CRAWFORD BIBLE COMMENTARY

BIBLE STUDY

Isaiah Chapter 53 — The Suffering Servant

A Verse-by-Verse Bible Study from the Crawford Standard Bible

Introduction

Isaiah Chapter 53 stands at the theological heart of the Servant passages.

Isaiah 52 ended by announcing:

> **“See, My servant will act wisely; He will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.”**

Then Isaiah immediately described the Servant as:

Marred.

Disfigured.

Appalling to observers.

Isaiah 53 explains:

Why.

The Servant suffers:

Not for His own sin.

But for:

Ours.

This chapter moves through:

Rejection.

Sorrow.

Substitution.

Sin-bearing.

Silence.

Death.

Burial.

Vindication.

Justification.

Intercession.

Victory.

The language is intensely personal.

Again and again:

Our griefs.

Our sorrows.

Our transgressions.

Our iniquities.

Our peace.

Our healing.

We went astray.

Our sin was laid on:

Him.

The Servant is:

Righteous.

Yet suffers.

Innocent.

Yet condemned.

Silent.

Yet victorious.

Killed.

Yet afterward He sees:

Life.

Fruit.

Reward.

Isaiah 53 is therefore not merely a prophecy of:

Suffering.

It is a prophecy of:

Substitutionary suffering.

The Servant takes the place of:

Sinners.

Verse 5 says:

> **“He was pierced for our transgressions.”**

Not:

His transgressions.

Ours.

> **“He was crushed for our iniquities.”**

> **“The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him.”**

Verse 6 says:

> **“The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”**

Verse 8 says:

> **“For the transgression of My people He was stricken.”**

Verse 11 says:

> **“He will bear their iniquities.”**

Verse 12 says:

> **“He bore the sin of many.”**

The repetition is unmistakable.

The Servant is:

Sinless.

The people are:

Sinful.

Yet the consequences connected with sin fall upon:

Him.

This is one of the Old Testament’s clearest pictures of:

Substitutionary atonement.

The New Testament repeatedly identifies this Servant with:

Jesus Christ.

John 12 quotes Isaiah 53:1.

Acts 8 records Philip explaining Isaiah 53 to the Ethiopian official and proclaiming:

Jesus.

1 Peter 2 draws directly from Isaiah 53 in explaining Christ's suffering.

The Gospels describe Jesus:

Silent before His accusers.

Numbered with transgressors.

Rejected.

Killed.

Buried with the rich.

Yet His death does not become:

The end.

Isaiah 53:10–12 moves beyond death.

The Servant:

Sees offspring.

Prolongs His days.

Sees the result of His suffering.

Is satisfied.

Justifies many.

Receives a portion among the great.

Divides spoils.

Intercedes for transgressors.

This means His death cannot be:

Final defeat.

The Servant passes through death into:

Vindication.

Life.

Victory.

Exaltation.

The chapter therefore reveals the paradox of:

The cross.

What looks like:

Defeat.

Becomes:

Victory.

What looks like:

Punishment upon a rejected man.

Becomes:

The means of peace for sinners.

What looks like:

The end.

Becomes:

The fulfillment of God's saving purpose.

The central truth of Isaiah 53 is:

The righteous Servant, fulfilled ultimately and decisively in Jesus Christ, is rejected by humanity yet willingly bears the griefs, transgressions, iniquities, punishment, and sin of others; though innocent, He is oppressed, killed, and buried, yet through His sacrificial death God's saving purpose succeeds, many are justified, the Servant lives beyond suffering, receives victory, and continues as the intercessor for transgressors.

I. WHO HAS BELIEVED THE MESSAGE?

Isaiah 53:1 — The Arm of the Lord Revealed

> **"Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"**

Isaiah begins with:

Unbelief.

The message is:

Proclaimed.

But not everyone:

Believes.

The “arm of the Lord” refers to:

God’s saving power.

Isaiah 52:10 had said:

> **“The Lord will lay bare His holy arm.”**

Now the question becomes:

Who recognizes that saving arm in:

The Servant?

Cross References

John 12:38

John quotes this verse to explain the widespread unbelief surrounding Jesus despite the signs He performed.

Romans 10:16

Paul quotes Isaiah 53:1 while discussing the fact that not everyone who hears the gospel responds with faith.

Isaiah 52:10

God reveals His holy arm before the nations so that the ends of the earth may see His salvation.

Spiritual Principle

Divine revelation does not guarantee:

Human acceptance.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The greatest truth can stand directly in front of a person and still be rejected by an unbelieving heart.

II. THE ARM OF THE LORD APPEARS IN AN UNEXPECTED FORM

People might expect God’s arm to appear as:

Military power.

Political triumph.

Spectacular force.

Instead the saving power of God appears in:

A suffering Servant.

Spiritual Principle

God’s greatest power may appear in a form human pride considers:

Weak.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not decide what God’s power must look like before God reveals it.

III. A TENDER SHOOT FROM DRY GROUND

Isaiah 53:2 — Humble Appearance

> **“He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him.”**

The Servant does not arrive surrounded by:

Earthly grandeur.

Royal spectacle.

Visible majesty.

He grows like:

A tender shoot.

A root from:

Dry ground.

Cross References

Isaiah 11:1

Isaiah had promised a shoot arising from Jesse’s seemingly cut-down family line.

Matthew 13:54

People who knew Jesus’ ordinary background were astonished and questioned where His wisdom and power came from.

John 1:10

The world was made through Christ, yet the world did not recognize Him.

Spiritual Principle

God’s greatest work can emerge from:

Unimpressive surroundings.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Heaven’s greatest treasure did not arrive wrapped in earthly spectacle.

IV. “NO BEAUTY OR MAJESTY TO ATTRACT US”

The issue is not that Jesus lacked:

Human appearance.

The point is:

He did not come according to human expectations of royal splendor.

Spiritual Principle

Faith must learn to recognize:

Spiritual glory.

