A Christian Prayer at Auschwitz

for 1-27-05 Remembrance

by Elizabeth Best

Dear God and Father,

Through the Blood of your Jewish Son, Jesus,

We pray

On a day when 60 years ago

the Killing Center of Auschwitz

Was Liberated

Divorce us from the Spirit of Retribution

and Violence

Which we run to when we are wronged

Which started the War

That would not End

Deliver us from Retailiation

And envy

Which devoured millions of

your Souls

Which we took and still take for granted

Give us repentance

>From greed and pride

Which to this day

Causes us to spoil and ruin the lives of others

Lives you gave as a gift

>From our robbery

Of all that is precious and good

In the Lives of Others

Purge us of the desire

To enslave those who are

Less powerful than we

Of the desire to bleed

The other soul

Of all they own and are

God of those who died

Write on our hearts every death

Which in terror went unnoticed

And which some count now

As insignificant

Our lives are all significant

God of those who Survived,

Who walked, like you,

>From a tomb one morning

Remember the Jewish Sons

and Daughters of the Earth

Who Like You,

Seldom had a home

Or Rest

Accomplishing God's Glory

God of History

Let us never deny or forget

The suffering of a Nation:

Not the nation that perished in Auschwitz

And the Merciless Camps

Nor the ones who perish now

Wondering why we refuse

Their Call

God of all we own and breathe and are

Soften our hearts to remember

The Uncovered truth

Of the depth of Love

You have called us to

Help us to walk in your

Perfect Holy Spirit

In the Spirit of Peace

And rest,

Write on our hearts your Word

Cause us to see as brothers

The Ones you have called Chosen

>From the beginning

And to stand forever in

their defense and mercy.

Lord, in your Perfect Suffering

And Divine Cause of redemption

Cause our brothers and sisters

The Jewish people to find

Meaning in theirs

Rest in the Heaven of God

And Perfect Healing.

God of Auschwitz and Now

Bring real repentance and truth

In a world gone mad

With death and power

Bring us in Repentance

to Auschwitz

The exact end of Our

Way

Without You.

In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

Amen.

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