

THE SUFFERING SAVIOR

Isaiah 53



Isaiah 53

*1 Who has believed our report?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?*

*2 For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant,
And as a root out of dry ground.*

*He has no form or comeliness;
And when we see Him,
There is no beauty that we should desire Him.*

*3 He is despised and rejected by men,
A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.
And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him;
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.*

*4 Surely He has borne our griefs
And carried our sorrows;
Yet we esteemed Him stricken,
Smitten by God, and afflicted.*

*5 But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed.*

*6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
We have turned, every one, to his own way;
And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.*

*7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted,
Yet He opened not His mouth;
He was led as a lamb to the slaughter,
And as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
So He opened not His mouth.*

*8 He was taken from prison and from judgment,
And who will declare His generation?
For He was cut off from the land of the living;
For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.*

*9 And they made His grave with the wicked—
But with the rich at His death,
Because He had done no violence,
Nor was any deceit in His mouth.*

*10 Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him;
He has put Him to grief.
When You make His soul an offering for sin,
He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days,
And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.*

**11 He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied.
By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many,
For He shall bear their iniquities.**

**12 Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great,
And He shall divide the spoil with the strong,
Because He poured out His soul unto death,
And He was numbered with the transgressors,
And He bore the sin of many,
And made intercession for the transgressors.**

“How clearly you have before you here our blessed Redeemer. If he did intend to teach us the doctrine that Christ suffered in the place and stead of his people, he could not have used more expressive words.” –Charles Spurgeon

“It is not a prophecy, it is a gospel.” –Augustine

“Every Christian ought to repeat it by heart.” –Martin Luther

FACT: Isaiah was written 700 years before Christ.

FACT: There are at least 41 NT references to Isaiah 53.

3 Reflections from Isaiah 53:1-5:

1) The Appearance of our Suffering Savior (vs. 1-2)

POINT: Only the eyes of faith can recognize the Savior of the world.

“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.” 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

“Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.” 2 Corinthians 3:16

POINT: Faith is a sight word.

2) The Rejection of our Suffering Savior (vs. 3)

“This phrase is full of meaning, and in these words states the whole history of man in regard to his treatment of the Redeemer. No prophecy was ever more strikingly fulfilled; none could condense more significantly into few words.” –Albert Barnes

POINT: The world Jesus entered was spiritually bankrupt.

“He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” John 1:10-13

POINT: Those who receive and believe move from rejection to reception of Christ.

3) The Substitutionary Death of our Suffering Savior (vs. 4-5)

"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Corinthians 5:21

Penal Substitution-This view holds that Christ's death paid the penalty for sin and that through faith man can accept Christ's substitution as payment for sin.

Wounded for OUR transgressions
Bruised for OUR iniquities
Chastisement for OUR peace was upon Him
By His stripes WE are healed

"...because He poured out His soul unto death." Isaiah 53:12

POINT: We are completely healed through Christ our substitute.

CONCLUSION: Jesus died in our place so that we might live in His place.