V. THE REJECTED SERVANT

Isaiah 53:3 — A Man of Sorrows

> **“He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, familiar with suffering. Like one from whom people hide their faces He was despised, and we did not value Him.”**

Five painful descriptions:

Despised.

Rejected.

Sorrows.

Suffering.

Not valued.

Cross References

Psalm 22:6

The suffering righteous one describes being despised and scorned by people.

John 1:11

Jesus came to His own, but His own people did not receive Him.

Mark 9:12

Jesus teaches that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be treated with contempt.

Spiritual Principle

Human rejection does not mean:

Divine rejection.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The world can place no value on the One heaven values infinitely.

VI. A MAN OF SORROWS

Jesus knows:

Grief.

Rejection.

Loss.

Pain.

Spiritual Principle

The Savior is not:

Emotionally distant from human suffering.

VII. FAMILIAR WITH SUFFERING

Suffering was not:

An abstract subject.

He knew:

It.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Jesus does not counsel suffering people as One who has never entered suffering Himself.

VIII. “WE DID NOT VALUE HIM”

This is confession.

Humanity misjudged:

The Servant.

Spiritual Principle

Sin distorts:

Evaluation.

IX. HE CARRIED OUR GRIEFS

Isaiah 53:4 — Misunderstood Suffering

> **“Surely He took up our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten and afflicted.”**

The observers make a mistake.

They see:

Suffering.

And assume:

He deserves it.

But Isaiah says:

The suffering is connected with:

Our griefs.

Our sorrows.

Cross References

Matthew 8:17

Matthew applies this verse to Jesus’ healing ministry, emphasizing Him as the One who bears human affliction.

Psalm 103:3

The Lord is praised as the One who forgives sin and heals disease.

Hebrews 4:15

Jesus is able to sympathize with human weakness because He has entered fully into human testing without sin.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant enters deeply into:

Human brokenness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

They thought His suffering revealed His guilt.

Isaiah says His suffering revealed His willingness to carry ours.

X. “WE CONSIDERED HIM STRICKEN”

Human judgment says:

He must be condemned.

God’s revelation says:

He is bearing:

Our burden.

Spiritual Principle

Appearances can hide:

Redemptive purpose.

XI. PIERCED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS

Isaiah 53:5 — Substitution

> **“But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.”**

This verse stands at the center of:

Christian understanding of the cross.

Notice the exchange:

His piercing.

Our transgressions.

His crushing.

Our iniquities.

His punishment.

Our peace.

His wounds.

Our healing.

Cross References

1 Peter 2:24

Peter says Christ bore our sins in His body on the tree so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness, echoing Isaiah’s language of healing through His wounds.

Romans 4:25

Christ was delivered over because of our transgressions and raised in connection with our justification.

Romans 5:6

Christ died for the ungodly while they were helpless.

Spiritual Principle

The cross is:

Substitutionary.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The great exchange of Isaiah 53 is this: what belonged to us fell upon Him so that what belongs to Him could become ours by grace.

XII. PIERCED

The Servant’s suffering is:

Violent.

Physical.

Real.

Spiritual Principle

Atonement is not:

Abstract.

XIII. CRUSHED FOR OUR INIQUITIES

“Iniquities” points to:

Guilt.

Crookedness.

Sin.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The weight crushing the Servant was connected not to His corruption but to ours.

XIV. THE PUNISHMENT THAT BROUGHT PEACE

Peace is:

Costly.

Not:

Cheap.

Spiritual Principle

Reconciliation with God involves:

The dealing with sin.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Peace with God does not come from pretending sin never mattered; it comes because sin was dealt with.

XV. “BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED”

The healing in context is primarily connected to:

Sin.

Alienation.

Spiritual restoration.

The verse should not be reduced to a guarantee that every believer will experience immediate physical healing from every disease.

Spiritual Principle

The deepest human wound is:

Sin.

The Servant brings:

Healing.

XVI. ALL WE LIKE SHEEP HAVE GONE ASTRAY

Isaiah 53:6 — Universal Sin and Substitution

> **“We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”**

Two uses of:

All.

> **“We all.”**
>
> **“Iniquity of us all.”**

The problem:

Universal wandering.

The solution:

Iniquity laid upon:

The Servant.

Cross References

1 Peter 2:25

Peter says believers were like wandering sheep but have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of their souls.

Romans 3:23

All have sinned and fall short of God’s glory.

2 Corinthians 5:21

God made the sinless Christ to be sin for us so that in Him we might become God’s righteousness.

Spiritual Principle

Sin is both:

Universal.

Personal.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

We all wandered together, but every one of us also chose his own road.

XVII. “EACH OF US TURNED TO HIS OWN WAY”

Sin is not merely:

Breaking rules.

It is:

Self-direction.

Spiritual Principle

At the heart of sin is the declaration:

My way.

XVIII. THE LORD LAID INIQUITY ON HIM

The transfer is:

Divine.

Not accidental.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Calvary was not merely human cruelty; behind human sin stood God’s redemptive purpose to deal with sin through the Servant.

XIX. SILENT BEFORE HIS OPPRESSORS

Isaiah 53:7 — The Lamb Led to Slaughter

> **“He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth.”**

Twice:

> **“He did not open His mouth.”**

The Servant is:

Silent.

Not because:

He has no defense.

But because:

He submits to the mission.

Cross References

Acts 8:32

The Ethiopian official was reading this exact passage when Philip explained the good news about Jesus.

John 1:29

John the Baptist identifies Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Matthew 27:12

Jesus remained silent before the accusations brought against Him by religious leaders.

Spiritual Principle

Silence can be:

Strength.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant’s silence is not helplessness; it is obedience under control.

XX. THE LAMB

This imagery carries:

Sacrificial significance.

Gentleness.

Innocence.

Substitution.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant becomes:

The sacrificial Lamb.

XXI. LED TO SLAUGHTER

The destination is:

Death.

Yet the Servant goes:

Without rebellion.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

He was not dragged unwillingly into God’s plan; He submitted to it.

