

ISAIAH 53 vs 1

¹ **Who has believed** /...in Old English, Wycliffe wrote: who *leeuede*... the old word for: loved; where we get our word: *be-lieved*. In Old English it meant the same was what we'd hear on the streets in South Central L.A.: who be loving; or more correctly: who is loving.... The Hebrew word is: *aman*, where we get our word: amen!

Who has believed /...who be loving... who has amened,

our report? /...our announcement?... our message... our good news?

and to whom... is the arm of the LORD revealed? /...the word is: *galah*. Noah was uncovered in his tent. The dream of Nebuchadnezzar was revealed to Daniel,

and to whom... is the arm of the LORD uncovered? /...and laid bare; notice, it is revelation!

So let's hear it again... Isaiah asks...

Who has believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? / well? Have you? I certainly say, AMEN! And what is the report?

Verse ² For He shall grow up /...like a refreshing mist on the face of the earth,

He shall grow up before Him /...in His Father's presence; facing Him,

as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground /...just like new sapling growth, but not in a well-manicured Garden. Rather, this seedling grew in an unexpected dry place...like a flower blooming in a desert wasteland:

He has no 'form' /...no shape; no fashion; no Mr. Universe Muscleman contestant! Rachel was beautiful; Joseph was a goodly man; king David was comely person; queen Esther was fair... all the same word. That was not this tender plant.

He has no form, nor comeliness /...He did not appear majestic, nor glorious; apparently He wasn't terribly photogenic;

and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty /...the word is: *mareh*; we're learning about His visage... His countenance... His appearance—in reality or in our imaginative dreams,

when we shall see Him,

there is no beauty that we should 'desire' Him /...this word is: *chamad*. In all the Old Testament, only Daniel is described several times with this word: greatly beloved. It's the same... strong, passionate word used when we're told not to covet thy neighbor's house or things, nor manservant, nor maidservant.

there is no beauty that we should desire Him /...He ain't a handsome, Hollywood man,

ISAIAH 53 vs 1

³ **He is despised** /...He still is spied on... secretly watched, and hated!

and 'rejected' of men /...the Old English says: and *witende*... we'd say: He was at His wit's end! He had done everything He knew to do; yet He was not wanted; He was thrown away...of all men; and His place? Last in line. In other words: line up every living person and every dead corpse... and throw Him at the back! Next! Think about it. He is the last choice of all mankind;

a man of sorrows /...a man of pains and every kind of sore,

and acquainted with /...actually, He intimately knew.... Adam again knew his wife—same word! This despised and reject Man, He knew...

grief /...this Hebrew word is: *choly*... which means: disease; and sickness. This Man knew diseases. So, how do we respond to Him?

and we hid as it were our faces from Him /...we didn't even want to look; most don't even care to look. He doesn't fit our GQ image! He won't appear at any Red Carpet Gala. But, that's His problem,

we hid as it were our faces from Him. / but His Father didn't. While the zealous chief priests and hypocritical Pharisees mocked Him; while the guilty thieves taunted Him and the brutal soldiers found Him entertaining... Psalm 22 says: *The Lord has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither has He hid His face from Him; but when he cried unto Him; He heard Him,*

And for a second time, Isaiah says...

He was despised and we esteemed Him not /...we were too busy esteeming ourselves – Paul said, *lovers of self rather than lovers of God*—**2 Timothy 3**; we had no estimation about Him; to us, who were doing our calculations, He had no value,

Yet undeterred, He keeps working...

⁴ **Surely He has borne** /...He lifted up,

our diseases,

and carried away our pains /...and since He took our diseases and picked up and carried away our pains... we had second thoughts about Him.

You know, He certainly looks like He is under the curse of God; it doesn't seem as if He has God's favor, does it? What do you think? Superficially, we guess... God is dealing with Him. Oh really?!

yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God /...definitely He was struck and fatally wounded by God. In the 1300s, Wycliffe writes: we esteemed Him leprous... so definitely, we will keep our distance,

ISAIAH 53 vs 1

we did esteem Him a leper, fatally struck by God,

and afflicted /...this word is: *anah*... He is weakened, bowed down and humiliated. Again, Wycliffe says: and mekid...the early spelling for the word: *meeked*—akin to mucus, nasal dung; Old Norse: myki = dung.

He was a leper, fatally struck by God, of no more value than... nasal dung /...that's our final brilliant estimation; at least that's what it all looks like to me!

⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our hideous guilt:

the chastisement /...the training; the chastening; the hauling over the coals,

of our peace /...of our *shalom*... our completed well-being,

was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.

⁶ All we /...and there is no exception,

like *dumb* sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way;

and the LORD laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

us all /...and no exception; notice that verse... starts with ALL; and ends with ALL. No one is excluded; everyone is indicted; all mankind is included; nobody... but a fool can claim to stand outside its indictment. Paul said, *I am chief of sinners*; he did not say, I was chief... and now I'm holier than you!

