



Grace Erases Judgement—Emmanuel’s Birth

Isaiah 53

*All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all. Isa 53.6*

The Point: God’s plan from the beginning, create, allow freedom to choose and give a choice to reverse the bad decision.

The Question: How can I change the wrong decision?

Judgment and Salvation

O Come, all ye Faithful—tell the story of Jesus.

Isaiah saw the vision and wrote the words.

Birth – a never to be repeated miracle

Life – perfect submission to the Word and will of YHWH

Death – temporary

Oh, go all yea faithful; joyful and triumphant, and tell the story of Jesus.

Legacy – the disciples of disciples over 150 generations

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I never smile when I talk about eternal judgment, but I always smile when the subject is eternal salvation. If there is eternal heaven, it will stand to reason that there is also eternal judgment. God knew this would follow because he gave humanity free will and therefore free choice; all would choose rebellion and willfully sin. The plan was and still is to provide everyone the re-choice of salvation. That is the point of Isiah, the choice, the opportunity of changing your trajectory; fly to the light or keep sinking into the void. Eternal fellowship or separation.

Why Christmas in July? My silly game in the seventh month. Mary was in her fourth month 2021 years ago. Elizabeth gave birth to John a month earlier. Thirty years later, he takes up the yoke of Elijah and utters the words of Isaiah, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare the way of the LORD.” It is five months until Christmas. Oh, come all ye faithful and tell the story of Jesus.

The incarnation, we call that Christmas, but it started with Mary’s faithful acceptance of the miracle of Jesus’ conception in her—a one-time, “new thing.” Two thousand twenty-one years ago, God, alive in a virgin’s womb. Isaiah saw this and told king Ahaz – we read it in Isa 7.14 The plan has life.

John the immerser quotes Isaiah 40.3 and prepares the faithful of Israel to receive the Messiah in Jesus. The prophecy in Isaiah 42.1 fulfilled at Jesus’ immersion at the hands of John. The body of the Savior, the appearance of the Spirit, and the voice of the Father. The plan has power.

All humans are born with a biological body that will die and decay and a soul that, once created, will never die. Jesus lived a life unto death, not just a life but the perfect life of obedience to the will and word of the Father. The one perfect life pays for billions of lost sinners Isa 53.9. Isaiah saw, and we read God’s words in Isa 53.10.—he lives, and we must proclaim. Oh, go all yea faithful; joyful and triumphant, and tell the story of Jesus. Grace trumps judgment in the birth of Emmanuel. Change your course, change your altitude.