



An Unusual Blessing

*Blessed are you when men hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.*

Luke 6:22



“Even Unto Death” by Audrey Assad

I am a Syrian-American, and my father was a refugee from Syria in the 1970's. The Arab crisis of our day is really close to my heart, and adding into that the Christian unity piece, that these men were martyred as a message to what ISIS refers to as the "nation of the Cross



“Even Unto Death” by Audrey Assad

*The captives prayed, their lips moving silently,
their eyes closed or raised to the heavens.
What were they whispering, in those last,
fast-fading moments of their lives? Were
they afraid? What did they say to the God
who is beside, before, and behind them?
I only thought “What would I pray, if it were
me kneeling on that beach?”*



Christ's Full Disclosure

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Mat 16:24-26

Archbishop Ben Washi and his son



*Neither Bomb Nor Bullet: Benjamin Kwashi:
Archbishop on the front line*