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way;

and the LORD

laid on Him...

the hideous guilt of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed /...He was driven like an animal; brow-beaten, and treated inhuman,

and He was afflicted /...He humiliated and dismissed... as if flicking nasal dung,

yet He opened not His mouth /...He said not a word; He uttered no threats:

He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter /...to be murdered, to be butchered,

and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb,

ISAIAH 53 vs 1

so **He opened not His mouth** /...for a second time, the prophet says: He was speechless. He didn't whimper; He didn't wince. He uttered... no threats.

⁸ **He was taken from prison and from judgment** /...after the judicial sentences, He was illegally taken to His death...in violation of their prescribed traditions:

and, **who shall declare His generation?** /...the word is: *dor*... the generations of people who would come from Him. Paul writes, Christ Jesus is the Head of the body, the Church He is building; and He is the First-born from the dead. The Psalmist says, He is the Bridegroom coming for His bride. And the prophet asks:

who shall declare His generation? /...I will! How about you? After all, He did what only He could do... which is what I never could do. We could give our lives on 1,000 hills, and it wouldn't amount to a pile of crap,

who shall declare His generation?

Isaiah first asked...

who has believed our report? /...I do! And I hope you do, too!

Now, Isaiah asks...

who shall declare His generation? /...we can; we can keep and share with others the remarkable words of His endurance,

for He was cut off out of the land of the living:

for the transgression of My people was He stricken.

⁹ **And He made His grave with the wicked** / He went to His death with 2 thieves at Calvary,

and with the rich in His death /... He was buried in the tomb of Joseph or Arimathea;

because He had done no violence /...the Hebrew word is: *chamac* (*hamas*)

He had done no *hamas*,

neither was any deceit in His mouth /...He definitely is different than us.

¹⁰ **Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him** /...in Hebrews 5, we read, *He learned obedience by the things He suffered*. Hebrews 11 says, *Without faith it is impossible to please God*.

Knowing the soul that sinned /...that's all mankind; would surely die...

that did not please the LORD!

ISAIAH 53 vs 1

Yet **it pleased the LORD** to bruise Him /...means,

Knowing the serpent's head was finally crushed... **it pleased the LORD!**

Knowing Jesus came to take away the sins of the world... **it pleased the LORD!**

Knowing the faithful Son had accomplished the Father's will completely... **it pleased the LORD!**

Knowing the Redeemer's price was paid in full... once for all time... **it pleased the LORD!**

Knowing the Son had nothing else to do and could come home and take His seat... **it pleased the LORD!**

Yet **it pleased the LORD** to bruise Him;

He has put Him to disease /...we just read in verse 6: *The Lord laid on Him all the hideous guilt of the whole world. And if we read closely, He also... carried away our sicknesses and pains!* As Peter writes after the event... *with His stripes we were healed.* And I would imagine that probably not only pleases the LORD, but also please us, too! Right?

So let's go on...

when you shall make His soul an offering for sin /...when in faith, so it is something we can do... when you and I make His soul... *an offering for sin*; when I acknowledge His life offered as a substitution for me...

Dr. Gene Scott said, God treated His Son the way we should have been treated; so, He could treat us—His adopted sons and daughters of faith... the way His Son should have been treated! Is it fair? No! Definitely, it is not fair!

We should thank God because all of us... should be dead. A great price was paid for us. So, can we at least be thankful, and do what He said?

when you shall make His soul an offering for sin,

He shall see His seed /...He shall see His descendants. The people who do that are His kids! They are of His lineage of faith and faithfulness.

Doesn't Isaiah tell us... this Child, this wonderful Counselor and Mighty God; is not only the Prince of Peace, but also an Everlasting Father?

He shall prolong His days /...after giving His life in death for us; He arose to live forever more... and that's a pretty long time! It certainly sounds like He prolonged His days!

and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

ISAIAH 53 vs 1

¹¹ He shall see of the travail of His soul,

and shall be satisfied /...when you and I esteem Him; when we shall make His righteous soul... an offering for our sin.

He... shall be satisfied:

by His knowledge /...and He's pretty smart!

by His knowledge shall My righteous Servant justify many /...Jesus said, *My sheep hear My voice; and I know them... and they follow Me!*;

for He shall bear the hideous guilt of us all /...something we could never do.

¹² Therefore...

I / the LORD... will divide Him a victor's portion...

with the Great /...and is this with the Great Advocate, the Spirit of God whom He sent, whom Paul tells us is willing to put His all on the line for the good news?

and He shall divide the victor's spoil...

with the strong /...those who ran the race in faith;

because He has poured out His soul

unto death:

and He was numbered with the transgressors /...with folks like me and perhaps you, too;

and He bare the sin of many /...and are these the many whom He redeemed; who made His sinless soul the only substitute for our failure? ... are these the ones who got up and started running the race of faith... you know, the called and chosen and faithful?

and made intercession for the transgressors

...He did all this for folks like us. Now that's amazing grace!

To Him be the glory!