



June 18

Passage: Isaiah 53

Happy Thursday! It's a beautiful day! All days are beautiful when you trust in the Lord. The good and the bad all seem to mesh when we pursue the one who is in charge of all and cares for us so much. As we get into today's passage, pray that the Lord would open your heart to his Word today, thank him for this beautiful day!

## **READ & DIG.** Read Isaiah 52:13- 53:12 (underline and thing that sticks out to you!)

This passage in some way is a *beautiful* passage to read and a *difficult* passage to read. Beautiful because it is a prophesy (a look into the future) of what Christ was coming to do. But it's also difficult to read because this Servant of God, the Son of God suffered awfully for you and I. Consider these next few observations from the text...

### **JESUS IS THE WISE SERVANT THAT WILL BE EXALTED...**

In chapter 52 verse 13 we find an introduction to the Lord's wise Servant who will be exalted. The odd thing about this passage, is as you read all the way through chapter 53 it doesn't seem like an exalted Servant does it? Rather, it seems like one who is suffering, broken, ultimately killed. That doesn't sound like exaltation does it? What Isaiah is prophesying is Jesus' work. Jesus will be the one who will embody perfect wisdom as he has perfect knowledge of the *Word and the will of God* – there is no greater wisdom! It is his work on the cross, his coming back to life and his going to the Father that will lead to his exaltation (his praise)!

### **HE SUFFERED IN OUR PLACE...**

If we understand that the *Suffering Servant* that is spoken of in these sections is Jesus, the next question is who are the "our's" and the "we's" – it's you and I... You see, Jesus has borne **OUR** griefs (4), carried **OUR** sorrows (4), **WE** esteemed him as stricken (4), he was pierced for **OUR** transgressions (5), crushed for **OUR** iniquities (5), **WE** are the ones who have gone astray (6), it is **OUR** iniquity that is laid on him (6)... Get it? Our sin and brokenness are the reason for Jesus' sufferings. We gain from his suffering. (5) It is his chastisement (his bearing our punishment) that gave us peace and it was his suffering that leads to our healing. We now can have peace with God. No longer are we enemies with God because of our sin if we are in Christ, rather we are at peace. In Christ we have been healed of the greatest disease we all have... our sin. He is the cure to the deadliest disease in the world. He has done all this, for you and I...

### **IT WAS THE LORD'S PLAN AND HE IS SATISFIED...**

God the Father was not caught off guard with the suffering the Servant would face, rather it was his will (his plan) that led to it! (10) This work of God through Christ has been the plan all along. There is nothing greater that could be done in love. All this was done in and through Jesus laying his life down himself. *Out of the anguish of [Jesus'] soul [Jesus] shall see and be satisfied. [11]* Meaning, this didn't happen apart from Jesus' desire to do this, rather he says in John 10:18 – *No one take [my life] from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.* What Jesus did was his choice, his choice for us.

## **Apply & GO**

**So, it is by and through Jesus' suffering that we are saved from our sin.**

- **Trust in the work of Jesus...** his work is perfect, doing what you and I couldn't!
- **Live a life that honors his work...** often we begin following Jesus and then we carry on as if our lives are our own. We see this is a HUGE sacrifice the Lord has made; we should live as if we believe it!
- **Share this great news...** there is no greater message than the gospel of Jesus... the hope, peace, and healing he provides. Don't just trust in Jesus, tell others about him!