

WELCOME

THE WORLD
NEEDS JESUS

“BEHOLD ...” - means to **STOP** and **LISTEN**



- Five times in the OT, ‘**behold**’ is used to announce the Messiah.
- **Isalah 52:13** (p613) - “**Behold my servant**” (also **Zechariah 3:8** p794).
- **Zech 6:12** (p795) - “**Behold the man**”
- **Zech 9:9** (p797) - “**Behold, your king**”
- **Isalah 40:9** (p599) - “**Behold your God!**”

The announcement of the OT prophets is this: behold the Messiah will be Man, God, Servant, and King.

Thematic makeup of the Gospels:

- **Matt** - about Jesus being **King**/qualified to sit on David’s throne
- **Mark** - about Jesus being a **Servant**/giving his life as a ransom
- **Luke** - Jesus as Son of **Man**; illustrated his humanity
- **John** - Jesus as the Son of God, and AS **God**.

Jesus Was The Fulfillment Of All 4 Identities

But There Is An Identity Of Christ That Is Even Greater From OUR Perspective

It is proclaimed by John the Baptist ...

John 1:29 (p886) “The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’”



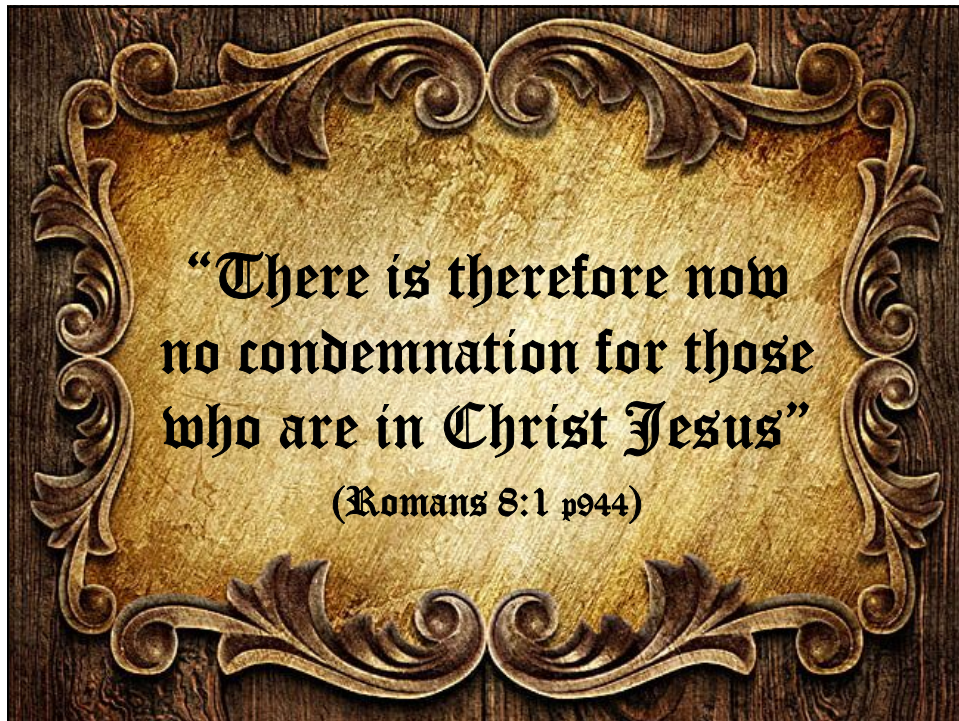
So this man, servant, king, even our own God would be the sacrificial lamb that would take away sin, if we respond in obedient faith.

- Is there anything in all of creation that is more significant than that?

It meant everything to Paul ...

Phillipians 1:21 (p980) “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” - life IS Christ; we live ONLY to serve Him
- there is only emptiness/despair without Him

**Jesus Taking on the Identity of the Lamb of God
Makes HOPE of HEAVEN Possible**



Scripture Reading: Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:1-12 (p613-4)

O LAMB OF GOD

Credit: Wayne Jones
San Marcos, TX

Translation: **ESV**
Unless Otherwise Noted

O Lamb Of God

Greatness of the Lamb

Our present distress cannot compete with the truth that Jesus is the Lamb of God. That truth is **LIFE CHANGING**.

Today's text will help us become better acquainted with our sacrificial Lamb.

Details of the "Servant Song"

There are 4 servant songs in Isaiah: **Isaiah 42:1-4; 49:1-6; 50:4-7; 52:13 - 53:12.**

The 4th song (our text) can be divided into 5 sections (or stanzas) of 3 verses each.

