He has risen indeed! Alleluia!