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Has History Ever been Written in Advance? Those Who Believe Biblical prophecy say, Yes.
Isa, saw the servant - whom we know Jesus.

"SUBSTITUTIONARY GOSPEL" Help Our Faith - 700 yrs before Come -

Isaiah 53

INTRODUCTION:

The idea of a substitute is major in the area of sports. Often a person will take a substitute job in preference to a permanent position.

I read of a Minister being called upon as a substitute for a regular Pastor, who failed to reach church because of a major accident. The speaker began by explaining the meaning of a substitute. "If you break a window" he said, and then place a cardboard there instead of the window pane, that is a substitute."

After the sermon, a woman who had listened intently, shook hands with him, and wished to compliment him, exclaimed, "you were no substitute - you were a real pane!"

In the world of manufacturing, substitutes are made for certain products. Many are poor representatives of the original item.

However, Isaiah sets forth in the 53rd Chapter the greatest substitutionary work ever undertaken in earth or Heaven. Well might you be thankful, for it has reference to you. That is why it is the Gospel of Good news - it is a substitutionary Gospel - Christ becoming man's substitute for sin.

There is no Priest or Rabbi who can deny that Isaiah 53 is a direct reference to Jesus Christ. A substitute for man - the just for the unjust.

Plan of salvation is here "He died for our sins according to the Scriptures".
What a chapter. A Bible - Divine blueprint.

12 Verses Find him taking our place 24 times. (Twice as many as there are verses in the chapter.)

OUTLINE:

- I. Servant - V. 1-3.
- II. Suffering - V. 4-6.
- III. Sacrifice - V. 7-9.
- IV. Salvation - V. 10-12.

I. SERVANT - V. 1-3.

Describes the Beginning of his life - Few Believed the report.

V. 1 Report - Portrait of the servant - mentioned before - who could believe what they were hearing? The message being unfolded, received with amazement. Incredible as it comes to our ears. Report or tidings - who among us believed it to this very day.

Arm - Figure - Arm carries out the dictates of the will. Jehovah's rule - miraculous work - strength. Rev. 5:3.

Revealed - Recognize it. Made bare. What a shame men cannot see this. Eye of Faith - Believing the unbelievable. Who can believe such? The Jews and Gentiles did not understand the nature of sin and of God. They thought only of him as teacher - Prophet - Not as suffering Saviour.

V. 2 Servant Will. *unlikely origin*
1. Tender Plant - Quiet - A sapling or as a sucker (corn stalk) - Fresh sprout from a tree stump.

Back to childhood of Jesus - as lad - no one would guess the secret - suspect him Messiah. He grew up before them - his generation. Child, tender plant.

Virgin birth - instead of like a noble or King, he grew up without public notice. Is this the carpenter's son?

11:1 "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots".

2. Dry Ground - *Twig* - unlikely - desert not expect plant to grow - unnatural - virgin birth. No pomp or observation. Unheard of a plant growing in dry soil. You plant tomato plants - water - not live in dry ground.

3. Humble - no lovely form - He did not look the part. *unlikely appearance*

4. Plain - Nothing to draw us - appearance not impress you to follow - or recommend him - attract like the Paschal lamb never marked out or set apart until the tenth day of the month. For the first 10 days the lamb was before Jehovah alone but no other knew it. The Messiah was hidden, not marked until 30 years had passed - grew up before them.

V. 3 How the Servant was treated! Expected he would live a pleasant life.

A. Despised - contempt shown by men - not admire.

B. Rejected - Not received - forsaken - forsook him and fled. Many went back and walked no more with him. John 6:66. Matt. 26:56.

C. Man of Sorrows - Word means literally pain and sickness. Bearing sin, a raging fever. Deep sorrow.

D. Acquainted with Grief - Well acquainted - our concept - sorrow associated with penalty, punishment. He takes the penalty knowing the hearts of all men.

Someone gave this advice - "If you never want to get hurt then don't care".

You can not be wounded if you never care.

You will miss the best things in life - but don't care.

E. Hid Our Faces From Him - Ashamed of him. Joseph with his Father Jacob before Pharaoh. Aged old farmer with bowed head before the King - Joseph says this is my Father. Proud - just from the country.

