

Lesson 10 for March 6, 2021

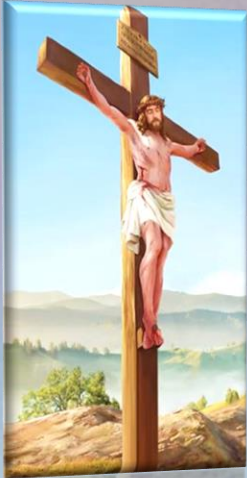


**DOING THE
UNTHINKABLE**

An innocent person is being beaten and spat in the face but does not complain or defend himself!

What would you do if you knew that this is happening because of your fault?

Jesus suffered and died so we could have life. The Just One gave Himself for the sinners. The evangelical prophet—Isaiah—foretold this with an amazing accuracy.



🕒 **A denigrating manner.** Isaiah 50:4-10

🕒 **From exaltation to the cross, and from the cross to exaltation.** Isaiah 52:13-53:12

🕒 **The Suffering Servant:**

➤ **The innocent suffers.** Isaiah 52:13-53:2

➤ **He suffered for me.** Isaiah 53:3-9

➤ **Sin, dead, and resurrection.** Isaiah 53:10-12

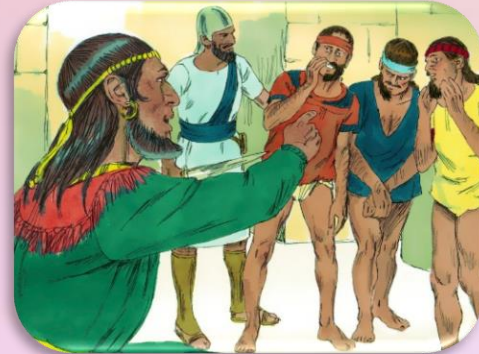


A DENIGRATING MANNER

“I gave My back to those who struck Me, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.” (Isaiah 50:6)

When we feel insulted or mocked, we feel humiliated. In those moments, it is normal to feel anger against those who are unfairly offending us.

For example, David's ambassadors were denigrated in 2 Samuel 10. That triggered a war between Israel and Ammon.



However, the most powerful person ever endured jibes and scorn without defending Himself or getting angry (Matthew 26:67-68).

Jesus did not want to come down from the cross to stop the taunts and insults (Matthew 27:38-44). Why?



FROM EXALTATION TO THE CROSS, AND FROM THE CROSS TO EXALTATION

Isaiah 52:13
The Servant
is exalted

Isaiah 53:10-12
The Servant is
exalted

Isaiah 52:14-15
His humiliation
is foretold

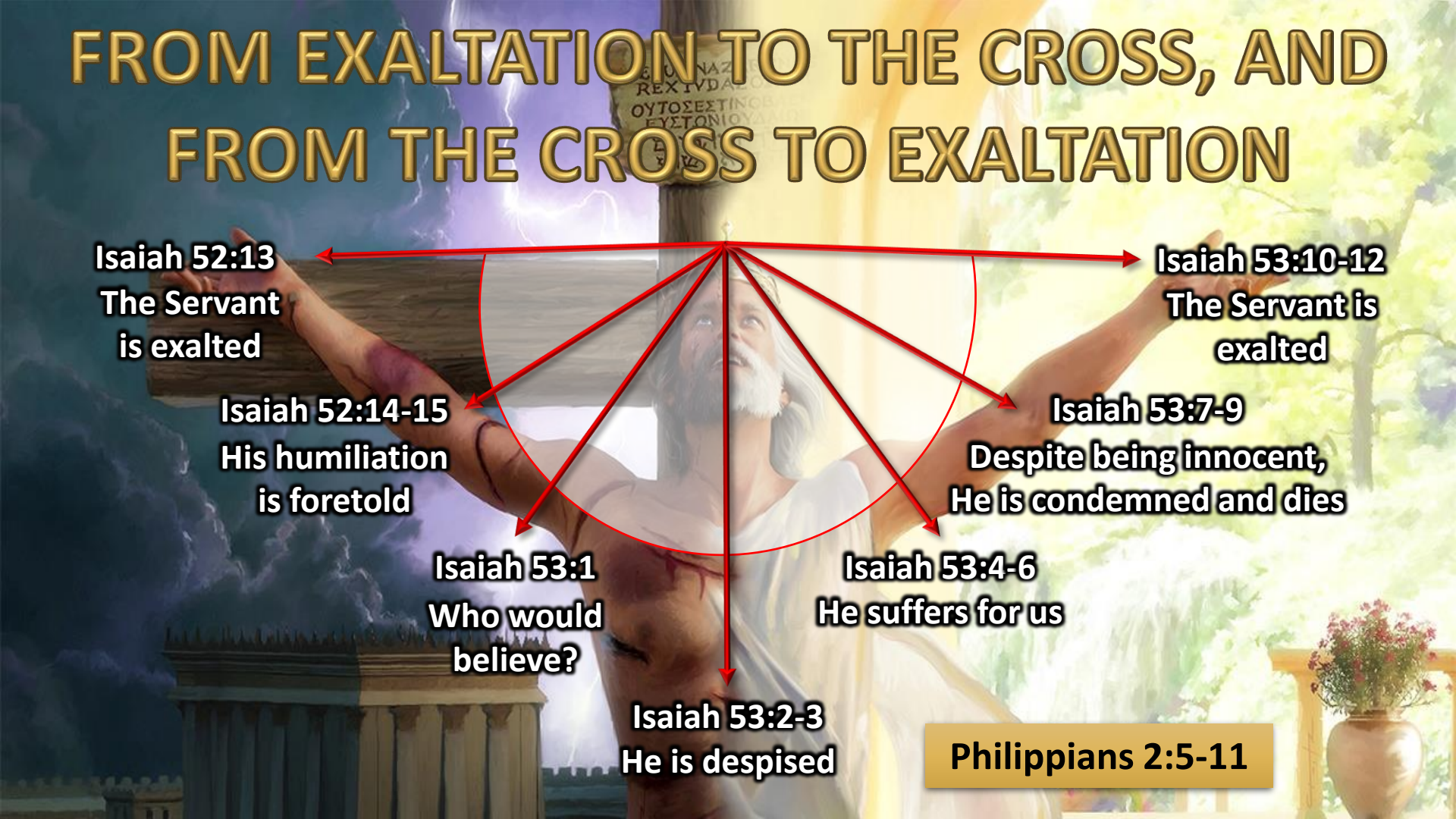
Isaiah 53:7-9
Despite being innocent,
He is condemned and dies