XXII. CUT OFF FROM THE LAND OF THE LIVING

Isaiah 53:8 — Stricken for the People

> **“By oppression and judgment He was taken away. 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.”**

“Cut off” means:

Death.

The Servant dies.

Why?

> **“For the transgression of My people.”**

Again:

Substitution.

Cross References

Acts 8:33

The Ethiopian official reads this verse, and Philip begins from this Scripture to preach Jesus.

Daniel 9:26

Daniel speaks of an Anointed One being cut off.

John 11:51

Caiaphas unknowingly prophesies that Jesus would die for the nation.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s death is:

Representative.

Substitutionary.

Redemptive.

XXIII. OPPRESSION AND JUDGMENT

Human proceedings were:

Unjust.

Yet God’s redemptive purpose worked through:

Human injustice.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can accomplish holy redemption through circumstances for which sinful humans remain morally responsible.

XXIV. “FOR THE TRANSGRESSION OF MY PEOPLE”

The text does not leave the cause:

Ambiguous.

Spiritual Principle

The death is:

For others.

XXV. THE GRAVE WITH THE WICKED, YET WITH THE RICH

Isaiah 53:9 — Innocent in Death

> **“He was assigned a grave with the wicked, yet with the rich in His death, though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.”**

The Servant is treated as:

Criminal.

Yet buried with:

The rich.

The Gospel narratives give striking fulfillment in:

Joseph of Arimathea.

Cross References

Matthew 27:57

Joseph of Arimathea, a rich man and disciple, received Jesus’ body for burial.

1 Peter 2:22

Peter directly echoes Isaiah, declaring that Christ committed no sin and no deceit was found in His mouth.

Luke 23:41

One criminal crucified beside Jesus acknowledged that Jesus had done nothing wrong.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant dies:

Innocent.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

He was treated like the guilty because He was carrying the guilt of others, not because guilt belonged to Him.

XXVI. NO VIOLENCE

His hands:

Innocent.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant does not suffer for:

Personal wrongdoing.

XXVII. NO DECEIT

His mouth:

Pure.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The One who bore false accusations had never spoken falsely Himself.

XXVIII. “IT WAS THE LORD’S WILL”

Isaiah 53:10 — The Sin Offering

> **“Yet it was the Lord’s will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer, and though the Lord makes His life an offering for sin, He will see His offspring and prolong His days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in His hand.”**

This is one of the most profound verses in:

Scripture.

Human beings:

Rejected.

Oppressed.

Killed.

But behind their sinful actions stood:

God’s saving purpose.

This does not mean God delighted in:

Pain for pain’s sake.

The pleasure is in:

The redemptive purpose.

The successful offering.

The salvation accomplished.

Cross References

Romans 8:32

God did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all.

Hebrews 9:14

Christ offered Himself without blemish to God through the eternal Spirit.

John 10:17

Jesus says He lays down His life willingly and will take it up again.

Spiritual Principle

The cross was:

Planned redemption.

Not:

Divine accident.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God did not delight in suffering itself; He purposed salvation through the Servant’s willing sacrifice.

XXIX. HIS LIFE BECOMES AN OFFERING FOR SIN

The language is:

Sacrificial.

The Servant is both:

Person.

Offering.

Spiritual Principle

Atonement stands at the heart of:

His death.

XXX. HE WILL SEE HIS OFFSPRING

But He has died.

How then:

See?

This points beyond death.

The Servant will experience:

Life.

Fruit.

A redeemed people.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Death does not have the last word over the Servant.

XXXI. HE WILL PROLONG HIS DAYS

Again:

Death.

Then:

Life.

Spiritual Principle

The text moves toward:

Resurrection-like vindication.

XXXII. THE LORD’S WILL PROSPERS IN HIS HAND

The mission:

Succeeds.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant’s wounds are not evidence that God’s plan failed; they are central to the plan’s fulfillment.

XXXIII. AFTER THE SUFFERING HE SEES LIGHT

Isaiah 53:11 — The Righteous Servant Justifies Many

> **“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.”**

After:

Suffering.

Comes:

Sight.

Life.

Satisfaction.

Justification.

Cross References

Romans 5:19

Through the obedience of the One, many are made righteous.

Hebrews 12:2

Jesus endured the cross because of the joy set before Him and afterward sat at God’s right hand.

1 Corinthians 1:30

Christ becomes for believers wisdom, righteousness, holiness, and redemption from God.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s suffering produces:

Saving results.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

He does not merely endure the cross; He sees what the cross accomplishes and is satisfied.

XXXIV. “MY RIGHTEOUS SERVANT”

God gives the verdict:

Righteous.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s sinlessness is essential to:

His substitution.

XXXV. HE WILL JUSTIFY MANY

To justify means:

To declare righteous.

The guilty cannot justify:

Themselves.

The righteous Servant provides the basis for:

Justification.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant does not merely inspire sinners to improve; He provides righteousness for those who cannot justify themselves.

XXXVI. HE WILL BEAR THEIR INIQUITIES

Again the theme:

Bearing.

Spiritual Principle

Justification is connected to:

Sin-bearing.

XXXVII. THE SERVANT RECEIVES THE SPOILS

Isaiah 53:12 — Victory Through Sacrifice

> **“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.”**

The final verse contains:

Victory.

Reward.

Death.

Identification with sinners.

Sin-bearing.

Intercession.

Cross References

Luke 22:37

Jesus explicitly applies the words “numbered with the transgressors” to Himself.

Hebrews 7:25

Christ lives to intercede for those who come to God through Him.

Mark 15:28

The crucifixion tradition connects Jesus’ execution among criminals with the fulfillment of this Servant prophecy.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant wins through:

Sacrifice.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

His victory is not achieved by avoiding death but by pouring out His life through it.

XXXVIII. “HE POURED OUT HIS LIFE”

Not stolen from Him:

Against His will.

Poured out.

Spiritual Principle

The sacrifice is:

Voluntary.

XXXIX. NUMBERED WITH TRANSGRESSORS

The sinless One is counted:

Among sinners.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Jesus entered the place of transgressors without ever becoming a transgressor.

