

## Isaiah 53: The Accomplishment of Jesus' Anguish

### 1. God spoke through prophets so we would be able to recognize and believe in the Messiah, Jesus.

*Note:* There are more than 300 Old Testament prophecies fulfilled by Jesus, proving He is the Messiah.

"As was Paul's custom, he went to the synagogue service, and for three Sabbaths in a row he used the Scriptures to reason with the people. He explained the prophecies and proved that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead. He said, 'This Jesus I'm telling you about is the Messiah.'" Acts 17:2-3 (NLT)

*Life Application:* The Bible is our only guide in having a right relationship with God.

"You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 3:15 (NLT)

### 2. Isaiah perfectly described Jesus' death with amazing details 700 years in advance.

- "He was despised and rejected...We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care." Isaiah 53:3 (NLT)

"He came to his own people, and even they rejected him." John 1:11 (NLT)

- "He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet he never said a word. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter. And as a sheep is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. Unjustly condemned, he was led away." Isaiah 53:7-8 (NLT)

"Then the leading priests kept accusing him of many crimes, and Pilate asked him, 'Aren't you going to answer them? What about all these charges they are bringing against you?' But Jesus said nothing, much to Pilate's surprise...Pilate asked them, 'Then what should I do with this man you call the king of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' 'Why?' Pilate demanded. 'What crime has he committed?' But the mob roared even louder, 'Crucify him!'" Mark 15:3-5,12-14 (NLT)

- "But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed." Isaiah 53:5 (NLT)

"...(Pilate) ordered Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip, then turned him over to the Roman soldiers to be crucified." Mark 15:15 (NLT)

- "...He poured out Himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors..." Isaiah 53:12 (NASB)

"Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him...the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left." Luke 23:32-33 (NLT)

- "...He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels." Isaiah 53:12 (NLT)

"Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing.'" Luke 23:34 (NLT)

- "He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave." Isaiah 53:9 (NLT)

"As evening approached, Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea who had become a follower of Jesus, went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body...Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a long sheet of linen...placed it in his own new tomb, which had been carved out of the rock. Then he rolled a great stone across the entrance and left." Matthew 27:57-60 (NLT)

*Life Application:* I can trust God to work out His plan for my life.

"Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan." Ephesians 1:11 (NLT)

### 3. Isaiah also perfectly described why Jesus suffered and died on the cross.

"And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins...All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all...he was struck down for the rebellion of my people...But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants...When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he

will be satisfied. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins." Isaiah 53:4-6,8,10-11 (NLT)

*Note:* Salvation is much more than forgiveness of sins. It includes being made righteous and alive through Christ.

"Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God..." 1 Peter 3:18 (NLT)

"For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them...God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."  
2 Corinthians 5:19,21 (NLT)

"But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved." Ephesians 2:4-5 (NIV)

*Life Application:* We must embrace the completeness of our salvation in Christ.

"So you also are complete through your union with Christ..." Colossians 2:10 (NLT)

"Then he says, 'I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds.' And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices." Hebrews 10:17-18 (NLT)

"For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son." Romans 5:10 (NLT)

Shane Segars / 03-13-16 / [shane@centeringlives.com](mailto:shane@centeringlives.com)

## Discussion Questions

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's lesson discussing "Isaiah 53" was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?
2. Read Acts 17:2-3. How does it make you feel that there are over 300 prophecies that prove Jesus is the Messiah? Why are people so skeptical of the Bible? Do you trust the Bible to be reliable? Why or why not? (Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 if you need help.)
3. Compare Isaiah 53:3-8 & Mark 15:3-15. List the details these passages have in common. How do you explain Isaiah being able to describe Jesus' crucifixion so accurately 700 years in advance? After reading Isaiah 53, what would keep people from believing this is a prophecy about Jesus?
4. Read Ephesians 1:11, Psalm 32:8-9, & Ephesians 2:10. How does it make you feel that God has planned good things for you to do from the beginning of the world? If God can fulfill His purposes for Jesus, can He fulfill His purposes for you? Why? Why not?
5. Read Isaiah 53:11 & 2 Corinthians 5:21. What is the difference between being forgiven and being made righteous? What difference does it make in your life to know that you are as righteous as Jesus Christ because of your faith in Him?
6. Discuss the following quotations:  
"According to this gracious covenant, the Lord treats his people as if they had never sinned...He accepts us as righteous; He takes delight in us as if we were perfectly holy...O my soul what a promise is this! Believe it and be happy." Charles H. Spurgeon  
"There are those who have a life they never live. They have come to Christ and thanked Him only for what He did, but do not live in the power of who He is...they live in a spiritual vacuum, trying with no little zeal to live for Christ a life that only He can live in and through them, perpetually begging for what in Him they already have!" Major Ian Thomas
7. Describe how you celebrated Easter growing up? How do you celebrate it now? What has changed?
8. Who are you inviting to worship this Easter?