

Have you ever tried to straighten a piece of metal that had been bent or twisted? It is very difficult to return it back to its original shape without damage or creating a blemish. I have a great deal of experience in this.

I imagine that we all have had experience with those who are good at twisting the truth. Satan is the original truth-twister, and continued what he started in the Garden<sup>1</sup> with his attempt to trip up Jesus during the temptations<sup>2</sup>. But Jesus was able to untwist the words of His adversary, and responded with God's Truth!

The most powerful and outrageous twisting of truth came when Satan caused Jesus, the Son of God, to be convicted as though He was a criminal, and by caused Him to die in a terribly shameful and painful manner. The Christ was described as a suffering servant by Isaiah<sup>3</sup>, but Satan tried to turn us away from that idea by confusing us.

As part of the execution, a mocking crown of twisted thorns was pushed into His head. I think of this "twisting" as a painful humiliating attempt by Satan to strongly promote the idea that a Good God would not permit such suffering. But that suffering had to be accomplished through the Savior's sacrifice in order to save our souls.

Thus Truth became untwisted, and Satan's lies became unraveled when Christ rose from the grave after three days and showed Himself free from that prison. The path to God was thus straightened out for us, through His great love. That path leads to a new kingdom where pain and tears<sup>4</sup> no longer exist.

We worship Him in this celebration of this truth.

1. Genesis 3.
2. Matthew 4:1ff, Mark 1:12-13, and Luke 4:1ff.
3. See Isaiah 52:13-15 through 53:1-11.
4. Revelation 21:1-4