XL. HE BORE THE SIN OF MANY

Again:

Substitution.

Spiritual Principle

The cross deals with:

Sin.

XLI. HE INTERCEDES FOR TRANSGRESSORS

The Servant does not merely:

Die for sinners.

He intercedes for:

Them.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The One who bore the transgressor’s sin also pleads the transgressor’s cause.

XLII. THE GREAT EXCHANGE OF ISAIAH 53

Our Griefs

He:

Carried.

Our Sorrows

He:

Bore.

Our Transgressions

He:

Was pierced.

Our Iniquities

He:

Was crushed.

Our Punishment

He:

Received.

Our Peace

We:

Receive.

His Wounds

We:

Are healed.

Our Iniquity

Laid upon:

Him.

Key Truth

Isaiah 53 is the chapter of substitution: the innocent Servant takes what belongs to the guilty so the guilty may receive what comes through His sacrifice.

XLIII. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT SIN

Sin is:

Wandering.

Transgression.

Iniquity.

Guilt.

Rebellion.

Spiritual Principle

The cross is as serious as:

Sin is serious.

XLIV. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT CHRIST

Rejected.

Sorrowful.

Sinless.

Pierced.

Crushed.

Silent.

Killed.

Buried.

Alive beyond death.

Justifier.

Victor.

Intercessor.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Few Old Testament chapters gather so many aspects of Christ’s saving work into one concentrated prophetic portrait.

XLV. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT SUBSTITUTION

Repeatedly:

For us.

For our.

On Him.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant suffers:

In the place of others.

XLVI. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT ATONEMENT

His life becomes:

Sin offering.

He bears:

Iniquity.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The cross is not merely an example of love; it is a sacrificial dealing with human sin.

XLVII. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT PEACE

Peace comes through:

Punishment borne.

Spiritual Principle

Peace with God is:

Reconciled peace.

XLVIII. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT HEALING

Healing flows through:

His wounds.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant repairs the deepest damage caused by:

Sin.

XLIX. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT HUMANITY

> **“We all like sheep have gone astray.”**

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Humanity’s problem is not merely that we lost the road; we chose our own road.

L. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT INNOCENCE

No violence.

No deceit.

Righteous Servant.

Spiritual Principle

The substitute must not be guilty of:

The guilt He bears.

LI. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT SILENCE

The Servant refuses:

Self-saving retreat.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

His silence before accusers becomes part of His obedient march toward redemption.

LII. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT DEATH

Cut off.

Grave.

Poured out unto death.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant truly:

Dies.

LIII. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT LIFE AFTER DEATH

See offspring.

Prolong days.

See light.

Receive reward.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Isaiah does not leave the Servant in the grave.

LIV. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT JUSTIFICATION

The righteous Servant:

Justifies many.

Spiritual Principle

Righteous standing comes through:

Him.

LV. WHAT ISAIAH 53 TEACHES ABOUT INTERCESSION

The Servant continues:

Representing sinners.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The cross is not the end of Christ’s concern for His people; the risen Christ continues to intercede.

LVI. UNBELIEF AT THE BEGINNING

> **“Who has believed?”**

Spiritual Principle

The message can be:

True.

And still:

Rejected.

LVII. THE ARM REVEALED IN THE SERVANT

Power appears:

Cruciform.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s arm of salvation is revealed not merely through conquest but through the suffering Servant.

LVIII. TENDER SHOOT

Fragile-looking.

Spiritual Principle

Appearance does not define:

Strength.

LIX. ROOT OUT OF DRY GROUND

Life emerging from:

Barrenness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can bring messianic life from soil everyone else has written off.

LX. NO EARTHLY MAJESTY

No spectacle.

Spiritual Principle

Christ’s glory must be seen by:

Faith.

LXI. DESPISED

Human rejection.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Popularity is never the final proof of truth.

LXII. REJECTED

The Servant knows:

Exclusion.

Spiritual Principle

No rejected believer follows a Savior unfamiliar with rejection.

LXIII. SORROWS

Plural.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Jesus entered a world overflowing with grief and did not remain untouched by it.

LXIV. FACES HIDDEN FROM HIM

People turn:

Away.

Spiritual Principle

Humanity recoils from:

The suffering Servant.

LXV. “WE DID NOT VALUE HIM”

Wrong evaluation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Sin can look directly at infinite worth and call it worthless.

LXVI. “SURELY”

Isaiah emphasizes:

Certainty.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant truly bears:

Human grief.

LXVII. CARRIED OUR SORROWS

The Servant is:

Burden-bearer.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

What crushed us He took upon Himself.

LXVIII. CONSIDERED SMITTEN BY GOD

People misread:

The cross.

Spiritual Principle

Without revelation, suffering can be:

Misinterpreted.

LXIX. “BUT HE WAS PIERCED”

The word:

But.

Corrects the misunderstanding.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

They thought He suffered for His sin; Isaiah says He suffered for ours.

LXX. OUR TRANSGRESSIONS

Personal:

Guilt.

Spiritual Principle

The cross confronts:

Us.

LXXI. OUR INIQUITIES

Deep moral:

Crookedness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant does not deal merely with mistakes; He deals with guilt.

LXXII. OUR PEACE

Result:

Reconciliation.

Spiritual Principle

His suffering produces:

Our shalom.

LXXIII. HIS WOUNDS

The means of:

Healing.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The marks of apparent defeat become evidence of saving love.

LXXIV. SHEEP ASTRAY

Simple image.

Profound diagnosis.

Spiritual Principle

Sin wanders away from:

The Shepherd.

LXXV. “HIS OWN WAY”

Self-rule.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The shortest definition of sin may be: God’s creature insisting on his own way.

LXXVI. INIQUITY LAID ON HIM

Transfer.

Spiritual Principle

The substitute bears:

What does not belong to Him naturally.

LXXVII. OPPRESSED

External pressure.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant knows:

Injustice.

LXXVIII. AFFLICTED

Internal suffering.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

His suffering reaches both body and soul.

