



Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

Isaiah: To Us a Son is Given



He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.



Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.



But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.



We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.



He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.



By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished.



He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.



Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer,

and though you make his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.



After he has suffered,
he will see the light of life and be satisfied;
by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify
many,
and he will bear their iniquities.



Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.



For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.







Who believes what we've heard and seen?
Who would have thought God's saving power would look like this?

The servant grew up before God—a scrawny seedling,

a scrubby plant in a parched field.



There was nothing attractive about him, nothing to cause us to take a second look. He was looked down on and passed over, a man who suffered, who knew pain firsthand. One look at him and people turned away. We looked down on him, thought he was scum.



But the fact is, it was *our* pains he carried our disfigurements, all the things wrong with us. We thought he brought it on himself, that God was punishing him for his own failures. But it was our sins that did that to him, that ripped and tore and crushed him—our sins!



He took the punishment, and that made us whole. Through his bruises we get healed.

We're all like sheep who've wandered off and gotten lost.

We've all done our own thing, gone our own way. And God has piled all our sins, everything we've done wrong, on him, on him.



- ⁹ He was beaten, he was tortured, but he didn't say a word.
- Like a lamb taken to be slaughtered and like a sheep being sheared, he took it all in silence.
- Justice miscarried, and he was led off— and did anyone really know what was happening?



- He died without a thought for his own welfare, beaten bloody for the sins of my people.
- They buried him with the wicked, threw him in a grave with a rich man,
- Even though he'd never hurt a soul or said one word that wasn't true.
- Still, it's what God had in mind all along, to crush him with pain. Isaiah: To Us a Son is Given



The plan was that he give himself as an offering for sin

so that he'd see life come from it—life, life, and more life.

And God's plan will deeply prosper through him.



Out of that terrible travail of soul, he'll see that it's worth it and be glad he did it. Through what he experienced, my righteous one, my servant,

will make many "righteous ones," as he himself carries the burden of their sins.



Therefore I'll reward him extravagantly—
the best of everything, the highest honors—
Because he looked death in the face and didn't flinch,

because he embraced the company of the lowest. He took on his own shoulders the sin of the many, he took up the cause of all the black sheep.

