

# Isaiah 51-53 Notes

## Precept study on Isaiah Part 2, Lesson 5

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### 1 Review

- Isaiah 1-35: Judgement on Israel and the Nations
- Isaiah 36-39: Hezekiah
- Isaiah 40: Comfort, strength to those who wait for Him
- Isaiah 41: Do not fear. LORD challenges idols.
- Isaiah 42: the Servant of the LORD
- Isaiah 43: Do not fear, the LORD will make a way
- Isaiah 44:1-23: Do not fear, the LORD wipe out your sin
- Isaiah 40-46: The message of the LORD to His people
- Isaiah 47: the downfall of Babylon
  - spells and sorceries cannot save them.
  - no mercy towards Israel
  - arrogant: “I am and there is no other”. Only God can say that.
  - will be destroyed
- Isaiah 48: Listen, Israel
  - the LORD tells them in advance what He is going to do
  - otherwise they would claim their idols had done it
  - Israel is treacherous
  - If they would only listen (v18)
  - flee Babylon
- Isaiah 49-50: The Servant

## **2 Isaiah 51: Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness**

- 51:1-3: the LORD will comfort Zion
- 51:4-8: law, justice, salvation, righteousness - a light to the peoples, to those who wait for Him. The LORD's salvation will outlast heaven and earth.
- 51:9-11: Isaiah speaking to the LORD: the LORD will conquer anything in the way, anything blocking His salvation
- 51:12-16: the LORD comforts Israel: do not fear
- 51:17-20: wake up Israel! You have received the LORD's wrath
- 51:21-23: but now, the LORD will take away the cup of wrath and give it to Israel's enemies

## **3 Isaiah 52:1-12: the LORD has redeemed Zion**

- 52:1-6: the LORD to Jerusalem: you are no longer captive, I am here.
- 52:7-10: good news! the LORD reigns, He has comforted His people, and redeemed them. So all will see His salvation.
- 52:11-12: get out of Babylon, the LORD will go before you and behind you

## **4 Isaiah 52:13 to 53: the Suffering Servant**

- consider how many times this passage tells us that the Servant bore our sins: 53:4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12. Almost every version from 4 to 12 (except 7, and 9)

**Isaiah 52:13-53:12**

**cross references**

Highly exalted

(52:13)  
Behold, My servant will prosper,  
He will be high and lifted up and greatly exalted.

And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power  
When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they. (Heb 1:3-4)  
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. (Phil 2:8-11)

Marred

(14)  
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.

The gentiles told

(15)  
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.

And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was already named, so that I would not build on another man's foundation; but as it is written, "THEY WHO HAD NO NEWS OF HIM SHALL SEE, AND THEY WHO HAVE NOT HEARD SHALL UNDERSTAND." (Rom 15:15-21)

Many do not believe

(53:1)  
Who has believed our message?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
(2)  
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.

"While you have the Light, believe in the Light, so that you may become sons of Light " These things Jesus spoke, and He went away and hid Himself from them. But though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they were not believing in Him. This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet which he spoke: "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED?" (John 12:36-38)

## Isaiah 52:13-53:12

## cross references

A man of sorrows	
<p>(3) 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.</p>	<p>When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. So the Jews were saying, "See how He loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?" So Jesus, again being deeply moved within, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. (John 11:33-38)</p>
Carried our sorrows	
<p>(4) Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted.</p>	<p>When Jesus came into Peter's home, He saw his mother-in-law lying sick in bed with a fever. He touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she got up and waited on Him. When evening came, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed; and He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were ill. This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet: "HE HIMSELF TOOK OUR INFIRMITIES AND CARRIED AWAY OUR DISEASES." (Matthew 8:14-17)</p>
Pierced and scourged	
<p>(5) 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.</p>	<p>and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. (1 Peter 2:24)</p> <p>Wishing to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas for them, and after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified. (Mark 15:15)</p> <p>But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. (John 19:34)</p>
Sheep gone astray, our sin falls on Him	
<p>(6) All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.</p>	<p>When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things. (Mark 6:34)</p> <p>He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Cor 5:12)</p>

## Isaiah 52:13-53:12

## cross references

Taken by oppression, silent before false accusers

(7) He was oppressed and He was afflicted,  
Yet He did not open His mouth;  
Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,  
And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers,  
So He did not open His mouth.  
(8) By oppression and judgment He was taken away;  
And as for His generation, who considered  
That He was cut off out of the land of the living  
For the transgression of my people, to whom the  
stroke was due?

Early in the morning the chief priests with the elders and scribes and the whole Council, immediately held a consultation; and binding Jesus, they led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate. Pilate questioned Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" And He answered him, "It is as you say." The chief priests began to accuse Him harshly. Then Pilate questioned Him again, saying, "Do You not answer? See how many charges they bring against You!" But Jesus made no further answer; so Pilate was amazed. (Mark 15:1-5)

Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this:

"HE WAS LED AS A SHEEP TO SLAUGHTER;  
AND AS A LAMB BEFORE ITS SHEARER IS  
SILENT,  
SO HE DOES NOT OPEN HIS MOUTH.  
"IN HUMILIATION HIS JUDGMENT WAS TAKEN  
AWAY;  
WHO WILL RELATE HIS GENERATION?  
FOR HIS LIFE IS REMOVED FROM THE EARTH."

The eunuch answered Philip and said, "Please tell me, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself or of someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. (Acts 8:30-35)

## Isaiah 52:13-53:12

## cross references

Assigned with the wicked; buried with a rich man

(9)

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.

One of the criminals who were hanged there was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? "And we indeed are suffering justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise." (Luke 23:39-43)

Joseph of Arimathea came, a prominent member of the Council, who himself was waiting for the kingdom of God; and he gathered up courage and went in before Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate wondered if He was dead by this time, and summoning the centurion, he questioned him as to whether He was already dead. And ascertaining this from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Joseph bought a linen cloth, took Him down, wrapped Him in the linen cloth and laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph were looking on to see where He was laid. (Mark 15:43-47)

**Isaiah 52:13-53:12****cross references**

Numbered with transgressors: yet He will prolong His days

(10)

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.

(11)

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.

(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.

They crucified two robbers with Him, one on His right and one on His left. And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And He was numbered with transgressors." (Mark 15:27-28)  
"For I tell you that this which is written must be fulfilled in Me, 'AND HE WAS NUMBERED WITH TRANSGRESSORS'; for that which refers to Me has its fulfillment." (Luke 22:37)