

**The Wednesday Word, November 20, 2024: The Gospel According to Isaiah - Part 3**  
Isaiah 53

As stated last time, the blood of Christ cleanses the worst sins we have ever committed. There on the cross the Lord Jesus hung. At that place of execution, He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. At the end of that ghastly ordeal a horrible spear was thrust into His lovely side ... what a gruesome crime. What an evil way to treat the Young Prince of Glory. Speaking of the spear we observed that when it came back out of the Master's side, it was covered in blood.

Blood!

It's as if once more we are reminded that the blood of Christ covers all our sin.

Dear believer, did you know that the worst sin you have ever committed is forgiven. That's why we encourage believers to preach the Gospel to themselves. We should continually tell ourselves of the Finished Work.

Then we read in verse 6, "All we like sheep have gone astray". "What is that talking about? You say, "I know a man who cheats in his business. Is that the person who has gone astray?" Someone else says "I know a man who is immoral and cheats on his wife. Do you mean someone like that has gone astray?" Someone else says, "I know people who are drunkards and gamblers, is that what going astray means?" No! that's not what the verse means. It means ALL of us have gone astray. There are no exceptions. When sheep go astray, they never find themselves. The Shepherd must go and find them. If he doesn't, the sheep will perish. Christ Jesus the great shepherd of the sheep came to seek and to save that which was lost. To rescue and redeem us He was wounded, stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. And the Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

"Brother Miles, can you explain that for us?" How is it that the Almighty came here to take our sins. Sorry, I can't explain it, nor for that matter can the angels. No wonder that the sun hid its face, and the earth rocked and groaned in amazement on that awful day at the cross. May we take a hold of this truth... Our sin has been laid on Jesus.

But Isaiah doesn't leave us there for we see in chapter 53: 10-11 a turning point. Verse 10 points towards the resurrection. Verse 11 points to the satisfaction. Many, many, many will be saved because Christ bore their iniquities. This is not an anaemic gospel that we preach, this gospel actually saves sinners. One of the earliest gospel messages was preached from this passage. It is found in Acts 8 and tells us how the Ethiopian Eunuch, treasurer to Queen Candace of Ethiopia, was reading Isaiah 53 and Philip asked him if he understood what he was reading. He replied "No." The Ethiopian was at reading verse 32 which says He was led as a lamb to the slaughter. So, he tells Philip that he is not sure if Isaiah is writing about himself or some other man. Then Philip preached Christ to him, the man's heart was opened, and that Ethiopian trusted the Lord for his salvation.

May we rejoice as we realize that Christ has been wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. Trust in Jesus and find that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin. Though your sins be as scarlet they will be as white as snow. Trust in Christ Jesus and go your way rejoicing. Precious Believer, He was wounded for your transgressions, He was bruised for your iniquities and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

And that's the Gospel Truth!