

Isaiah 53

I. Introduction

A. Isaiah, who prophesied centuries before God the Son came to earth, gave numerous details of the coming Messiah that have been perfectly fulfilled in Jesus. Among Isaiah's messianic prophecies is the 53rd chapter and preceding verses, in which the Messiah is described as the LORD's servant who would suffer for our sins. **Isaiah 52:13-53:12**

II. The Exalted Servant

A. The passage emphasizes Jesus' role as a servant. It also emphasizes that while the Son of God has humbled Himself to the point of servitude, He has been exalted by the Father to the highest honor and authority. **Isaiah 52:13; Philippians 2:9-11**

III. The Lowly Servant

A. Before His resurrection and ascension, Jesus lowered Himself to the point of living as a man, and was *lowly* from the world's perspective. **Isaiah 52:14; Matthew 27:28-31; Isaiah 52:15**

IV. The Rejected Servant

A. As a humble servant, Jesus was generally rejected. His message continues to be rejected by the majority today. **Isaiah 53:1; John 12:37-38**

V. The "Unimpressive" Servant

A. From an earthly perspective, Jesus was a servant who seemed unimpressive. His greatness was far different from what the world esteems as greatness. **Isaiah 53:2**

VI. The Suffering Servant

A. Given how disrespected He was by the world, Jesus fully experienced what it means to suffer gross mistreatment and hatred from others. **Isaiah 53:3; John 7:1, 7**

VII. The Unappreciated Servant

A. The things He suffered were assumed to be a result of His own wrongdoing. **Isaiah 53:4; Matthew 26:65-66**
B. In truth, He died because of *our* sins. **Isaiah 53:5**

VIII. The Servant All Need

A. No matter how good we are from the world's perspective, each of us *needs* the forgiveness Jesus' death makes possible, and no matter how bad we have been from the world's perspective, each of us *can* receive this forgiveness. **Isaiah 53:6**

IX. The Willing Servant

A. Though Jesus had the power to call for thousands of angels, He *gave* His life. **Isaiah 53:7; John 10:17-18**

X. The Misjudged Servant

A. Those who delivered Jesus to die unfairly judged Him deserving of death. **Isaiah 53:8; Matthew 26:60**
B. Jesus was characterized as a criminal, though He had done nothing wrong. **Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:38; Heb. 4:15**

XI. The Successful Servant

A. Though Jesus' suffering appeared a *failure*, such was *successful* in pleasing the Father, allowing adoption into His family, and offering atonement. **Isaiah 53:10-12**

XII. The Interceding Servant

A. The Suffering Servant desired such atonement for the very people who delivered Him to die, and He desires atonement for each of us. **Isaiah 53:12; Luke 23:34**

XIII. Conclusion

A. May we appreciate, follow, and serve the One who endured these things for us.