F. Esteemed Him Not - Placed no value upon - we did not give him a thought - they had no interest in him. He had no value. John 1:45-46.

Sad - history repeating itself today. We approach the time of His coming again and men are not waiting, ready.

II. Suffering - V. 4-6.

What has the servant done?

*Reason for Cross - Contrast He and Our!
Suffering Not (His Sins) - We*

V. 4 - A. Borne Our Grief - The grief he had was our very own. Shadow of Leviticus - The sacrifices - offerings. (Surely) is the "Amen" adopted in the N. T. and often used of our Lord. Expresses strongest affirmation. No one must have a doubt as to true cause of his sufferings - hours on the cross.

What griefs - Mary - "Lord if Thou hadst been here our brother had not died".

He is by the sick bed in the hospital, at every funeral, the tragic news, missing in action. The load was heavy he had to bear.

B. Carried Our Sorrow - The sorrows were our sorrows. Heb. 5:7.

C. Smitten of God - Loaded down - crushed - pain. Some thought he was suffering at the hands of God for his own sins. You sin - cause agony. Stricken = strike heavily -

as plague - touch by hand of God.

suffered for The sins of others

V. 5 - D. Wounded -- (Pierced) for our transgressions. Heart suffered - side opened with spear. Ours was the sin he was wounded for.

Thorns on his head - nails in feet and hands - wounded and very painful.

E. Bruised - Crushed by our iniquities. No stronger word found in Hebrew to express the severity of suffering - suffering unto death.

700 years - later men would stand by cross - His body stretched along the beams helpless in an upright position - iron spike through his feet. Left to hang until death. Life blood slowly leaving - hot sun - suffering compounded - harassment of mob, insults, spit upon his face. Words wounded - bruised - while still alive, crushed is a better word to carry meaning of word bruised. Note the word - for - your sin and mine.

F. Chastisement - Ours is the peace. By this we received peace. Put an end to the enmity between God and man. Eph. 2:14.

G. Stripes - Our healing. Sick with sin, could not heal self. Suffering he underwent. Matt. 26:27.

V. 6 - Why all the suffering?

*The Necessity of Calvary is that we are Sheep
Verse Begins & Ends same Heb. word ALL-We 'Us-All, astray!*

Like Sheep - Most foolish - helpless of all creatures - scattered - defenseless. Get the meaning - all are guilty - have sinned - whole race.

Instead of walking obediently in God's way we backslide, go our own way. I Pet. 2:25.

As sheep we are scattered - in Christ we are collected together - by nature we wander. Turned - every one - rebellion - evil disposition.

Laid on Him - Caused to light upon him. Not willing that you be left in sin.

John 1:29. "The lamb of God, which taketh (beareth) away the sin of the world".

Take away - take up something not one's own. Idea - Simon "Compelled to bear His cross". Matt. 22:32.

2 Cor. 5:21 - Made him to be sin for us who knew no sin. Not only offering for sin but, sin for us.

III. Sacrifice - V. 7-9

V. 7 - Willing Sacrifice.

Oppressed - Israel under taskmasters of Egypt.

Afflicted - Deeply abused - torture - Cruel.

Opened Not His Mouth - Silence of Jesus. Without a whisper of protest.

Voluntariness of His offering.

George Adams Smith - "Silence under suffering is a strange thing in the O. T.

A thing absolutely new.

Under suffering a man is confessing his guilt before God! Jesus had no guilt.

Lamb to slaughter - Lamb prominent in O. T. In N. T. lamb is Jesus - redemption
- Ex. 12:3. Blood on door post - Angel pass over.

I Peter 1:18-19 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold - but with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot".

Rev. 5:12 "Worthy is the lamb that was slain to receive power and riches, wisdom, strength, honor and glory, blessing".

Acts 8:32-35 "The place of the Scripture which he read -- he was led as a sheep to the slaughter and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so he opened not his mouth."

Ennuch ask Philip if Isaiah spoke of himself. Preached unto him Jesus.

Matt. 26:62-63. High Priest - answerest Thou nothing? Jesus held his peace.

