

The Fourth Servant Song – Part 2 of 2; Isaiah 53:7-12 NIV

Do You Know What Jesus Endured For You?

Holy Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 11 AM & 7 PM

Please Join Us: Good Friday 11 & 7; Easter 7 & 10:45;

Easter Breakfast 8:15; "JESUS" Movie – Part 2 of 2: 4/20 at 9:10

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: Today's sermon is part 2 of 2 – a very short series which focuses on what Martin Luther identified as **"the foremost passage on the suffering and resurrection of Christ..."** (AE 17:215) Keep in mind that Isaiah wrote about 700 years before the time of Jesus, *so how can the Bible explain Jesus' living, suffering, and dying in such detail?* Because the Bible is God's Word **and** God declared, **"I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come."** (Isaiah 46:10 NIV)

Last week we focused on Isaiah 52:13 – 53:6, which included a summary of Jesus' work; then these facts:

- The Savior's coming seemed improbable, *yet He came!*
- He looked like an ordinary man, *yet He is God!*
- All should have received Him, *yet many rejected Him!*
- Many thought He sinned, *yet He suffered for our sins!*
- *We have sinned much!* Using conservative numbers, an 80-year-old man could have easily fallen into sin 250,000 times in his life! *Nevertheless*, God the Father took the iniquities, the sins, of THE WHOLE WORLD and laid them on Jesus!

Today we focus on Isaiah 53:7-12:

1. **The Suffering and Death of God's Servant:**

- a. Jesus' trial: **⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted** [*loaded down with the heavy burden of our wrongs*], **yet he did**

not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. // Try to picture Jesus – the holy, innocent Son of God – *as He was put on trial ♦by Annas, ♦then Caiaphas, ♦then Pilate, ♦then Herod, ♦then Pilate!* Through it all, Jesus – *the Lamb of God* – never opened His mouth to protest His situation; instead, in perfect obedience, *He endured it all to remove our sins!*

- b. Jesus' death: ⁸ **By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.** //
- i. Oppression and judgment: From ♦the Jewish leaders ♦to Pilate ♦to the Roman soldiers, *each applied great force to Jesus and most presumed His guilt* as they beat Him and mocked Him. They *thought* they had the upper hand, *YET Jesus permitted all of it in obedience to His Father's will!*
 - ii. Descendants: Jesus *never* married *nor* had children, so His death *SEEMED* to eliminate all opportunity for descendants!
 - iii. Stricken: Again, *Jesus was sinless!* The Bible says that He was **“tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin.”** (Heb. 4:15 NIV) So all the trouble that was heaped upon Him was in connection with OUR wrongdoing, *not with His – for He had none!*
- c. Jesus' burial: ⁹ **He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his**

mouth. // Dr. Kretzmann wrote: “Men had planned [Jesus’] interment with the wicked; they thought they could break His legs and treat Him like the criminals that were crucified with Him, casting His body into some convenient pit. Instead of that, however, He was with the rich in His death, buried like a wealthy man, in Joseph’s grave. And this because He had done no violence, and in His mouth there was no deceit...” (OT II: 376-377) Even if God permitted us to be mistreated, let us know that ♦He would be in control, ♦He would carry us through, and ♦He would ultimately bless us!

- d. Jesus’ resurrection: ¹⁰ **Yet it was the LORD’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. //**
- i. No violence, no deceit, yet crushed: It seems *so unfair!* Jesus was completely innocent, yet the LORD – *God the Father* – willingly crushed Him and caused Him to suffer! Why? *For our forgiveness and eternal salvation!* Since sin was committed, *the full penalty of punishment and death had to be paid!* We should endure such forever, but, *through Jesus*, we are *seen* as innocent and righteous!
 - ii. He will see His offspring: Doesn’t that seem *impossible* that Jesus could have offspring, *let alone see them!* Yet Jesus said this about Himself: “...unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone; **but if it dies, it bears much fruit.**” (John 12:24 NAS) So Jesus died and was raised, **and by**



grace thru faith, we – His offspring – are alive spiritually and eternally through Him!

2. **The Victory of God's Servant:**

- a. Life and justification: ¹¹ **After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.** // Jesus told His disciples that He would be ♦betrayed, ♦condemned to die, and ♦crucified, yet *He would be raised on the third day; then, all such things came to pass! So, for those who know Jesus as their Savior, they are just, right, forgiven in God's sight!*
- b. The Greatest of the great: ¹² **Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.** // So Jesus *obediently and willingly* laid down His life. He was considered a criminal by most – “**numbered with the transgressors**” – yet He did bear all sin while suspended on His cross *between heaven and earth*. Now, He continues *in between* – as the One Mediator between God and us!

Conclusion: We are great sinners who have been saved by a much greater Savior – *our Lord Jesus Christ!* Now, as we remember what Jesus endured for us, *let us overflow with gratitude!* Then, as we meet people who are still dead in their sins, *let us kindly tell them about the saving and finished work of Jesus, who is God's Suffering Servant!* And all God's people said: **Amen!**

For Much More: www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com

Having been saved thru Jesus, let us live for Him and share the good news!

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