

# ISAIAH 52:13-53:12 "BY HIS STRIPES!"

**Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12** **Dr. Kyle M. Yates:** "These five matchless stanzas of this "Servant Poem" are the Mt. Everest of messianic prophecy."

**Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12** (NKJV)

**13** Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently;

**He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.**

**Isaiah 6:1** In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, **high and lifted up**, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

**14** Just as many were astonished at you,  
So His visage was marred more than any man,  
And His form more than the sons of men;

**15** So shall He sprinkle many nations.

Kings shall shut their mouths at Him;

For what had not been told them they shall see,

And what they had not heard they shall consider.

- **Warren Wiersbe:** "The theme that ties the chapter together is that the innocent Servant died in the place of the guilty." <sup>1</sup>

**53:1** **Who has believed our report?**

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

- This is the great question of the ages:
  - Have you believed what the Word of God has said about this Jesus?
  - Has it been revealed to you?
- This chapter declares the circumstances of our Savior's sufferings so exactly that it seems rather a history of his passion than a prophecy. And it is so undeniable a proof of the truth of Christianity that the bare reading of it, and comparing it with the gospel history, hath converted some infidels (Lowth). <sup>2</sup>

**2** For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant,

And as a root out of dry ground.

He has no form or comeliness;

<sup>1</sup> Warren W. Wiersbe, *Be Comforted*, "Be" Commentary Series (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 135.

<sup>2</sup> Jerome H. Smith, *The New Treasury of Scripture Knowledge: The Most Complete Listing of Cross References Available Anywhere- Every Verse, Every Theme, Every Important Word* (Nashville TN: Thomas Nelson, 1992), 804.

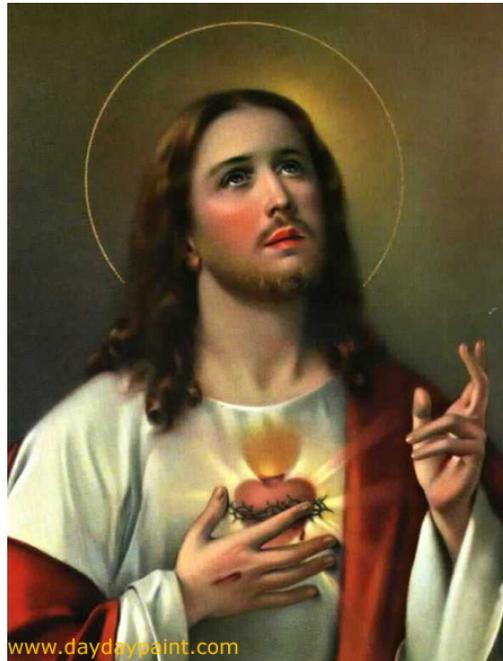
And when we see Him,  
There is no beauty that we should desire Him.

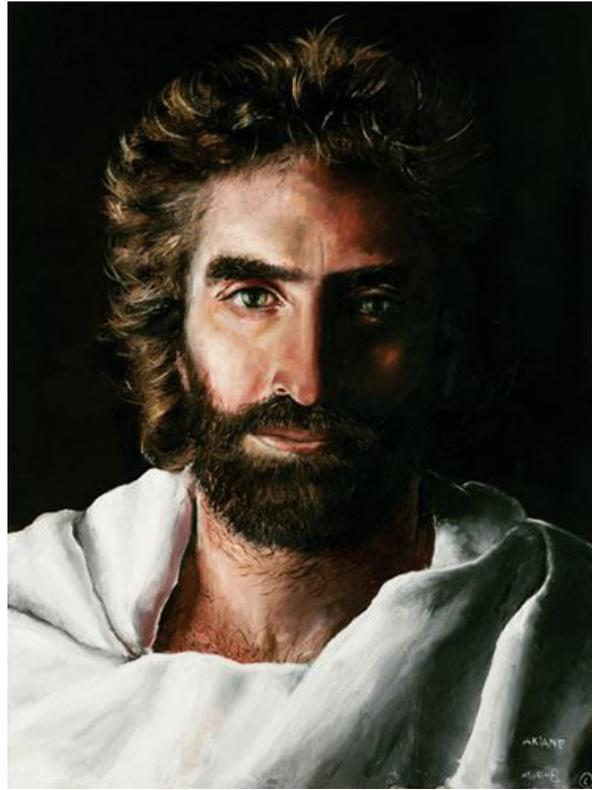
- What brings a “tender plant” to become a “root out of dry ground”?
  - What a vivid picture of our “Suffering Servant”
    - Not the same picture that Isaiah saw in Isaiah 6  
**Isaiah 6:1** In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, **high and lifted up**, and the train of His robe filled the temple.
    - Not the same picture that John saw in Revelation 1  
**Revelation 1:12–17**  
**12** Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands,  
**13** and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.  
**14** His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire;  
**15** His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters;  
**16** He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.  
**17** And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, “Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.
  - Jesus succeeded without what “modern church” seems to be enthralled with – good looks and nice clothes