LXXIX. SILENT LAMB

Controlled submission.

Spiritual Principle

Obedience does not require:

Self-defense.

LXXX. SLAUGHTER

Death is:

Intentional destination.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Lamb imagery does not end at gentleness; it moves toward sacrifice.

LXXXI. “CUT OFF”

The Servant truly:

Dies.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption enters:

Death itself.

LXXXII. “MY PEOPLE”

The substitution concerns:

A covenant people.

Yet the chapter also expands to:

Many.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant’s death is deeply rooted in Israel’s story and reaches beyond Israel to many.

LXXXIII. GRAVE WITH THE WICKED

He dies under:

Criminal condemnation.

Spiritual Principle

The righteous One is treated as:

Guilty.

LXXXIV. WITH THE RICH IN DEATH

Unexpected burial detail.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Even the Servant’s burial lies within God’s prophetic purpose.

LXXXV. NO VIOLENCE

Hands:

Clean.

Spiritual Principle

His suffering is not:

Deserved.

LXXXVI. NO DECEIT

Mouth:

Pure.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Perfect innocence makes substitution all the more striking.

LXXXVII. THE LORD’S WILL

Not accidental.

Spiritual Principle

The cross belongs to:

God’s redemptive plan.

LXXXVIII. CRUSHED

Severe language.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s saving plan takes sin with terrifying seriousness.

LXXXIX. OFFERING FOR SIN

Priestly-sacrificial vocabulary.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s death has:

Atoning purpose.

XC. SEE OFFSPRING

Fruit from:

Death.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant dies childless in ordinary biological terms yet becomes the source of a vast redeemed family.

XCI. PROLONG DAYS

Death reversed.

Spiritual Principle

Life follows:

Death.

XCII. GOD’S WILL PROSPERS

Mission accomplished.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Nothing about Calvary is wasted.

XCIII. SUFFERING OF HIS SOUL

Not merely:

Physical pain.

Spiritual Principle

The cross involves:

Profound inward anguish.

XCIV. SEE LIGHT OF LIFE

Vindication.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant sees beyond the grave.

XCV. SATISFIED

The result is:

Worth it.

Spiritual Principle

The redeemed become part of:

The joy set before Him.

XCVI. RIGHTEOUS SERVANT

God’s verdict.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The One condemned by human courts is declared righteous by God.

XCVII. JUSTIFY MANY

Legal language.

Spiritual Principle

The guilty receive:

Righteous standing.

XCVIII. BEAR INIQUITIES

Sacrificial language.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Justification is not God pretending sin never existed; the Servant bears it.

XCIX. PORTION AMONG THE GREAT

Victory.

Spiritual Principle

Humiliation gives way to:

Honor.

C. DIVIDE SPOILS

Conquest imagery.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The One who looked defeated emerges as the victor.

CI. POURED OUT LIFE

Complete self-giving.

Spiritual Principle

Nothing held back.

CII. NUMBERED WITH TRANSGRESSORS

Identification.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The sinless Servant enters the sinner’s place so sinners may enter His righteousness.

CIII. BORE SIN OF MANY

Saving burden.

Spiritual Principle

The cross is:

For others.

CIV. INTERCEDES

The Servant prays:

For sinners.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The One wounded by transgressors becomes their intercessor.

CV. ISAIAH 52:13–15 AND ISAIAH 53

The Servant song begins:

Before chapter 53.

Isaiah 52:13:

Exaltation.

Isaiah 52:14:

Disfigurement.

Isaiah 52:15:

Worldwide effect.

Then Isaiah 53 explains:

Rejection.

Substitution.

Death.

Vindication.

Key Truth

Isaiah 53 should be read as the continuation of the Servant song beginning in Isaiah 52:13.

CVI. ISAIAH 49–53

Isaiah 49

The Servant brings salvation to:

Nations.

Isaiah 50

The Servant obeys through:

Suffering.

Isaiah 52

The Servant is:

Marred and exalted.

Isaiah 53

The Servant’s suffering is:

Substitutionary and redemptive.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant songs progressively reveal not only that He suffers, but why He suffers.

CVII. ISAIAH 53 AND THE GOSPELS

Isaiah:

Despised.

Gospels:

Rejected.

Isaiah:

Silent.

Gospels:

Silent before accusers.

Isaiah:

Numbered with transgressors.

Gospels:

Crucified between criminals.

Isaiah:

With the rich in death.

Gospels:

Buried by Joseph of Arimathea.

Spiritual Principle

The passion narratives correspond strikingly with:

Isaiah’s Servant portrait.

CVIII. ISAIAH 53 AND 1 PETER 2

Peter echoes:

No deceit.

Bore our sins.

By His wounds healed.

Sheep astray.

Returned to Shepherd.

Key Truth

The New Testament explicitly interprets Isaiah 53 through the suffering and saving work of Jesus Christ.

CIX. ISAIAH 53 AND ACTS 8

The Ethiopian official asks:

Who is the prophet speaking about?

Philip begins with:

This Scripture.

And tells him:

The good news about Jesus.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The early church did not merely see vague similarities between Isaiah 53 and Jesus; it proclaimed Jesus directly from this passage.

CX. ISAIAH 53 AND SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT

The chapter repeatedly uses substitutionary language:

For our transgressions.

For our iniquities.

Our punishment on Him.

Our iniquity laid on Him.

For the transgression of My people.

Offering for sin.

Bear their iniquities.

Bore sin of many.

Key Truth

Substitution is not a marginal inference from Isaiah 53; it is woven throughout the chapter.

CXI. ISAIAH 53 AND RESURRECTION

Isaiah does not explicitly narrate the resurrection event in Gospel form.

But after:

Death.

Burial.

The Servant:

Sees offspring.

Prolongs days.

Sees light.

Is satisfied.

Receives victory.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s post-death activity strongly points toward:

Vindication beyond death.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Isaiah takes the Servant into the grave but refuses to leave Him there.

