

The Gospel According to Isaiah
Isaiah Chapter 53

I. Please turn with me to Isaiah Chapter 53

- a. This morning, we are going to be studying an amazing portion of Scripture which I like to call “The Gospel According to Isaiah”
 - i. **Isaiah Chapter 53** is considered one of the greatest chapters found in the Old Testament concerning the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ
 - ii. In this chapter, Isaiah gives us a detailed description of the life, suffering, death, resurrection, and glorification of the Lord Jesus approximately 720 years before His birth
- b. This morning, as we study Isaiah 53, my greatest desire is that we would grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ – “Let’s get to know Him”

II. *Isaiah Chapter 53:1*

- a. The prophet Isaiah begins the chapter by asking a question, “Who has believed our report? Who has believed our report concerning the Messiah?”
 - i. The answer to this question, “**Very Few...**” – Very few believed the report the prophets gave concerning the Messiah
 - ii. The Nation of Israel as a whole refused to believe the report the prophets gave concerning Messiah
 - iii. They couldn’t believe Messiah would come humbly and lowly, as a suffering Servant, riding on a donkey, and dying on a Cross
 - iv. And when Messiah came, they refused to accept Him even though the “**Arm of the Lord**” was revealed in Him (i.e. God’s strength/power)
- b. And sadly, just like the Nation of Israel, there are many people today who still refuse to believe the “Report” concerning the Messiah
 - i. All the evidence is there, yet they still refuse to believe, they still refuse to accept the Lord Jesus as their Savior
 - ii. They reject the Gospel and harden their hearts towards the Savior...
 - iii. However, even though many refuse to believe, we still have to continue to share the Gospel for it is the power of God to salvation cf. Rom. 1:16
- c. Now, beginning in **verse 2**, the prophet Isaiah is going to begin to give us his report concerning the Messiah
 - i. Isaiah is going to share with us his gospel and tell us “**Seven**” things concerning the Messiah who would soon come to the earth
 - ii. Pay close attention because Isaiah is going to describe for us the Lord Jesus in great detail...

III. 1st – “The Humiliation of Messiah” (*vs. 2*)

- a. The first thing the prophet Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Humiliation, “Messiah would come Humbly”

- i. Messiah would grow up like a tender plant – *“Small and Fragile with no form or comeliness”*
- ii. This is what Isaiah is telling us, *“When Messiah comes, He is not going to be wearing a beautiful robe and a shiny crown, but He is going to come humbly, lowly, and meekly”*
- b. And that’s exactly how Jesus came, He left all His glory and splendor in Heaven and came to this earth as a humble Servant
 - i. He left the glories and splendors of Heaven to be born in a manger...
 - ii. In **1 Corinthians 8:9**, Paul declared, *“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich”*
- c. Also, in *verse 2* Isaiah tells us something interesting, he tells us that *“Messiah would come as a root out of dry ground...”*
 - i. When Jesus came into the world, it was a very ‘dry time’ in human history
 - ii. Politically it was dry, Israel was under Roman oppression
 - iii. Spiritually it was dry, Israel had not received a fresh word from God for more than 400 years
 - iv. It was a very dry time, and during this dry time, a “Root” came into the world to bring life, the Lord Jesus – *“He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life”*
 - v. And if you’re feeling *“spiritually dry”* this morning, the Lord desires to bring new, fresh, abundant life into your life – *“Times of Refreshing”*
- d. Therefore, the first thing Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Humiliation

IV. 2nd – “The Rejection of Messiah” (*vs. 3*)

- a. The second thing the prophet Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Rejection, *“Messiah would be Rejected”*
 - i. The Nation of Israel had been anticipating the coming of the Messiah for hundreds of years, but when He came, they rejected Him
 - ii. They did not accept Him, they did not want Him, they did not obey Him, and ultimately, they did not believe in Him cf. **John 1:11**
- b. And because He was despised and rejected, Isaiah tells us that *“He was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief”*
 - i. You see, the Lord Jesus was full of sorrow/grief because the people He came to save rejected and despised Him – *“It broke His heart...”*
 - ii. In the same way, we must learn from the example of our Savior and learn to have compassion for the lost...
 - iii. It should break our heart to know that today, this morning, thousands of people will step into eternity unprepared – *“Blessed are those who Mourn”*
 - iv. May the Lord give each of us a greater *love* and *compassion* for the lost

- c. Therefore, the second thing Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Rejection
- V. 3rd – “The Suffering of Messiah” (*vs. 4-6*)
- a. The third thing the prophet Isaiah mentions concerning the Messiah is His Suffering, “Messiah would Suffer”
 - i. Messiah would be stricken, afflicted, wounded, bruised, and crushed – He would suffer more than any other man who has ever walked this earth
 - b. And in verse 5, Isaiah tells us the reason why Messiah would suffer, “For the transgression and iniquities of His people”
 - i. The Lord Jesus would be bruised, afflicted, wounded, and crushed for you and for me; He would suffer on behalf of our sins
 - ii. You see, our sins required a very severe penalty, death, and the Lord Jesus received that penalty on our behalf – “**He was our Substitute**”
 - c. And at the end of verse 5b, Isaiah tells us something very important and profound, he declares, “By His stripes we are healed”
 - i. These stripes mentioned by the prophet Isaiah refer to the scourging, or beating, the Lord Jesus endured before He went to the Cross
 - ii. During this beating, the Lord was tied to a post, stripped naked, and beaten severely by Roman soldiers with a leather whip
 - iii. The beating was so severe and brutal that the skin would have been completely stripped from the back of the Lord
 - iv. His bones, muscles, and organs would have been visibly exposed
 - d. And the Lord willingly endured such a brutal beating because through the stripes He would receive, we would receive healing
 - i. Physical healing, yes, if it is according to the Lord’s will
 - ii. Emotional healing, yes, the Lord desires to heal us from depression, heartache, rejection, and emotional scars
 - iii. Spiritual healing, yes (always), the Lord desires to heal us spiritually from the effects of sin
 - iv. And this morning, the Lord asks you the question, “**Do you want to be healed? Do you want to be healed?**” – “**By His stripes we are healed**”
 - e. Therefore, the third thing Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Suffering
- VI. 4th – “The Silence of Messiah” (*vs. 7*)
- a. The fourth thing the prophet Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Silence, “Messiah would be Silent”
 - i. The prophet tells us that Messiah would be oppressed and afflicted, yet He would not open His mouth
 - ii. In **1 Peter 2:23**, the apostle Peter tells us this concerning Jesus, “**When He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously**”

