

Jesus

The Suffering Servant

Isaiah 52-53

52:13 See, my servant will act wisely;
he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

52:14 Just as there were many who were appalled at him--
his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man
and his form marred beyond human likeness--

52:15 so will he sprinkle many nations,
and kings will shut their mouths because of him.
For what they were not told, they will see,
and what they have not heard, they will understand.

53:1 Who has believed our message
and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

53:2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot,
and like a root out of dry ground.
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

53:3 He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.
Like one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

53:4 Surely he took up our infirmities
and carried our sorrows,
yet we considered him stricken by God,
smitten by him, and afflicted.

53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,
and by his wounds we are healed.

53:6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

53:7 He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before her shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

53:8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away.
And who can speak of his descendants?
For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

53:9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.

53:10 Yet it was the LORD'S will to crush him and cause him to suffer,
and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering,
he will see his offspring and prolong his days,
and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

53:11 After the suffering of his soul,
he will see the light [of life] and be satisfied;
by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many,
and he will bear their iniquities.

53:12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great,
and he will divide the spoils with the strong,
because he poured out his life unto death,
and was numbered with the transgressors.
For he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

The sprouting of his ministry

▼ He was plain in his ancestry

53:2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

▼ He was plain in his appearance

53:2 He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

The suffering in his ministry

▼ It was a sad and sorrowful suffering

53:3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

▼ It was a severe suffering

52:14 Just as there were many who were appalled at him--his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness--

▼ It was a sinless suffering

53:9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

▼ It was a substitutionary suffering

53:4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

53:8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

▼ It was a sovereignly scheduled suffering

52:13 See, my servant will act wisely;

53:4 we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

53:10 Yet it was the LORD'S will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

▼ It was a silent and surrendered suffering

53:7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

The success of his ministry

▼ He beat death

53:10 Yet it was the LORD'S will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. ¹¹ After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light [of life] and be satisfied;

53:12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong,

52:13 he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

▼ He brought deliverance

53:4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

53:11 by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

53:12 because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

52:15 so will he sprinkle many nations,

▼ He birthed descendants

53:8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

53:10 Yet it was the LORD'S will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. ¹¹ After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light [of life] and be satisfied;

The spreading of his ministry

▼ His ministry has been broadcast

52:15 and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.

▼ His ministry has to be believed

53:1 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

Jesus

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Jesus in Isaiah 52-53

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- 53:12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great,
and he will divide the spoils with the strong,
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and was numbered with the transgressors.
For he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

▶ We serve a mighty God – a God of sovereignty and timelessness who knows the end from the beginning – and a God of revelation who speaks about the future and makes it known to the human race.

▶ The Old Testament is a collection of 39 books written by God-inspired authors over a period of a thousand years (1440-430 BC) for the purpose of revealing God.

▶ The prophetic prowess, historical accuracy, spiritual unity, and validation of the Old Testament by Jesus demonstrate it to be supernatural and authoritative.

▶ Contained in the Old Testament are hundreds of bold specific prophecies about the coming of a Savior – a Messiah – who would be sent by and from God into human history.

▶ Those prophecies were fulfilled in detail in Jesus of Nazareth – prophecies about his birth, his ministry, his betrayal, his suffering, his death, his resurrection, and his ascension.

▶ One of the most pointed and powerful prophecies about the suffering and victory of Jesus is the prophecy of Isaiah before us tonight – the SUFFERING SERVANT prophecy.

▶ Preaching nearly 800 years before Jesus was crucified in Jerusalem, Isaiah prophesied about a SUFFERING SERVANT who would come from God into this world to bear the sufferings of humanity.

▶ The New Testament writers affirmed it – Isaiah's SUFFERING SERVANT prophecy in ISAIAH 52:13-53:12 was a supernatural prediction of the ministry of Jesus Christ.

MATTHEW 8:16-17

16 When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. 17 This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases."

LUKE 22:35-37

35 Then Jesus asked them, "When I sent you without purse, bag or sandals, did you lack anything?" "Nothing," they answered. 36 He said to them, "But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one. 37 It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment."

JOHN 12:37-38

37 Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. 38 This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"

ACTS 8:26-35

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." 27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. 29 The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." 30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. 31 "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." 34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" 35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

ROMANS 10:16

16 But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?"

ROMANS 15:20-21

20 It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. 21 Rather, as it is written: "Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand."

1 PETER 2:22-25

22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.