Isaiah 53 – The Suffering Servant, Part 3
"The Sacrifice of the Servant"
Isaiah 53:4-6

The Sacrifice of Jesus Christ: The very heart of the gospel!

1. Its Substitutionary Nature

(1) The Jews were absolutely blind to this! *"Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God and afflicted."*

(2) Substitution presented in three ways:

-1- Christ *willingly, actively* became our substitute v.4 cf. v.7 *"He (Himself) has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows"*

-2- Christ *passively endured* the judgment due us v5 *"He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities."*

-3- His sacrifice was the *purposed plan of God* v.6 *"And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."*

2. The Sin that Made It Necessary

(1) Sin as to its <u>effects and consequences – its fruit</u> v.4 *"griefs" or "sicknesses" "sorrows"*

- manifold sicknesses, innumerable sorrows
- All sickness, all sorrow finds its source and cause in sin.

(2) Sin as to its <u>character</u> v. 5

-1- rebellion *"transgressions"*

-2- distortion, perversion *"iniquities"*

-3- hostility, animosity toward God *"the chastisement for our peace"*

-4- a soul-destroying disease *"we are healed"*

(3) Sin at its <u>root</u>, its <u>essence</u> v. 6

-1- True of all humanity *"All we like sheep have gone astray"*

-2- True of each individual *"We have turned, every one, to his own way"*

3. The Divine Judgment in it Described

(1) *"stricken, smitten by God and afflicted"*

(2) *"wounded" = "pierced through"*

- transfixed as with a fatal thrust, a fatal blow
- cf. Ps. 22; Zech. 12:10

(3) *"bruised" = "crushed"*

(4) *"chastisement"*

(5) *"stripes"* or "scourging"

(6) *"The LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" - has caused to "fall on Him."*

- cf. Solomon's commanded executions of treasonous characters *"he fell upon him"*
- cf. King David's command (2 Sam. 1:15): *"Go, cut him down!"*

Further Application: