

“Man of Sorrows”

“He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not” (Isaiah 53:3).

There are many names that Jesus carries in the Bible. He is called: Immanuel, the Lamb of God, the Alpha and Omega, the King of kings, the Light of the World, the Good Shepherd, the Savior, the Lord of Heaven, the Word, and the list can go on... All these names bring encouragement to our souls as they each point to specific characteristics of who Jesus is... In the backdrop of foretelling Jesus’ future death as our suffering Savior, Isaiah calls Jesus “a *man of sorrows*.” Meaning that Jesus in His perfect humanity would suffer much sorrow, sadness, dejection, and despair...

As we look at a snapshot of Jesus’ ministry this is exactly what took place. The people of Nazareth, His hometown, and even His own family rejected Him (Luke 4:24). The religious establishment of the day didn’t have room for such radical and true theology as Jesus taught. One of His friends betrayed Him for thirty pieces of silver (22:6). In the darkest hour of Jesus’ life, all His friends deserted Him (Mark 14:50). Jesus’ best friend denied that He ever knew who He was (Luke 22:61). The Jewish council slapped Him... Herod mocked Him... Pilate whipped Him... And the horrors of Roman crucifixion became His death sentence. Yet this was the Son of God...

The writer of Hebrews says: “For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering” (Hebrews 2:10). In other words, in a life that is full of suffering. And in a world that is overflowing with sin and depravity. You and I, who have sorrows, and griefs, and times of depression and despair. You and I, who have days of heartache, and times of trouble... Doesn’t it bring you great comfort knowing that Jesus your High Priest has gone before you on this road of suffering? Doesn’t it send a lightning bolt of faith through your soul knowing that the Man of Sorrows is with you and knows exactly how to care for you when you need His gentle and compassionate touch?

One thing the Man of Sorrows teaches us is that: life is hard, life is full of suffering, and life isn’t always fair. For even the Son of God suffered sorrow after sorrow... But if we as His people will cling to Jesus our Savior, by faith our sorrows will soon turn into joy (John 16:20).

*“Man of sorrows what a name
for the Son of God, who came
ruined sinners to reclaim:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!”*

Respect the Blood, Dalton Mathis