

INTRO: Previous 4 substitutes (ram, Passover, goat, presentation) were visuals, animals. This evening it's 'mere words' from one chapter of Isaiah. Book by David Limbaugh, 'The Emmaeus Code' premise = "...the things concerning Himself." Cp. John 5:39 "Search...testify of Me." Find Jesus in every O.T. book; we will look for Jesus in every **verse** of chapter 53 of Isaiah; keep your bulletin handy.

v.1 (*read text*)

- A. In Jerusalem, Lazarus raised; Palm Sunday entry' "lifted up"
- B. John 12:37 But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: "Lord, who has believed our report..."
- C. didn't believe words/miracles (arm of the Lord...)

v.2 (*read text*) (2 pictures)

- A. root...dry ground = Israel as a nation had lost its identity, former splendor
- B. no beauty...form...comeliness = ordinary True Man; identified with us
- C. John 1:46 Nathaniel to Philip: Can anything good come out of Nazareth

v.3 (*read text*)

- A. despised = spit upon at Sanhedrin - Matthew 26:67
- B. rejected = Matthew 27:23 - 'crucify Him'
- C. Man of sorrows = Jerusalem (Matt.23:37)
Or, Matthew 26:36 in Gethsemane, My soul is exceedingly sorrowful...
- D. hid our faces = Matthew 26:56 Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled
Or if 'our' is God, then Matthew 27:46 "My God...forsaken Me"
- E. we did not esteem Him = John 1:10 He came unto His own...esteemed Him not

v.4 (*read text*)

- A. borne **our** griefs...**our** sorrows = John 11:35 Lazarus' death
- B. stricken, smitten = Matt.26:67 Sanhedrin, spat, beat...others struck Him with the palms of their hands...who struck You
- C. John 19:2-3 = ...crown...Hail King of the Jews...struck Him with their hands

v.5 (*read text*)

- A. wounded = nails and spear
- B. bruised/stripes = John 19:1 So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him
- C. He/our...He/our...our peace upon Him...His stripes we are healed
- D. substitution; is there a clearer example of vicarious atonement!
- E. Romans 4:25...delivered for our offenses...raised for justification (et alii!)

v.6 (*read text*)

- A. sheep gone astray = this is us: **my** will be done; sinful sheep/holy Shepherd
- B...laid on Him = scapegoat imagery; substitution/vicarious atonement

v.7 (*read text*)

- A...opened not His mouth = before High priest (Matt.26:63)
- B. (Pilate) "answered not a word" ...I have the power... (Matt.27:12-14)
- C. (Herod) ...answered him not one thing (Luke 23:9)

v.8 (*read text*)

- A. prison = overnight custody at Caiaphas palace
- B. judgment = Pilate, Praetorium/judgment hall
- C. for the transgressions of My people **He** was stricken = substitution, again
- D. cut off from the land of the living = He **died**; the Son of God/Mary

9. (*read text*)

- A. the wicked = malefactors on left and right (John 19:18)
- B. the rich = Matt.27:57...a rich man of Aramathea named Joseph
- C. no violence/deceit – Pilate, I find no fault... Luke 23:15

10. (*read text*)

- A. Luke 23:46 Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit
- B. God's offering; no more lambs; no man's works; God did it for us
- C...pleasure of the Lord = My beloved Son; Thy will be done; it is finished

11. (*read text*)

- A. travail = Luke 22:44 Gethsemane, agony; sweat as drops of blood
- B. or Matt.26:39 Oh My Father...cup...nevertheless...
- C. justify many...bear **their** iniquities = substitute, vicarious atonement
- D. excursis on 'many' = **synecdoche** = smaller unit to signify a larger, or vice versa
e.g., give us this day our daily bread; Luther, everything to support body & life

12. (*read text*)

- A. divide spoils = victor; He is risen
- B. poured out His soul = Luke 23:46 (again) Father, into Thy hands...
- C. numbered with transgressors = (again) between malefactors on cross
- D. made intercession = Luke 23:34 Father, forgive them... (and more!)
- E. Romans 8:34 at right hand of Father making intercession for us

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS: When preparing this sermon, I checked a copy of the 1971 edition of The Interpreter's Bible for it's take on Isaiah chapter 53. There was **not one** mention of Jesus as the Righteous Servant mentioned in verse 1i1. There was no mention of Jesus anywhere in Isaiah chapter 53! How can a Christian miss Jesus in this chapter!? Well, we shouldn't be too critical; we may have missed his presence in the Bible or in our life. More than anyone else, we realize our Lord Jesus' sacrifice for us. Thanks for taking our place. Jesus. Amen.