

## Isaiah 52:13-53:12

9-7-05

### “The Glory of the Cross!”

#### 1. **Intro:**

- 1.1. **Announce:** Baptism class rm.133.
- 1.2. Welcome to our 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday night B.S. in 20 years!
- 1.3. **Disaster Update:**
- 1.4. **Prayer:** No room in the **Inn**, but there was on a **tree**.
  - 1.4.1. Still no room in **over-crowded hearts**; **Yet You still search!**
- 1.5. **What a chapter!**
  - 1.5.1. Is.53 is the **most quoted** of OT chapters in the NT. [at least 85 x's]
  - 1.5.2. The Cross – the pivot of all history.
  - 1.5.3. There is no place in the OT where we are nearer to the **heart of the gospel** than here!
  - 1.5.4. Yet, this was the most perplexing “*contradiction*” for the OT prophets & to the Jews today.
    - 1.5.4.1. They did not realize the “**Gap**” in between the 2 comings(The Suffering Servant to die & the Sovereign to reign).
    - 1.5.4.2. **See 1 Pet.1:10,11** (esp. “*sufferings & glory*”)
- 1.6. **By current standards of success**, Jesus might be considered a failure. **Was he popular?** No. He was not well-liked. In fact, after one of his sermons, all of his followers deserted him, except for the Twelve Apostles. **Did he have political power?** No. He was a political failure. All levels of government first rejected him. Then they conspired to kill him. **Did he have lots of friends?** No. His friends often hurt him, eventually abandoned him, and one of them betrayed him to death. **Did he have money and possessions?** No. No house, no "wheels", no world headquarters, no Christian amusement park. **Was he respected by his peers?** No. His professional peers (Pharisees) rejected his work. Despite his apparent failure by these standards, Jesus Christ has changed the lives of millions of men and women across the centuries. How could he, in light of his failures?

#### 2. **EXALTATION! (52:13)**

- 2.1. **Exalted!** (52:13)
  - 2.1.1. These last 3 verses are definitely attached to ch.53.
- 2.2. He **shall be**(future) –
- 2.3. **See Is.6:1** “**high & lifted up**” (same term)
  - 2.3.1. **Ascending phrases:** **exalted**(raised), **extolled**(lifted up), **very high**.
    - 2.3.1.1. The Servant will ascend to the height of God Himself.
    - 2.3.1.2. Some say this refers to Christ’s *res., ascension, & exaltation*.

2.3.2. Jn.3:14 “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be **lifted up**.”

2.4. Prior to the Servants **Exaltation**, is his **Humiliation!**

### 3. **HUMILIATION! (52:14-53:12)**

- 3.1. **Unrecognizable!** (52:14,15)
- 3.2. (15) **Sprinkle** – OT custom when priest dipped finger in blood & sprinkled on the veil (Lev.4) – **Symbolizing cleansing from sin.**
- 3.3. **Humbly He Came!** (53:1-3)
- 3.4. (1) **The unbelief of Israel:** they **saw** Him; **heard** Him; but **would not trust** Him.
- 3.4.1. **Triple rejection:** [1] **Rejected His Words(report)** [2] **Rejected His Works Works(the arm of the Lord)** [3] **Rejected His Person(vs.2)**
- 3.5. (2) **Tender plant** – He wasn’t a great tree just a **humble bush**.
- 3.6. **Dry ground** – the nation was barren & dry spiritually.
- 3.7. **Our Substitute!** (4-6)
- 3.8. (4a) **Fulfilled when Christ healed the sick in His earthly ministry.**
- 3.8.1. In His **life** he dealt with **their sickness**, in His **death their sin!**
- 3.8.2. **Christ’s atoning death paid the penalty of sin, not sickness!**
- 3.8.3. Peter interpreted it this way in **1 Pet.1:24!**
- 3.9. This section answers, “**Why did an innocent Jesus have to die such a terrible death?**”
- 3.9.1. **Substitution!** - taking the place of sinners, bearing our judgment.
- 3.9.2. **It is only through this atoning of sin that God can bless Israel & us.**
- 3.10. (5) **He the price He paid –**
- 3.10.1. [1] **Wounded** – “*pierced*”, referring to his death on the cross, pierced by nails.
- 3.10.2. [2] **Bruised** – “*crushed*”, as under a burden, the weight of sin laid on Him.
- 3.10.3. [3] **Chastised** – “punished”, as though he had broken the law. With stripes from the scourging.
- 3.11. (6) **We are sinners by birth & sinners by choice!**
- 3.11.1. **Birth** – “All we like sheep have gone astray.”
- 3.11.2. **Choice** – “We have turned, every one to his own way.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Warren Wiersbe; Outline in OT.

