

Sermon Notes -- Isaiah 53 – The Suffering Servant

Isaiah didn't follow Moses out of slavery and know that feeling for the first time of being able to make his own choices.

Isaiah didn't live during the time of David or any of the Kings, where he would have known the pride of being an Israelite, living in one of the greatest kingdoms of Ancient History.

Isaiah lived during the scattered exile. No great pride. No great freedom. It was mostly confusion. Life had fell apart.

Read Isaiah 52:13, 14, & 15 – Poem of The Suffering Servant

The first line suggests hope.

The second line describes a severe beating.

The third line describes a world changed for the better.

Read Isaiah 53:1 – The Arm of the Lord

The "arm of the Lord" is God's infinite strength. It is the strength that can change desperation to hope, and depression into joy.

Read Isaiah 53:2 – We Don't Notice the Servant

People were not attracted to his fame or his good looks or his talent. He was average, maybe even below average.

Read Isaiah 53:3 – We Avoid the Servant

He wasn't just someone who was invisible. He was somebody we avoided.

Read Isaiah 53:4 – Look What The Servant Did For Us

He took up our infirmities. Weakness is what it means to be human. We can't carry everything. We will fail once in a while.

He carried our sorrows. Grief can overwhelm us.

He was pierced for our transgressions. He was punished because of what we did.

He was crushed for our iniquities. Not only are their weaknesses in every one of us, there is a little bit of evil. A bit of arrogance or pride or desire to have more than others.

But it was His wounds that healed us!!

Read Isaiah 53:6 – We All Have Made Mistakes

What does it take for a person to realize that?

How far does a sheep have to walk before it realizes that it has gone astray? Sheep don't purposely walk off. They aren't rebellious animals. They don't hate authority.

They are just stupid. And they don't pay attention.

Human beings wander off. We wander away from our friends and our family. We're a little too self-involved. We make poor choices, but we don't usually think it's a poor choice at the time.

There is a realization that each person must make, living in their life that isn't exactly how they wanted their life –

It isn't because of everyone else around that you are living in the desert, it is because of your choices.

**The good news is that once you realize your sin...
you are in a position to be healed.//**