Isaiah 53:1
Who would
believe?

Isaiah 53:4-6
He suffers for us

Isaiah 53:2-3
He is despised

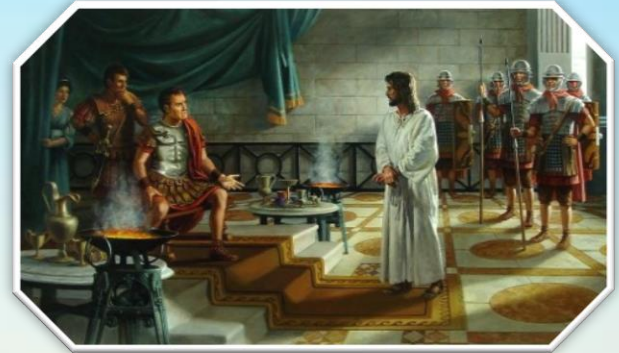
Philippians 2:5-11



THE INNOCENT SUFFERS

“Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” (Isaiah 53:1)

In Isaiah 52:13, the Servant is “exalted and extolled.” However, something happens suddenly, and the Servant is disfigured (v. 14). This makes the kings see “what had not been told them” and understand “what they had not heard.” (v. 15)

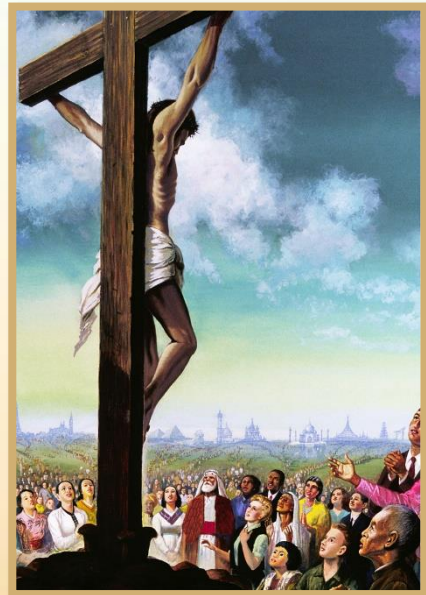


This Servant (Jesus) was blameless, but still suffered (like Job). Why do many innocent people suffer? This question is left hanging in the air.

The key question is:

Who is willing to believe what was foretold?

Those who believe will experience the saving power of God. The same hand that delivered Israel from Egypt will deliver everyone who believes from death. Do you believe?

