

Isaiah 53; Lord's Day 15
FAITH IN JESUS' LIFE OF SUFFERING

- I. His suffering.
 - A. Christ suffering all His life (Heb. 2:10; Isa. 53:3,4; Ps. 69:8; Luke 9:41).
 - 1. While our suffering can alternate with joy (Ps. 30:5), His did not.
 - 2. He suffered physically (Matt. 8:17).
 - 3. He suffered in His soul (John 12:27; Luke 22:44; Matt. 26:37,38).
 - B. Of all that He suffered, He was always most sensitive to God's wrath (the righteous response against sin).
 - 1. He bore the burden of the wrath of God (Isa. 53:4,5; Matt. 20:28; I Peter 3:18; Hebrews 13:12).
 - 2. He, as the Holy One, knew as no other what God's wrath was and saw it in every evidence of the curse, esp. death.
 - C. The words "under Pontius Pilate" emphasize Jesus' holiness and innocence.
- II. Jesus knew the purpose for His suffering.
 - A. Negatively, the purpose was not to be a martyr for his principles, or an example to be followed.
 - B. Jesus' suffering made payment for sin; He gave the sacrifice which made satisfaction.
 - 1. As the propitiatory sacrifice He suffered God's wrath.
 - 2. His suffering atoned and reconciled.
 - C. He bore God's wrath completely, so God has no more wrath against us - ever (Rom. 8:32-35).
 - 1. His suffering was so infinitely precious (God's Son and willingly) that it merited the right to deliver from hell into heaven.
 - 2. We never taste God's wrath (even in our sufferings), but only His love.
 - D. He learned in the setting of suffering what it is to be obedient to the Father in the most difficult time.
- III. Jesus' suffering bore fruit.
 - A. His suffering actually atoned, made real and full payment (John 10: 28; I Peter 2:24; Col. 1:21,22).
 - 1. All and each of the sins of His people are fully covered!
 - 2. In Jesus' suffering we see the greatness of the love and mercy of God.
 - B. First, for whom? Catechism says, "the sins of all mankind."
 - 1. Only for all of the sins of the elect: "I lay down My life for My sheep," (John 6:39; 10:15); save His people, (Matt. 1:21).
 - 2. "All mankind" conveys the Scriptural teaching that all of the elect together form the essence of mankind.
 - C. Learn how horrible sin is in what and how much Jesus had to suffer because of our sin.