- 3.11.3. **All** – humanity is depraved & fallen!  
 3.11.3.1. **Note** this verse starts with the “all” of condemnation, & ends with the “all” of salvation!
- 3.11.4. Here is the **heart** of the gospel... Christ died for **our** sins!
- 3.12. **Note the pronouns!**
- 3.13. **Show** Rembrandt(Dutch artist) Sketch.  
 3.13.1. **Note:** Light & dark; note shining only on one thief.  
 3.13.2. Drew himself in the pic – personalizing his part!  
 3.13.2.1. *For it is not only a **historical event**, but actually we were **all participants** in the crucifixion.*  
 3.13.3. It is easy to say “**He died for the sins of the world**”, but can you say he died for “**my sin!**”  
 3.13.4. “Twas I that shed the sacred blood; I nailed him to the tree; I crucified the Christ of God; I joined the mockery!”<sup>2</sup>  
 3.13.4.1. Look deeper into the picture until you see yourself there!
- 3.14. **He is the OT scapegoat**(Lev.16) – on whose head the penitent laid their hands on its head.
- 3.15. **The great message of Calvary is “Christ for us”!**  
 3.15.1. 3 great themes of our Christian Festivals:  
 3.15.1.1. [1] **Christmas** – God **with** us.  
 3.15.1.2. [2] **Easter** – God **for** us.  
 3.15.1.3. [3] **Pentecost** - God **in** us.
- 3.16. **Doctrine of substitutionary atonement** is crucial to our belief!  
 3.16.1. Jesus didn’t die a **martyrs** death; or only as a supreme **act of love**; or even as an **act of bravery**.  
 3.16.2. He died as our substitute, in our place, for our sins! [again note all the pronouns!]
- 3.17. **Willing Sacrifice!** (7-9)
- 3.18. He was not treated justly: He was oppressed, harassed, treated roughly... **Yet** He did not complain or cry out!  
 3.18.1. He was the **Lamb of God** who came to take away the sins of the world!  
 3.18.2. **Why didn’t he react?** Because this is what he came to do!
- 3.19. Complete submission to the will of the Father! (How about us?)  
 3.19.1. **Q:** How do you handle when you are misunderstood?  
 3.19.2. **Q:** How do you have something evil said of you?  
 3.19.3. This **grinding test** proves whether we are **solid gold** or simply **gold-plated!** [when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold]

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<sup>2</sup> Bread for each Day; April 12.

- 3.20. (8a) Speaks of his unfair trial.
- 3.21. (8b) He was “*cut off*” like an unclean leper & cast out of the city.
- 3.22. Philip explained to the Ethiopian eunuch this was **Jesus!**(Acts 8:32-35)
- 3.23. **A lamb** – being led to slaughter, powerless, & unable to speak.
- 3.24. **Pleased!!!** (10-12)
- 3.25. God is in control, reconciling the world unto Himself!
- 3.25.1. Acts 4:27,28 “For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose **determined** before to be done”
- 3.25.1.1. Who’s to blame/responsible for His death...all of the above!
- 3.26. **Pleased the Lord?** – To see His Son’s suffering? (**No!**)
- 3.26.1. To see it’s **results**...the work of **salvation** completed, **sacrifice** accepted, & **sin** atoned for? (**Yes!**)
- 3.26.2. All of this was planned by God & it was a complete success!
- 3.26.3. This is the God-ward side of the cross!
- 3.26.4. Now, a holy God could, in his Grace save undeserving sinners!!!
- 3.27. (10) **Prolonged His days**(Res.) - **See His seed**(given a spiritual family)
- 3.27.1. Now we see why **Is.9:6** says the Son is our **Everlasting Father**.
- 3.28. (12) An inheritance from the Father –
- 3.28.1. He conquered sin & Satan.
- 3.28.1.1. Jesus, like a victorious General, is given the spoils.
- 3.28.2. On earth he was lightly esteemed, now ranked with **the great!**
- 3.29. Closing statements take us back to the cross!
- 3.29.1. **Numbered w/the transgressors** – crucified between 2 thieves.
- 3.29.2. **Made intercession for the transgressors** – praying for them on cross.
- 3.30. There is no place in the OT where we are nearer to the heart of the gospel than here!
- 3.30.1. One of the “*more important*” things I learned as a youth, was to spin a Frisbee. (spent hours doing that the summer of 1979)
- 3.30.1.1. The art of it was to keep your finger **centered!**
- 3.30.2. **Our whole art of Christianity?...to be Centered on the Cross!**
- 3.30.3. Jesus didn’t die a **martyrs** death; or only as a supreme **act of love**; or even as an **act of bravery**.
- 3.30.3.1. He died as our substitute, in our place, for our sins!

3.30.4. You must trust in His atoning death, realizing *“He died for me!”*

3.31. **Communion:**

3.31.1. Romulo, “Wow w/that chapter how can we **not** have communion?”

3.31.2. Spend time in profound praise!

3.31.3. Invitation. Partake on own.

3.32. **Baptism class:** rm.133.