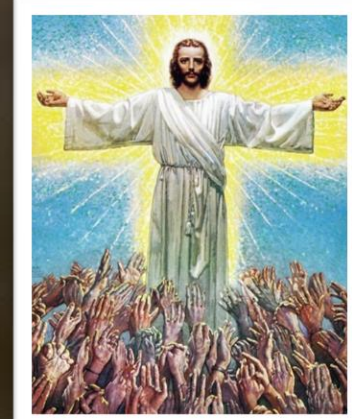


HE SUFFERED FOR ME

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5)

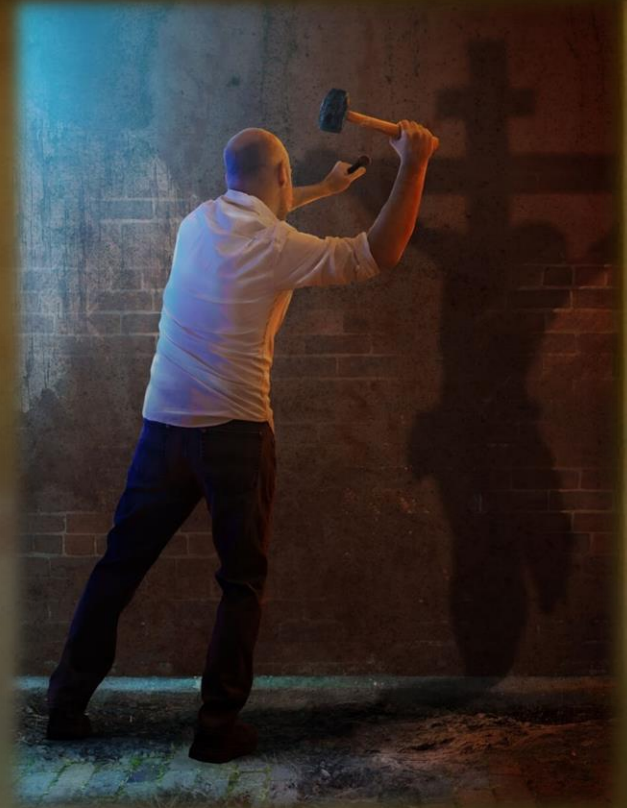


God gave us a Child, a Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). However, they went to war against Him. He was judged for no reason, He was condemned like a criminal— although He had never sinned—, and He was mistreated (Isaiah 53:7-9).



Who was His enemy? Who did this? The answer to this question is clear and painful: *WE ALL DID* (Isaiah 53:6).

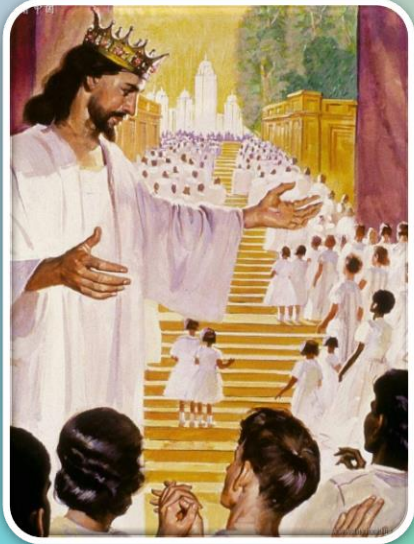
Because of God's love, His Messiah would choose to suffer. He would choose to suffer in order to reach the unreachable, and the unreachable are us!



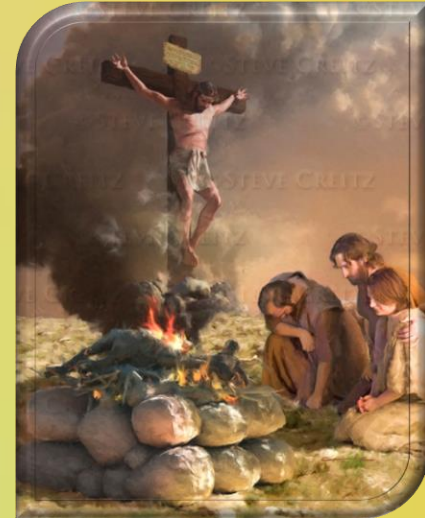
SIN, DEAD, AND RESURRECTION

"When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand." (Isaiah 53:10)

Every transgression (sin) against God and other people had to be expiated. If required, the victim had to be compensated. In any case, a sacrificed must be offered. An innocent animal had to die in the offender's place.



Jesus is "the Lamb of God" (John 1:29). He offered Himself to expiate our sins. He died so we can be free from eternal death. His resurrection guarantees our own. We are the "seed", "the labor of His soul". Believe this message, and the supreme sacrifice of Jesus will be worth it. He will feel satisfied when He'll see us entering the gates of the New Jerusalem.



“Christ was not insensible to ignominy and disgrace. He felt it all most bitterly. He felt it as much more deeply and acutely than we can feel suffering, as His nature was more exalted and pure and holy than that of the sinful race for whom He suffered. He was the Majesty of heaven, He was equal with the Father, He was the Commander of the hosts of angels, yet He died for man the death that was, above all others, clothed with ignominy and reproach. O that the haughty hearts of men might realize this! O that they might enter into the meaning of redemption and seek to learn the meekness and lowliness of Jesus!”

E.G.W. (That I May Know Him, November 29)