

I. Despised - Isaiah 53:1-3

1. Reception of the message (**verse 1**)
 - who has believed?
- Rea
 - on Sunday morning which is most important the preacher who gives the message or the church member who receives it?
2. A non-promising “shoot” (**verse 2**)
 - tender shoot
 - no majesty to attract people - physical attributes
3. No beauty
 - does that mean that Jesus was unattractive?
- Rea
4. Despised and rejected (**verse 3**)
 - would earn the hatred of folk around Him
5. Suffering and pain
 - familiar with these
- Rea
 - a man of sorrows?
- Rea
 - held in low esteem - not popular. Don't we assume that Jesus was popular, and that if we're doing the right thing we too will be popular?
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. Discuss how the word “Messiah” and these attributes don't go together
 2. Discuss the importunate of the message -received!
 - as many as “received Him”... - John 1:12
 3. This type Messiah was “unexpected” - verse 2
 4. Preachers who are “popular” beware

II. Substitute - Isaiah 53:4-6

1. He took up our pain (**verse 4**)
- Rea
 - we understand “bore” our suffering, but they probably did not
2. The suffering was brought upon Him by the hand of God
 - if this were involuntary then God is mean, but if it were voluntary we get it
3. Was pierced (**verse 5**)
 - for OUR transgressions
 - for OUR iniquities
- Rea
 - like a lamb was slaughtered (Old Testament) for the sins of another
 - crushed
4. These actions brought “peace”
 - brought to us (not Him)
 - by His wounds WE are healed
- Rea
 - in this context “healed” does not speak of physical ailments, but spiritual “sin ailments”
5. What about us? - we have gone our own way (**verse 6**)
 - like sheep - gone astray
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. Substitution - a sacrifice for us
 2. The important part here is that this is Isaiah years and years before Jesus

3. The words “Messiah” and “suffering” don’t go together
 - they didn’t go together in Isaiah’s day, but I don’t think they go together in our day either

III. Willing - Isaiah 53:7-9

1. He is willing to be sacrificed (**verse 7**)
 - oppressed and afflicted
 - did not open His mouth
 - like a lamb/ sheep
- Rea -in the garden of Gethsemane being “willing” was the issue as Jesus prayed that night
2. He did not open His mouth, but who else protested? - no one (**verse 8**)
 - Rea -recall... where were the disciples when Jesus was crucified?
 - Rea -does this mean the disciples were not on Jesus’ “side?”
3. His grave was with the wicked and the rich (**verse 9**)
 - Rea -the rich - the grave of Joseph of Arimathea
 - Rea -the wicked - crucified with two thieves
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. We most often don’t make a prisoner into a hero
 2. Do you think that the average church member gets this idea? - discuss the idea of a suffering Messiah
 3. Jesus taught His disciples to wash feet and told them this was an example... for how we’re to live

IV. Sacrificed - Isaiah 53:10-12

1. God’s will to crush Him (**verse 10**)
 - He is God’s offering for sin
- Rea -the word “offering” calls to mind the Old Testament sacrifices - a whole system of “offerings”
2. The offspring will see His descendants
 - how is that possible? - God will prolong His days
3. After sacrifice He will see the light (**verse 11**)
 - how is that possible?
 - Jesus rose and saw the light
 - by His knowledge
- Rea -by knowing Him He justifies many
4. A portion among the great (**verse 12**)
 - God rewards as only God can reward
 - iniquities will be carried, He will receive “spoils”
 - why? He poured out His life
- Rea -to “pour out” involves a voluntary thing. Very important to remember that His life was not taken, His life was given. There is a world of difference.
5. He made intercession for the transgressor
 - without His work, then, the transgressor has no hope
- Rea -He died for the sinner, while he was yet in his sin (Rom. 5:6)

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Reflect again on the dating of this passage - hundreds of years before Jesus
 -I guess God runs the whole show
2. Our sins are not in doubt - what will we do about our sins? - we do nothing... God does this with Jesus
3. All the sacrifices of Old Testament come to bear on the final sacrifice of Jesus Christ

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