

## Reflection Friday Week 14 2022

### The Voice of Martyrs (Leighton Ainsworth)

Do you hear the echo of the distance cries  
of Christians being persecuted willing and ready to die?  
Do you hear their prayers filled with faith and grief  
asking God for comfort for peace and for relief?  
Do you see each tear drop as they roll down the face  
of those that are imprisoned for sharing God's grace?  
Do you see the hurting the wounded and the dead,  
those who have been tortured for the words that they've said?  
Do you see the marks they bare beaten black and blue  
just for holding a bible and for staying true?  
Do you see the dead, tell me what is it that you see?  
The Christians willing to die so that others can be free.  
We forget the privileges we have to simply read and pray  
whilst others are being persecuted every single day.  
We have a bible that we often never read  
whilst others struggle constantly and live in desperate need.  
We can serve God with boldness without being afraid  
whilst others are martyred for the choice they have made.  
We are so privileged, yet God's message we do not share  
whilst they suffer for their faith they so humbly declare.  
We have a place of worship yet often we do not go  
whilst they are beaten for the faith that they chose to show.  
We can pray boldly without a single care  
whilst others are being killed for uttering a prayer.  
So why is it that we live as though we are not free?  
For those being martyred would love our liberty.  
Seldom do we pray for we don't appreciate it's worth  
our life a reflection of a God we claim to serve.  
Whilst there are those who willingly lay down their life  
for the privilege of being a called a Christian and to serve Christ.  
Do you hear the voice of each martyred saint?  
Or have you turned away so that their voice becomes faint?  
Do you hear the voices of those that die each day?  
Or, so consumed by self, do you just walk away?

- "If God had written the Bible, the first line should have been 'It's round.'"
- Went to the corner shop - bought 4 corners.
- A lorry-load of tortoises crashed into a trainload of terrapins. It was a turtle disaster.