Matt. 27:13-14. Pilate - He answered him to never a word.

A lamb led to be killed is patient and silent - He utters no complaint. Lamb at the Altar - meek - humble - silent.

V. 8 "Hurried Was he from prison and judgement"

The Servant Died.

Taken away - The starting point.

Enoch: Translation - being hurried away.

Suffer hurried away from bonds to trial.

Generation: Is to go around in a circle - as being a circuit of the years of life.

The wickedness of his generation - but He will live forever.

Barabbas - will be punished. Men of his generation shall be cut off.

Cut off - violent death - "snatched away". Reason - transgressions, prophet includes self.

V. 9 His Grave - Wicked and Rich.

Crucified between 2 thieves - some say they planned to put him in a grave with the wicked.

Good man Joseph came - rich man - offered his tomb. Body belonged to Roman Govt. A part of court record.

Prophet tells of death with wicked and burial with wealthy.

Men appointed his grave with the wicked. Assigned him a grave. But buried in respectful fashion.

Reason - for never a violent deed had he done - never deceit had come from his mouth.

It was the work of wicked men to appoint him a place with transgressors in death. Jude 9.

IV. Salvation - V. 10-12.

V. 10 - Pleased the Lord - Suffering voluntarily - God's will. Bruised Him. Matt. 27:45. Bruising of his heel - Satan.

Why did Lord permit His love for poor sinful man was such that for him He spared not His own beloved son. Son's delight to do his will. Soul an offering for sin. See his seed - corn of wheat has died. Seed of the woman - Gen. 3:15. Whole body of believers.

Prolong resurrection. Need recapture this fact - some deny the bodily resurrection of Jesus. Acts 2:23-24. (1st recorded sermon after resurrection)

Rom. 1:4.

Servant will have endless life.

Prosper - great commission - all power.

V. 11 - Justification by Faith.

Satisfied - Travail - Suffering of the cross. God did not delight in animal sacrifice - not remove sin.

Travail of his soul - hands - side - agony - Calvary.

He shall see - Be abundantly satisfied. Jesus in travail of soul for our salvation.

Forever dissatisfied - had he not raised him from the dead.

His knowledge - A divinely acquired knowledge. This knowledge by faith brings salvation.

Nothing is as effective in turning men and women from sin as righteousness in Christ.

Two things - He makes man righteous by infusing his righteousness into them and second, He bears their burden of iniquities. Heb. 9:28.

Christ reconciling the world to himself. 2 Cor. 5:19.

Cross is the best hope of man and the best news for man. Here is the substitutionary Gospel - He is the substitute.

V. 12 - Therefore - here is a great conclusion - sums up. Birth, sufferings, trial, burial, resurrection.

Great - Kings - nations - Rev. 19:15-16.

Strong - surrender sovereignty to him.

Reasons - why exaltation?

1. He hath poured out His soul unto death.
2. He was numbered with the transgressors.
3. He bare the sin of many.
4. He made intercession for the transgressors.

Every act of Christ is a fresh display God's love. John 10:7 - Laid down his own life.

Intercession - for transgressors is to win. Queen Esther for her people.

Our Great High Priest.

"O give us eyes of faith to see

The man transfixed on Calvary,
To know Thee who Thou art;
The one Eternal God and True;
And let the sight affect, subdue,
And break my stubborn heart.

The veil of unbelief remove;
And by Thy manifested love,
And by Thy sprinkled blood,
Destroy the love of sin in me,
And get Thyself the victory,
And bring me back to God."

The light gets brighter as you walk in His glory. Man is a sinner - ruined.
Christ is the Redeemer - Saviour.

What can wash away my stain?

Nothing but the blood of Jesus,
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

GOD'S SERVANT TRIUMPHS THROUGH SUFFERING

Isaiah 52:13—54:4

- I. The Servant Exalted (52:13-15)
- II. The Servant Humiliated (53: 1-3)
- III. The Servant Substituted (53: 4-6)
Suffering
- IV. The Servant Sacrificed (53: 7-9)
- V. The Servant Vindicated (53: 10-12)
Salvation
- VI. The Servant Celebrated (54:1-4)

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