CXII. TWELVE GREAT CONTRASTS IN ISAIAH 53

1. Rejected by Men → Chosen by God

2. No Earthly Majesty → Divine Saving Glory

3. Our Griefs → His Bearing

4. Our Transgressions → His Piercing

5. Our Iniquities → His Crushing

6. His Punishment → Our Peace

7. His Wounds → Our Healing

8. Our Wandering → His Substitution

9. His Innocence → His Condemnation

10. His Death → His Prolonged Days

11. His Suffering → Our Justification

12. His Humiliation → His Victory

Key Truth

Every major movement in Isaiah 53 turns on a redemptive reversal: the righteous Servant receives what sinners deserve so sinners may receive what they could never obtain for themselves.

CXIII. TWELVE GREAT LESSONS FROM ISAIAH 53

1. The Saving Message Can Be Rejected

Principle:

Unbelief does not make the message false.

2. The Servant Comes in Humility

Principle:

God’s glory is not dependent on outward spectacle.

3. The Servant Is Rejected

Principle:

Human opinion can completely misjudge God’s chosen One.

4. The Servant Bears Human Grief

Principle:

He enters suffering deeply.

5. The Servant Suffers Substitutionally

Principle:

He is pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities.

6. Sin Is Universal

Principle:

All have gone astray.

7. The Servant Is Silent

Principle:

His submission is voluntary and controlled.

8. The Servant Is Innocent

Principle:

No violence or deceit is found in Him.

9. The Cross Belongs to God’s Saving Purpose

Principle:

The Servant becomes an offering for sin.

10. Death Does Not Defeat the Servant

Principle:

He sees life, offspring, satisfaction, and victory beyond suffering.

11. The Servant Justifies Many

Principle:

His righteousness becomes the ground of their justification.

12. The Servant Intercedes for Sinners

Principle:

The Savior who died continues to represent those He saves.

CXIV. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR PERSONAL STUDY

Question 1

What question opens Isaiah 53?

> **“Who has believed our message?”**

Question 2

What does the “arm of the Lord” represent?

God’s saving power.

Question 3

How does the Servant appear?

Like a tender shoot and root from dry ground, without earthly majesty that would attract people naturally.

Question 4

How is He treated?

Despised and rejected.

Question 5

What is He called?

A man of sorrows, familiar with suffering.

Question 6

What did people wrongly assume about His suffering?

That He was stricken by God because of His own guilt.

Question 7

What does Isaiah say He actually carried?

Our griefs and sorrows.

Question 8

Why was He pierced?

For our transgressions.

Question 9

Why was He crushed?

For our iniquities.

Question 10

What produced our peace?

The punishment laid upon Him.

Question 11

What comes through His wounds?

Healing.

Question 12

How does Isaiah describe humanity?

Like sheep that have gone astray.

Question 13

What has each person done?

Turned to his own way.

Question 14

What did the Lord lay upon the Servant?

The iniquity of us all.

Question 15

How did the Servant respond under oppression?

He remained silent.

Question 16

What animal is used to describe Him?

A lamb led to slaughter.

Question 17

What happened to Him?

He was cut off from the land of the living.

Question 18

Why was He stricken?

For the transgression of God’s people.

Question 19

Was the Servant guilty of violence or deceit?

No.

Question 20

With whom was He assigned a grave?

The wicked.

Question 21

With whom was He associated in burial?

The rich.

Question 22

What did His life become?

An offering for sin.

Question 23

Does the Servant’s story end in death?

No.

He sees offspring, prolongs His days, sees light, and receives victory.

Question 24

What will the righteous Servant do for many?

Justify them.

Question 25

What does He bear?

Their iniquities.

Question 26

Why is He rewarded?

Because He poured out His life unto death.

Question 27

With whom was He numbered?

Transgressors.

Question 28

Whose sin did He bear?

The sin of many.

Question 29

What does He do for transgressors?

Intercedes.

Question 30

Who does the New Testament identify as the fulfillment of this Servant?

Jesus Christ.

CXV. PERSONAL APPLICATION

Isaiah 53 asks several searching questions.

Have I Believed the Message?

Not merely:

Heard it.

Believed it?

Do I recognize God’s saving power in:

The crucified Christ?

Am I looking for a Savior who fits:

Human expectations?

Or accepting the Servant God:

Revealed?

Do I understand that Jesus knows:

Sorrow?

Rejection?

Suffering?

Have I admitted:

My transgressions?

My iniquities?

My wandering?

Can I say honestly:

“I have turned to my own way”?

Do I understand the cross as:

Personal?

He was pierced for:

Our transgressions.

That includes:

Mine.

Have I received the peace:

His punishment provides?

Have I received the healing:

His wounds provide?

Am I still trying to:

Carry guilt.

That Isaiah says was laid upon:

Him?

Do I understand Jesus as:

The Lamb?

Have I considered His:

Silence?

Innocence?

Submission?

Do I believe His death was:

Part of God’s redemptive purpose?

Do I understand that He is not:

Dead?

But victorious?

Am I trying to:

Justify myself?

Or trusting:

The righteous Servant?

Do I understand that Jesus:

Intercedes?

For sinners?

Have I thanked Him personally for:

Bearing my sin?

CXVI. A CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“The Cross Was Not Christ Paying for His Sin—It Was Christ Bearing Ours”

Isaiah repeatedly says:

Our.

Our.

Our.

Principle:

The innocence of the Servant and guilt of the people are essential to understanding the cross: the righteous One suffers in the place of the unrighteous.

CXVII. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“We Went Our Own Way; He Took Our Place”

Humanity says:

My way.

The Servant says:

God’s will.

Principle:

Sin is our self-directed wandering; salvation comes through the obedient Servant who bears the consequences of that wandering.

CXVIII. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“The Wounds Were His, but the Peace Became Ours”

Piercing:

His.

Crushing:

His.

Punishment:

His.

Peace:

Ours.

Principle:

Grace gives the believer benefits purchased through suffering he did not endure.

