

## The Suffering Servant - Part 2

*Isa 53:4-6* <sup>4</sup> Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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.

It was three Sundays ago that I had said that I wanted us to consider what Isaiah reveals to us under these headings. 1. What Jesus Did; 2. How sinful man looks upon Jesus; 3 The reality of what was taking place; 4 How all this was accomplished, that is, what God our Father did and what Jesus did and why they did what they did, 5. How all this was necessary because of what we had done. I went on to say that I would cover the first three only that morning, and then added the Lord willing we would consider points 4 and 5 the following Lord's Day. As is always wise I am thankful that I prefaced that with the words, "The Lord willing". As you know the last two Sundays I have been laid aside with the joys of pneumonia. Thus it was the Lord's will that not next Sunday but three Sundays later that we shall be considering points 4 and 5.

But to refresh our minds before I do so, I would remind you that we had first looked at what Jesus did, that is, how He has borne our iniquity and rebellion as He suffered upon the cross, then we noted that in that suffering of our Lord the ungodly world considered Him to have been worthy of death, and therefore smitten by God because He had claimed to be the God-man Redeemer Messiah. Finally we concluded with the reality that Jesus had, instead of being guilt of any sinful act, had taken our sins upon Himself and was chastised for our sin and thus provided for us, His elect, peace with God in our behalf. And now this morning we shall consider the Father's part in our redemption, and note why all this was necessary that we might be a redeemed people. But I am going to reverse those two thoughts this morning first noting why it was necessary that a means of redemption be provided for God's elect, and then note how the Father through the submission of the Son has provided for us so great a salvation.

A. Our need of redemption. - *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way.*

1. Sheep are prone to wander and when lost are unable to find their way back to the sheepfold.

a. All of mankind have indeed turned to our own way and will not and cannot come to God.

*John 6:44* No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him;

b. God's view of mankind from heaven above.

*Ps 14:2-3* The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God. They have **all turned aside**, they have together become corrupt; there is **none who does good, no, not one.**

c. Sheep are different from the ox and the donkey. - *Isa 1:3* "The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's crib; but Israel does not know, My people do not consider."

d. By nature we are prone to leave God, to ignore God, lit. to "hate God".

e. God here is giving us a picture of ourselves and therefore how great was our need of saving grace.

f. God here is giving us a message to proclaim to the world about us, that perchance one to whom we speak will be one of God's staying sheep.

2. Why is all this necessary to know?

a. Lest we boast of our goodness before God.

*Rom 3:27-28* Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

*Eph 2:8-9* For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

b. That we may ever see our need of Christ- *John 15:5* "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for **without Me you can do nothing.**

(1) Sheep are not able to find their way back

(2) Sheep are defenseless animals. They need a Shepherd.

c. That we may always be aware that it is He, who loved us, redeemed us and not we ourselves.

*John 6:44* No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

2 Cor 3:5 *Not that we are sufficient of ourselves **to think of anything as being from ourselves**, but our sufficiency is from God,*

B. What God the Father has done for us through Jesus Christ His Son. - *And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.*

1. I find these words some of the most precious in Holy Scripture.
2. The wonder of it all.
  - a. That God should love us with such an amazing love.
  - b. That God would lay upon His well beloved Son, who had served Him in perfect obedience, the sins of those who were by nature and life style His enemies.

*Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

*Col 1:21-22 And you, who once were **alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works**, yet now He has reconciled*

*Rom 5:10 For if **when we were enemies** we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son*

- c. Think of this for a moment - God took your sin, while you were still in a rebellious state and placed them upon His Son whom He loved
- d. He did this for us while we were still in a rebellious state.
- e. There is absolutely no way one can teach, from the Word of God, that God first looked upon mankind and then chose those who would love and choose Him.

*Eph 1:3-6 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as **He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be **holy and without blame before Him in love**, having **predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself**, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which **He made us accepted in the Beloved**.*

3. You see to make our salvation possible God had to give His well-beloved Son in our behalf because we were sheep in full rebellion without the possibility of entering the fold.
4. This is why in Psalm 22:1 we read these words of our Savior upon the cross - "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, and from the words of My groaning?"
  - a. Christian we have no right to speak those words as if God has forsaken us.
  - b. These words belong to Christ alone, because God refused to deliver our Lord from the cross that He might deliver us from our lost and sinful state.
  - c. In self pity we may feel forsaken but it is impossible for God to forsake us for He has made us accepted in His beloved.

*Heb 13:5 For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."*

CONCLUSION: This is what God did for us through the obedience of His well-beloved Son and our dear Savior and Redeemer.

If you have not been moved by these words this morning - I know of nothing that could melt your heart before God.

If you have not been encouraged in your faith this morning - I know of nothing more that could be said to encourage and strengthen you in your faith.

I close reading these words. -

*Col 1:19-22 For it **pleased the Father** that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and **by Him to reconcile all things to Himself**, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. And **you, who once were alienated and enemies** in your mind by wicked works, yet now **He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight**.*