- The song begins with God speaking ("my servant" - **52:13**)
- It ends with God speaking ("**Therefore I will divide...**" - **53:12**)
- In the middle are observations made of the servant from people who would be witnesses of him; Servant doesn't speak

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Stanza 1: Isaiah 52:13-15

The Servant Will Be SHOCKING

- **Notice:** there will be astonishment (**v13**); kings are said to not have anything to say about him (**v15**) ... speechless.
- **“he shall sprinkle many nations” (v15).** Could refer to OT purification; footnote: **“startle”** many nations.
- This word meaning fits well; everything about the Servant would be unforeseen/unexpected (human perspective).
 - i. **v13** – Would be shocked at his exaltation; they knew where he came from: Nazareth; carpenter’s son
 - ii. **v14** – Shocked at his appearance (at crucifixion); this is the direction this song is headed
 - iii. **v15** – Shocked at his message; not what they expected their Messiah to say; closed their ears – didn’t understand it

John 1:10 (p886) **“He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.”**

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Stanza 2: Isaiah 53:1-3

The Servant Would Be SCORNED

- This is where we have the speaker change; the witnesses who saw Him, heard Him - they pose a very important question:
- **“Who has believed our report?” (v1 - NKJV)** The implied answer would be ‘very few.’

Rom 10:16 (p946) **“But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, ‘Lord, who has believed that he has heard from us?’”**

- This stanza explains *why* he was rejected: he didn’t look the part; he didn’t fit their description; no majesty about him

Stanza 3: Isaiah 53:4-6

He Was A SUBSTITUTED Servant

- When you look at the cross, what do you see?
- Do you know WHO we often miss? - **OURSELVES**

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- I need to see 'me' at the cross; why is that?
- Notice how this stanza begins: "**Surely he has borne OUR griefs ...**" (v4).



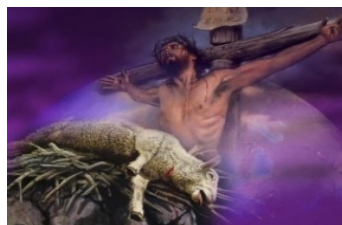
Notice this sequence of key words: **our, our, we, our, our, us, we, we, we, us.**

- **Verses 4-6** begin taking us to the cross, and **WE** are abundantly mentioned.

- Jesus went to the cross because of me
- Jesus went to the cross for me
- Jesus went to the cross **INSTEAD OF** me

- **MY SINS** were laid upon Him; I should have suffered instead of Jesus ... I should have received **Justice**; but received **Mercy**.

- He suffered all that for our peace.



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Stanza 4: Isaiah 53:7-9

He Was A SILENT Servant

- The servant does no talking in this song; greater emphasis is given to this characteristic in this stanza.
- **The Point?** This servant is condemned by means of a court (v8); and he makes no argument, gives no defence.
- In normal everyday life, if someone accuses us of something, do we not defend ourselves? We'll speak.
- Jesus didn't – *he did say some words* – but those words were not used in defence of himself.

1 Pet 2:23 (p1015) There are lessons we can learn from this:

- The injustices I face do not always have to be pointed out, e.g., whether in person or on Facebook, etc.
- It teaches me that vindication will come to the righteous at some point

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Stanza 5: Isaiah 53:10-12

Servant Of God Is Pictured As SUCCESSFUL

- **Important Question:** How can a man who had been brutalized for other people's sins (**v5**), who was 'cut off' from the land of the living (**v8**), who was buried/had a grave (**v9**) ... how can a dead man possibly be successful?
- **Verse 10** says the LORD "**shall prolong his days.**"
How can a dead man's days be prolonged?
- **Verse 10** also: "**the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.**"
How can a dead man prosper?



Days that are **prolonged** and are characterized by **prosperity** are marks of a successful man.

- This Servant Song tells us that this sacrificial lamb of God will not stay dead ... he will rise **ALIVE**.

- **Verse 10** also says: "**he shall see his offspring.**"
What offspring is being referred to here?

*Written
700 Years
Before Christ*

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1 Peter 1:3 (p1014) "**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.**"

This rebirth makes us Christ's offspring.

And Jesus is enjoying prosperity in His work on the earth ... through **HIS OWN PEOPLE**.

If you are a Christian, you have a part to play in the prosperity of Christ.

This Is The Transforming Power Of The Lamb Of God

Jesus' Greatest Identity As THE LAMB Is Not Exclusively Due To The Salvation It Brings, But Also Due To The Lamb's CALL To Bear Fruit And Be Successful

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Conclusion

According to the 4th Servant Song (**Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12**), the prophesied Messiah ...

1. Would be **SHOCKING**
2. Would be **SCORNED**
3. Would be a **SUBSTITUTED** servant
4. Would be a **SILENT** servant
5. Would be pictured as **SUCCESSFUL** (after the grave)

According to another preacher, the song could be looked at this way as well ...

Stanza 1: Servant was ... **Glorified**
 Stanza 2: Servant was ... **Rejected**
 Stanza 3: Servant made ... **Atonement**
 Stanza 4: Servant was ... **Crucified**
 Stanza 5: Servant was ... **Exalted**

The Heart Of OT Prophecy
Is Grace

This Final Servant Song:
Grace At Its Fullest

This Is Christ ... The Church Is To Be Beacon Of Grace