CXIX. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“Isaiah Takes the Servant to the Grave, but God Takes the Servant Beyond It”

Death:

Real.

Grave:

Real.

But afterward:

Life.

Offspring.

Satisfaction.

Victory.

Principle:

The grave is part of the Servant’s mission, not the end of His story.

CXX. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“The One Numbered with Transgressors Became the Intercessor for Transgressors”

He identifies with:

Sinners.

Without becoming:

Sinful.

Principle:

Jesus enters the sinner’s place in order to bring sinners into the favor of God.

CXXI. THE UNBELIEVED MESSAGE

The chapter begins with:

Rejection.

Spiritual Principle

Truth can be:

Unpopular.

CXXII. THE UNRECOGNIZED ARM

People see:

Weakness.

God sees:

Saving power.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The cross looks weak only when viewed without resurrection eyes.

CXXIII. TENDER SHOOT

Small beginning.

Spiritual Principle

Messiah does not arrive according to:

Human grandeur.

CXXIV. DRY GROUND

Hostile setting.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can grow saving life in a spiritually barren world.

CXXV. NO MAJESTIC APPEARANCE

No external:

Spectacle.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant must be recognized by:

Revelation.

CXXVI. DESPISED

Rejected:

Socially.

Spiritual Principle

Human rejection is part of:

His humiliation.

CXXVII. SORROWS

He knows:

Pain.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

There is no sorrowing believer who can say to Jesus, “You could never understand suffering.”

CXXVIII. GRIEFS BORNE

He carries:

Human pain.

Spiritual Principle

Compassion becomes:

Burden-bearing.

CXXIX. MISTAKEN JUDGMENT

They think:

He deserves suffering.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Calvary exposes how badly humanity can misread righteousness.

CXXX. PIERCED

Physical suffering.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption entered:

Flesh and blood.

CXXXI. CRUSHED

Deep suffering.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Sin’s seriousness is measured partly by what it cost the Servant.

CXXXII. PEACE

Result of:

Reconciliation.

Spiritual Principle

Peace is purchased through:

Sacrifice.

CXXXIII. HEALING

Sin’s wound:

Treated.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The cross reaches the deepest place where humanity is broken.

CXXXIV. ALL GONE ASTRAY

No exceptions based on:

Status.

Spiritual Principle

Everyone needs:

The Servant.

CXXXV. EACH HIS OWN WAY

Individual accountability.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Humanity is collectively sinful and personally responsible.

CXXXVI. INIQUITY OF US ALL

A staggering load.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s capacity exceeds:

Human guilt.

CXXXVII. SILENCE

No retaliatory defense.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Lamb does not save Himself from the slaughter because He is saving others through it.

CXXXVIII. SHEARERS

Powerlessness imagery.

Spiritual Principle

He willingly accepts:

Humiliation.

CXXXIX. OPPRESSION

Human injustice.

Spiritual Principle

God can use an unjust event without becoming:

Unjust.

CXL. JUDGMENT

Legal condemnation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The world’s courtroom condemned the One heaven called righteous.

CXLI. CUT OFF

Death.

Spiritual Principle

The wages of sin are confronted at:

Death.

CXLII. RICH MAN’S BURIAL

Unexpected honor after:

Humiliation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God begins reversing the human verdict even at the tomb.

CXLIII. SINLESSNESS

No violence.

No deceit.

Spiritual Principle

Perfect innocence.

CXLIV. LORD’S PURPOSE

Redemption planned.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Calvary was not God repairing a failed plan; Calvary was central to the saving plan.

CXLV. SIN OFFERING

Sacrificial meaning.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s death deals with:

Guilt.

CXLVI. OFFSPRING

Redeemed people.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

His death produces a family too large for the grave to contain.

CXLVII. PROLONGED DAYS

Life beyond death.

Spiritual Principle

Vindication.

CXLVIII. LIGHT OF LIFE

Suffering ends in:

Life.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant walks through death into the satisfaction of accomplished redemption.

CXLIX. SATISFACTION

Mission completed.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant sees:

Fruit.

CL. JUSTIFICATION

The guilty declared:

Righteous.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Christian salvation is not merely emotional relief; it includes a changed verdict before God.

CLI. MANY

The Servant’s saving work is:

Abundant.

Spiritual Principle

His sacrifice bears:

Wide fruit.

CLII. SPOILS

Victory language.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The cross becomes Christ’s battlefield, and resurrection reveals the victory.

CLIII. POURED OUT

Complete surrender.

Spiritual Principle

Sacrifice held:

Nothing back.

CLIV. TRANSGRESSORS

That is:

Us.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The word “transgressor” should never remain a distant category when reading Isaiah 53.

CLV. INTERCESSION

The chapter ends not merely with:

Past death.

But:

Ongoing advocacy.

Spiritual Principle

The Savior remains:

For His people.

CLVI. ISAIAH 53 AND THE GOSPEL IN ONE CHAPTER

Human sin.

Christ’s innocence.

Substitution.

Sacrifice.

Death.

Burial.

Life.

Justification.

Victory.

Intercession.

Key Truth

Isaiah 53 contains the core movements later proclaimed openly in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

CLVII. TEN GREAT MOVEMENTS IN ISAIAH 53

1. The Message Is Rejected

Few recognize the arm of the Lord.

2. The Servant Comes Humbly

No outward majesty attracts the crowd.

3. The Servant Is Despised

He becomes the Man of Sorrows.

4. The Servant Bears Human Grief

He carries what belongs to others.

5. The Servant Suffers for Sin

He is pierced and crushed for transgressions and iniquities.

6. Humanity Is Exposed as Wandering

Everyone turns to his own way.

7. The Servant Goes Silently to Death

Like a lamb to slaughter.

8. The Innocent Servant Is Buried

With remarkable association with the rich.

9. God's Redemptive Purpose Succeeds

His life becomes a sin offering, and He sees life and fruit beyond suffering.

10. The Servant Triumphs and Intercedes

He justifies many, receives victory, bears sin, and intercedes for transgressors.

