

Irony Salvation: The Suffering Servant

Isaiah 53

Matthew 27:57-61

Philippians 2:8-11

1 John 2:1-2



Prophecy Fulfillment

- The prophet was given the message but not necessarily given the understanding of how it was to be fulfilled (Hill and Walton 411, 1 Pet. 1:10-12).
- Prophecies sometimes were given in pictures and examples.
- "Prophetic Past" is an instance where a prophecy's verbs are in the past tense instead of the future tense. Some scholars believe this is because the events are so certain to occur that the events are recorded as if they had already occurred (Jewish Study Bible 801).

- There is a belief that Isaiah was written by 2 or possibly 3 authors.**
 - Proto-Isaiah: chapters 1-39 written in the 8th century BC by Isaiah, son of Amoz (Isa. 1:1).**
 - Deutero-Isaiah: chapters 40-55 written in the 6th century BC during the Exile**
 - Trito-Isaiah: chapters 56-66 after returning from the Exile**
- Jesus refers to the passages throughout Isaiah as being written BY ISAIAH.**
- Even if God used multiple authors, the prophecy of the "Suffering Servant" is still 500 years before Jesus!**

Behold, My servant will prosper,

**He will be high and lifted up and
greatly exalted.**

**Just as many were astonished at
you, My people,**

**So His appearance was marred
more than any man**

**And His form more than the sons
of men.**

**Thus He will sprinkle many
nations,**

**Kings will shut their mouths on
account of Him;**

**For what had not been told them
they will see,**

**And what they had not heard
they will understand.**

-Isaiah 52:13-15

The Messiah and Freedom

- YaHWeH's plan for true freedom depended upon His Servant, the Messiah.
- The Messiah would be exalted among the nations.
- He would purify the nations.
- What the Messiah would do was going to silence even kings-- shock, disgust, and amazement.



Who has believed us?

**To whom has the Lord's arm been
revealed?**

-Isaiah 53:1

**For He grew up before Him like a tender
shoot,**

And like a root out of parched ground;

He has no stately form or majesty

That we should look upon Him,

**Nor appearance that we should be
attracted to Him.**

-Isaiah 53:2

Appearance Unspectacular

- God's Messiah would appear to be nothing special. He grew up like everyone else.
- The Messiah was not physically noteworthy.
- Jesus grew up a commoner. He was a carpenter's son.
- There is no record of Jesus being a physical specimen.



**He was despised and forsaken
of men,**

**A man of sorrows and
acquainted with grief;**

**And like one from whom men
hide their face**

**He was despised, and we did
not esteem Him.**

**Surely our griefs He Himself
bore,**

And our sorrows He carried;

-Isaiah 53:3-5

**Yet we ourselves esteemed
Him stricken,**

**Smitten of God, and
afflicted.**

**But He was pierced through
for our transgressions,**

**He was crushed for our
iniquities;**

**The chastening for our
well-being fell upon Him,**

**And by His scourging we
are healed.**

Despised and Smitten

- Jesus would have grown up being mocked because of His birth circumstances.
- The Pharisees hated and feared Jesus.
- The apostles forsook Jesus.
- The Romans beat Jesus unmercifully.
- Witnesses of the crucifixion mocked Jesus' relationship with God (Matthew 27:39-43).
- Jesus possibly felt forsaken by God (Matthew 27:46).

**All of us like sheep have gone
astray,**

**And like a sheep that is silent
before its shearers,**

**Each of us has turned to his own
way;**

So He did not open His mouth.

**But the Lord has caused the
iniquity of us all**

**By oppression and judgment
He was taken away;**

To fall on Him.

**And as for His generation,
who considered**

**He was oppressed and He was
afflicted,**

**That He was cut off out of the
land of the living**

Yet He did not open His mouth;

**For the transgression of my
people, to whom the stroke
was due?**

Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,

-Isaiah 53:6-8

Our Iniquity, His Pain

- God's plan was a result of mankind's rebellion.
- Crucifixion did not begin until about 479 BC with the execution of a Persian general by the Athenians according to Herodotus in Histories.
- Israel had continually broke their part of the Old Covenant. Jesus paid for mankind's sheeplike wandering.
- Jesus did not argue or seek to defend Himself from the chastening (discipline) due for our iniquity.

**His grave was assigned
with wicked men,**

**Yet He was with a rich
man in His death,**

**Because He had done no
violence,**

**Nor was there any deceit
in His mouth.**

**But the LORD was
pleased**

**To crush Him, putting
Him to grief;**

**If He would render
Himself as a guilt
offering,**

He will see His offspring,

He will prolong His days,

**And the good pleasure of
the LORD will prosper in
His hand.**

-Isaiah 53:9-10

Irony in Death

- ❑ **Crucifixion victims were supposed to be disposed of quickly and often haphazardly. There are some historical reports that talk of mass graves for crucifixion victims.**
- ❑ **Jesus was killed without someone to carry on His Name/bloodline. However, Christians bear His Name and are included in His bloodline spiritually.**
- ❑ **Jesus was buried in a rich man's tomb. The further irony is that Jesus' tomb was owned by a member of the group that had Jesus killed.**



Matthew 27:57-61

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away. And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the grave.

**As a result of the anguish of
His soul,
He will see it and be satisfied;
By His knowledge the
Righteous One,
My Servant, will justify the
many,
As He will bear their
iniquities.**

-Isaiah 53:11-12

**Therefore, I will allot Him
a portion with the great,
And He will divide the
booty with the strong;
Because He poured out
Himself to death,
And was numbered with
the transgressors;
Yet He Himself bore the sin
of many,
And interceded for the
transgressors.**

Obedience Leads to Blessing

- God planned to offer Jesus from the very beginning (see Gen. 3:15).
- Through Jesus, God offered Himself as a guilt offering to Himself on our behalf (Leviticus 6:1-7).
- Jesus has justified us through His death.
- Because of Jesus' willing obedience, God honored Him.

*You
Must
Remember
This...*

Philippians 2:8-11

Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

What About Us?

- God keeps His Promises.
- God loves people and wants a relationship with them.
- God had a plan to rescue mankind from their sin from the very beginning.
- Jesus endured more than we can imagine for us to be reconciled to God.
- Jesus knows the daily challenges people face (Heb. 4:14-16).
- Jesus stands before the Father pleading for Christians.



Rock Springs church of Christ
grow in respect to salvation.