**3** He is despised and rejected by men,  
A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.  
And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him;  
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

- Jesus did not appear as some would say a “successful” Christian must appear today:
  - Ugly
  - Homeless style clothing

- Dirty and wrinkled – like a “root out of dry ground.”
- What happened to the “health and wealth” doctrines of the Faith Movement?
- **So men turned from Him** – He did not symbolize what they wanted!
  - Modern paintings have attempted to correct what artists thought was wrong about Isaiah's description of Jesus.





**4** Surely He has borne **our griefs**  
And carried **our sorrows**;  
Yet we esteemed Him stricken,

Smitten by God, and afflicted.

**Hebrews 12:3–4** (NLT)

**3** Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up.

**4** After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin. <sup>3</sup>

**5 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.**

- Apostle Peter knew what Isaiah meant

**1 Peter 2:24–25**

**24** He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**25** For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to **the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

- Peter had walked away – as far away as he thought he could – perhaps he so questioned Jesus' promise of returning that he thought he would never see Jesus again after denying Him that night at Caiaphas' house.
- As British Pastor John Stott pointed out,
  - “Jesus seems to have prayed for his tormentors actually while the iron spikes were being driven through his hands and feet; indeed the imperfect tense [of the biblical account in Greek] suggests that **He kept praying, kept repeating his entreaty, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”**”

**6 All we like sheep have gone astray;  
We have turned, everyone, to his own way;  
And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

<sup>3</sup> Tyndale House Publishers, Holy Bible: New Living Translation (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2013), Heb 12:3–4.

- **All we** – we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God – and we continue to sin!
  - No self-righteous excuse found here
  - Guilty without excuse
- **We have turned, every one of us, to his own way!**
  - Again – every one of us!
  - Not forced sin, not excusable sin, sin as a result of following our own way!
- **AND THE LORD!**
  - Our Father has put **all of our sins** upon His Precious Son!

***When God Weeps – Why Our Sufferings Matter to the Almighty***

By Joni Eareckson Tada and Steven Estes ©1997 – pages 53-54

“Up you go!”, they yelled. They lift the cross. God is now on display in his underwear, and scarcely breathe.

But these pains are a mere warm-up to his other and growing dread. He begins to feel a foreign sensation. Somewhere during this day an unearthly foul odor began to waft, not around his nose, but his heart. He feels dirty. Human wickedness starts to crawl upon his spotless being – the living excrement from our soul. The apple of His Father’s eye turns brown with rot.

His Father! He must face His Father like this!

From Heaven the Father now rouses himself like a lion disturbed, shakes his mane, and roars against the shriveling remnant of a man hanging there on the cross. Never has the Son seen the Father look on him so, never felt even the least of His hot breath. But the roar shales the unseen world and darkens the visible sky. The Son does not recognize these eyes.