- iii. Just as Isaiah prophesied concerning the Messiah, the Lord Jesus stayed silent before His accusers and mockers
- iv. As the Lord was standing trial, His accusers mocked Him, ridiculed Him, reviled Him, and threatened Him, yet He stayed silent
- v. The Soldiers blindfolded Him, beat Him, spat on Him, and crowned Him with thorns, yet He stayed silent – “***He did not say a word***”
- b. What an example we have in our Savior!
 - i. You see, when people bring accusations against us, threaten us, ridicule us, and mock us, we should not be so quick to open our mouths
 - ii. But, we must follow the example Jesus and stay silent and commit ourselves into the hands of Him who judges righteously
- c. Therefore, the fourth thing Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Silence

VII. 5th – “The Death of Messiah” (*vs. 8-9*)

- a. The fifth thing the prophet Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Death, “Messiah would be Killed”
 - i. Isaiah prophesied that when Messiah came He would be “***cut off from the land of the living***” (vs. 8)
 - ii. And this is exactly what happened to the Messiah...
- b. After Jesus was rejected by His people, condemned to death by His accusers, and beaten by the Soldiers, He was led away to be crucified
 - i. Death by crucifixion was only reserved for slaves and criminals...
 - ii. The soldiers would force the criminal to carry his cross to the designated area of crucifixion
 - iii. Then, the cross would be placed on the ground, the criminal would lay upon the cross, and His feet and hands would be nailed onto the cross
 - iv. Once the criminal was secure, the Soldiers would raise the cross to an upright position and the criminal was left to hang until his death
- c. And the Gospels tell us that Jesus hung on the cross for six hours, until finally, He gave up His spirit and died
 - i. And one of the final words Jesus declared on the Cross were the words, “***It is finished...***” – **John 19:30**
 - ii. This phrase is only one word in the original language “***Tetelestai***” which means “***paid in full***”
 - iii. On the cross, the Lord Jesus fully paid the price for our sins and there is nothing else that needs to be done – “***Jesus paid it all!***”
- d. Therefore, the fifth thing Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Death

VIII. 6th – “The Resurrection of the Messiah” (*vs. 10-11*)

- a. The sixth thing the prophet Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Resurrection, “Messiah would be Resurrected”
 - i. In vs. 10, the prophet tells us that Messiah’s days would be ‘***prolonged***’

- ii. Now, the question we have to ask ourselves is this, “***How can a dead man have His days prolonged?***”
- b. Only one way, He must be “Resurrected”
 - i. Messiah’s death would not be His end, however, Messiah would be raised from the dead
 - ii. After being cut off from the land of the living, Messiah would be resurrected with great power and glory
- c. And that’s exactly what happened, just like the prophet predicted...
 - i. After Jesus was in the tomb for three days, the Gospels tells us that something miraculous happened on the first day of the week
 - ii. A few women went to the tomb to anoint Jesus’ body with spices, but when they arrived, they were astonished at what they saw
 - iii. The tomb was opened and a glorious angel was sitting upon a rock at the entrance of the tomb
 - iv. The angel declared to the women, “***Jesus is not here, for He is risen from the dead***” – Hallelujah!!
 - v. Just as Isaiah prophesied, Messiah was raised from the dead – He conquered the grave and was victorious over death
- d. Therefore, the sixth thing Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Resurrection

IX. 7th – “The Exaltation of Messiah” (*vs. 12*)

- a. The seventh and final thing the prophet Isaiah mentions concerning Messiah is His Exaltation, “Messiah would be Exalted”
 - i. Isaiah tells us that “***Messiah would be given a portion with the great and divide the spoil with the strong***” – this is speaking of exaltation/victory
 - ii. You see, this is something one does after a military victory, once you defeat the enemy, you divide the spoils amongst the army
 - iii. Through His death and resurrection, Messiah was victorious over Satan, over sin, and over death, and He was exalted
 - iv. Just like the prophet Isaiah predicted...
- b. The Lord Jesus was exalted to the highest position imaginable, the right hand of God Almighty cf. Psalms 110:1
 - i. In **Philippians 2:9-11**, the apostle Paul declared, “***Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus Christ every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.***”
- c. The Lord Jesus Christ has been exalted above everything and anything, therefore, you don’t have to apologize for Him!

X. Therefore, in Isaiah Chapter 53, we find the “Gospel According to Isaiah”

- a. And all that is left to say is this, “*What a glorious Savior we have in Jesus Christ*” – I would encourage you to get to know Him more (You won’t be disappointed!)