Key Truth

Isaiah 53 moves from unbelief to victory through the astonishing truth that God's righteous Servant saves sinners by taking their place.

CLVIII. FINAL APPLICATION

Isaiah 53 begins with:

A question.

> **"Who has believed our message?"**

That question still matters.

It is possible to:

Know the story.

Hear the gospel.

Recognize the words.

And still never:

Believe.

Then Isaiah shows us:

The Servant.

No worldly spectacle.

No royal show.

No appearance that forces:

Admiration.

He comes:

Humbly.

Then:

Rejected.

Despised.

A man of:

Sorrows.

That already tells us something about:

Jesus.

He understands:

Rejection.

He understands:

Suffering.

He understands:

Grief.

Then the chapter turns.

“Surely He took up our griefs.”

Our.

Then:

“He was pierced for our transgressions.”

Our.

“Crushed for our iniquities.”

Our.

“The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him.”

His punishment.

Our peace.

That is:

The gospel.

Then:

“We all, like sheep, have gone astray.”

Isaiah does not flatter:

Humanity.

We wandered.

And not merely by:

Accident.

“Each of us has turned to his own way.”

That is sin.

My way.

My truth.

My will.

My direction.

Then:

“The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

That is grace.

He took:

Our place.

Then the Servant stands before:

Accusers.

He is:

Silent.

The Lamb does not:

Run.

He does not:

Abandon the mission.

Then:

He dies.

“Cut off from the land of the living.”

Why?

“For the transgression of My people.”

Then:

Burial.

The wicked.

The rich.

And still:

Innocent.

No violence.

No deceit.

Then comes perhaps the hardest statement:

“It was the Lord’s will to crush Him.”

This does not mean the Father took cruel pleasure in:

Pain.

It means the cross belonged to:

Redemption.

God was accomplishing:

Salvation.

Jesus was willingly:

Offering Himself.

Then something changes.

The dead Servant:

Sees offspring.

Prolongs days.

Sees light.

Is satisfied.

Justifies many.

Receives spoils.

Intercedes.

The grave did not:

Win.

Death did not:

Win.

Human judgment did not:

Win.

Sin did not:

Win.

The Servant:

Wins.

And He wins by:

Sacrifice.

So Isaiah 53 forces every reader to ask:

Do I see myself among:

The sheep?

Do I acknowledge:

My transgressions?

My iniquities?

My own way?

Do I believe:

He bore them?

Am I still trying to:

Justify myself?

When God says:

The righteous Servant justifies many?

Am I still carrying:

Guilt?

When Isaiah says:

The iniquity was laid on Him?

Am I still searching for:

Peace?

When Isaiah says:

The punishment that brought peace fell upon Him?

Am I still wondering whether Jesus understands:

Suffering?

When Isaiah calls Him:

A Man of Sorrows?

And am I still afraid the story ended at:

The grave?

When Isaiah says:

He sees life.

Fruit.

Victory.

Reward.

Intercession.

Isaiah 53 says:

The Savior was rejected:

So sinners could be received.

He was pierced:

So transgressors could know peace.

He was crushed:

So the guilty could be justified.

He died:

So many could live.

He was numbered with transgressors:

So transgressors could be numbered among the redeemed.

He bore sin:

So we would not have to stand before God bearing it alone.

And He intercedes:

Still.

So look at:

The Servant.

Not merely with:

Sympathy.

With:

Faith.

Not merely:

“What happened to Him?”

But:

“Why did it happen?”

Isaiah answers:

For:

Us.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for:

The Servant.

Thank You for:

Jesus Christ.

Father, we confess:

We have gone astray.

We have turned to:

Our own way.

We have sinned.

We have transgressed.

We have carried:

Iniquity.

We cannot:

Justify ourselves.

Thank You that Jesus:

Took our griefs.

Carried our sorrows.

Was pierced for:

Our transgressions.

Crushed for:

Our iniquities.

Thank You that the punishment bringing us:

Peace.

Fell upon:

Him.

Thank You that by His wounds:

Healing comes.

Father, keep us from minimizing:

Sin.

When we look at the cross:

Show us its seriousness.

When we look at the Servant:

Show us Your grace.

Thank You that Jesus was:

Despised.

Rejected.

A Man of Sorrows.

Thank You that He understands:

Pain.

Rejection.

Grief.

Suffering.

Thank You that He remained:

Silent.

Obedient.

Faithful.

Thank You that He willingly became:

The Lamb.

Father, thank You that His death was not:

The end.

Thank You that He:

Lives.

Sees the fruit of His suffering.

Justifies many.

Reigns in victory.

Intercedes for:

Transgressors.

Father, help us stop trying to:

Earn.

Buy.

Prove.

Or justify ourselves.

Teach us to rest in:

Christ.

Let His righteousness be:

Our hope.

His sacrifice:

Our confidence.

His wounds:

Our healing.

His peace:

Our peace.

His victory:

Our assurance.

And His intercession:

Our comfort.

May we never read Isaiah 53 casually.

Give us hearts that:

Believe.

Worship.

Repent.

Trust.

And proclaim:

The suffering and risen Servant.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Key Verse

> **"But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed." — Isaiah 53:5**

Central Truth

The righteous Servant, fulfilled in Jesus Christ, was despised and rejected yet willingly bore the griefs, transgressions, iniquities, punishment, and sin of others; though completely innocent, He suffered silently, died as a sacrificial offering for sin, was buried, yet emerged beyond suffering into life, satisfaction, victory, and exaltation, thereby justifying many and continuing as the intercessor for transgressors.

Isaiah 53 in One Sentence

Isaiah reveals the suffering Servant fulfilled in Jesus Christ, who is rejected and despised despite perfect innocence, bears humanity's griefs, transgressions, iniquities, punishment, and sin as a substitute, remains silent like a lamb before oppression, is cut off from the living and buried, yet through His sacrificial death fulfills God's redemptive purpose, rises beyond suffering to see life

and the fruit of His work, justifies many, receives victory, and intercedes for the very transgressors whose sins He carried.