“Son of Man! Why have you behaved so? You have cheated, lusted, stolen and gossiped – murdered, envied, hated, lied. You have cursed, robbed, overspent, overeaten – fornicating, disobeyed, embezzled, and blasphemed. Oh, the duties you have shirked, the children you have abandoned! Who has ever so ignored the poor, so played the coward, so belittled my name? Have you ever held your razor tongue? What a self-righteous, pitiful drunk – you, who molest young boys, peddle killer drugs, travel in cliques, and mock your parents. Who gave you the boldness to rig elections, foment revolutions, torture animals, and worship demons? Does the list ever end! Splitting families, raping virgins, acting smugly, playing the pimp – buying politicians, practicing extortion, filming pornography, accepting bribes. You have burned down buildings, perfected terrorist tactics, founded false religions, traded in slaves – relishing each morsel and bragging about it all. I hate, I loathe these things you do! Disgust for everything about you consumes me! Can you feel my wrath?

The Father watches as his heart’s treasure, the mirror image of himself, sinks drowning into raw, liquid sin. Jehovah’s stored rage against humankind from every century explodes in a single direction.

“Father! Father! Why have you forsaken me?!”

But heaven stops its ears. The Son stares up at the One who cannot, who will not, reach down or reply. To eternal hearts tear at that moment – their intimate friendship shaken to the depths.

The Trinity had planned it. The Son had endured it. The Spirit enabled him. The Father rejected the Son whom He loved.

Jesus, the God-man from Nazareth, perished.

The Father accepted his sacrifice for sin and was satisfied.

The Rescue was accomplished. <sup>4</sup>

**7** He was oppressed and He was afflicted,  
Yet He opened not His mouth;  
He was led as a lamb to the slaughter,  
And as a sheep before its shearers is silent,  
So He opened not His mouth.

**8** He was taken from prison and from judgment,  
And who will declare His generation?  
For He was cut off from the land of the living;

**For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.**

**9** And they made His grave with the wicked —  
But with the rich at His death,  
Because He had done no violence,  
Nor was any deceit in His mouth.

**10** Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him;  
He has put Him to grief.  
When You make His soul an offering for sin,  
He shall see His seed,  
He shall prolong His days,  
And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

**11** He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied.  
By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many,

**For He shall bear their iniquities.**

**12** Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great,  
And He shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
Because He poured out His soul unto death,  
And He was numbered with the transgressors,  
And He bore the sin of many,  
And made intercession for the transgressors. <sup>5</sup>

- **Jack Hayford:** “Writing **eight centuries before Christ**, Isaiah made incredibly accurate statements concerning the facts of the Crucifixion; but more importantly, he spoke of the purpose of the Cross.”

**In Christ's suffering and death, He bore more than our sins.** The penalty for sin is death, but Christ did not need to suffer as He did to provide atonement. Chapter 52-53 tell us why He suffered:

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<sup>5</sup> *The New King James Version* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Is 52:13–53:12.

- **He suffered to bear our griefs and sorrows (53:4),**
- **He suffered for our peace and healing (53:5). <sup>6</sup>**

**Insert Music Video here!**

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<sup>6</sup> Jack W. Hayford, ed., *Spirit Filled Life Study Bible*, electronic ed. (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1997), Is 52:15.

The book of Isaiah contains extensive and precise prophecies about the coming of the Messiah as well as the life and crucifixion of Christ. Briefly these include:

- The reign of Christ in the kingdom (Isaiah 2:3–5)
- The virgin birth of Christ (Isaiah 7:14)
- The reign of Christ (Isaiah 9:2, 7)
- Jesus' rule over the world (Isaiah 9:4)
- Christ as a descendant of David (Isaiah 11:1, 10)
- Christ to be filled with the Spirit (Isaiah 11:2; 42:1)
- Christ to judge with righteousness (Isaiah 11:3–5; 42:1, 4)
- Christ to rule over the nations (Isaiah 11:10)
- Christ to be gentle to the weak (Isaiah 42:3)
- Christ to make possible the New Covenant (Isaiah 42:6; 49:8)
- Christ to be a light to the Gentiles and to be worshiped by them (Isaiah 42:6; 49:6–7; 52:15)
- Christ to be rejected by Israel (Isaiah 49:7; 53:1–3)
- Christ to be obedient to God and subject to suffering (Isaiah 50:6; 53:7–8)
- Christ to be exalted (Isaiah 52:13; 53:12)
- Christ to restore Israel and judge the wicked (61:1–3). <sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/Deutero-Isaiah.html>