

Isaiah 53: 1-12:

He is despised and rejected of men; He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities; the LORD has did lay on Him the iniquity of us all; for the transgression of my people was He stricken or wounded or plagued; He was cut off from the land of the living for my people; He shall bear their iniquities.

So often, I think that we VIEW our sins and our transgressions as missteps, mistakes, trip ups; no worries, we will do better next time.

Understand that I am speaking to those of us who are believers and Christians! I think that we MOST OFTEN think too lightly of sin.

In truth, our sins and transgressions are crimes and offences of the worst kind, for they are, and were committed against our Creator and God.

And if that doesn't move you, they are, and were committed against a God who loves you; One who is patient and longsuffering and gracious and merciful and slow to anger.

One of the larger problems in modern day Christianity is just this; we DON'T see God for Who He is, and therefore, we DON'T SEE SIN for what it truly is; reprehensible and abhorrent to God!

Our hearts are deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; there is enough malevolence in our hearts for us to suffer the torments of a thousand hells!

Beloved, the closer you are to God, the more you will see the stench and abhorrence of your sins. James 4:8-10

When we possess a low view of God, we will think lightly of sin! If we tolerate sin, is it because we are intolerant of God and His Word! We cannot love God and love our sins! And when we love our sins, it is because we do not love God!

Ye who think of sin but lightly, nor suppose the evil of sin too great; HERE at the cross, you may view its nature rightly, HERE at the cross, the guilt and punishment of sin, you may rightly estimate!

We understand very little about the death of Christ; what He experienced in His agony and death upon the cross. It was a voluntary death, and an agony which He embraced for the love that He had for sinners!

We read and consider that the wrath of God was poured out upon His holy soul without mixture for our sins, and we can't even come to the threshold of understanding the reality of what He suffered.

My God! My God! Why hast thou forsaken me?!

Remember THESE WORDS of the SUFFERING SAVIOR next time you lie, cheat, or think evil in your heart of your neighbor. Next time you laugh at someone else's sin, or your sins, think of the SUFFERING SAVIOR! Next time you love the world and cast God aside for its idols; remember the SUFFERING SAVIOR! If it were only my sins that were laid upon Christ, it was still a death of unspeakable agony and torment!

Whitefield, in his comments on the Pharisee and the Publican wrote:

All the Publican could say was, God, be merciful to me, a SINNER! What a stark contrast from the self-righteous, supercilious Pharisee. All the publican could see was his sinfulness. He didn't try to compare himself with any other man. It was just him before a Holy God, and the weight of his sins, as a sinner. This was all he could perceive. Yet, this vision was true to the facts. He was thinking realistically, soberly, sensibly...because he was thinking with humility before God. He cried out to God, THEN, for mercy because he knew that as a sinner he deserved nothing but God's wrath. No self-congratulations on his part but just self-abasement because of his sin. This is the face of Christian humility. It is thinking rightly of ourselves by seeing the gravity of our sins!

Oh that we might come to the table of the Lord with a RIGHT VIEW of our sins, and with godly humility and thankfulness for our Lord's broken body and shed blood for our sins!

Remember, when you come to the table of the Lord, you come because you are already a partaker with Christ, united to Him by faith in His sacrificial death on the cross for YOUR SINS. 1 Corinthians 11:23-34