

## Praying Isaiah 53

Release Date: July 30, 2018

(This week's readings from Sunday to Saturday: Isaiah 51–57)

### Isaiah 53 (ESV)

- 1 Who has believed what he has heard from us?  
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?
- 2 For he grew up before him like a young plant,  
and like a root out of dry ground;  
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
and no beauty that we should desire him.
- 3 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.
- 4 Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.
- 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed.
- 6 All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned—everyone—to his own way;  
and the Lord has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.
- 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he opened not his mouth.
- 8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away;  
and as for his generation, who considered  
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people?
- 9 And they made his grave with the wicked  
and with a rich man in his death,

although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him;  
he has put him to grief;  
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,  
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;  
the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,  
make many to be accounted righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
because he poured out his soul to death  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

## Adoration

Though the book of Isaiah was written hundreds of years before Jesus's birth, we can see that Jesus is the Suffering Servant that Isaiah prophesied about in Isaiah 53. Let's begin our time of prayer today by adoring God the Father and his Son Jesus, the Suffering Servant. In Isaiah 53 we see a glimpse of God's plan to send Jesus to suffer and die for God's people, as verse 10 declares, "when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring." Praise God for his plan of redemption, sending Jesus to die so that we may be adopted as God's children.

[Pray for 20 seconds.]

As verse 4 says, "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows." Only Jesus could perfectly do this. Praise God that Jesus is able to fully carry our griefs and sorrows.

[Pray for 20 seconds.]

God, we are amazed that it is your will to adopt us as your children through your Son's substitutionary death in our place.<sup>1</sup> You did this because you care for us. You love us. And when we, like stray sheep, were on our path to death, you came and gave us life. We stand in awe of your plan to send your Son to die for the salvation of the world. We stand in awe of you Jesus, that you bore our griefs and carried our sorrows. You know us each by name.<sup>2</sup> You lead us and

---

<sup>1</sup> See Rom 8:14.

<sup>2</sup> See John 10:3.

guide our lives.<sup>3</sup> You are the good shepherd, who laid his life down for us, your wayward sheep. For all of this we praise your name.

## Confession

In verse 6 Isaiah says, “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—everyone—to his own way.” Confess out loud how you have turned to your own way and pursued your own desires.

[Pray for 45 seconds]

Verse 3 says that Jesus “... was despised and rejected by men.” And verse 4 says, “we esteemed him smitten by God and afflicted.” Every sin against God is a rejection of his Son Jesus. Confess to God ways that you have despised and rejected Jesus.

[Pray for 30 seconds]

Consider all that Jesus, the Suffering Servant, has done for the people of God. Though he is worthy of unending worship and praise, we are all guilty of despising and rejecting him, of not giving him the praise that he deserves. In your own words, repent of the ways we fall short in truly honoring and valuing Jesus with our lives.

[Pray for 20 seconds.]

God, we confess that we have all chosen to go our own way instead of following yours. We confess that we have not given you the weight and importance you deserve in our lives. We now repent and turn to follow after you. Lead us in your paths of righteousness so that your name may be great.<sup>4</sup> We draw close to you today knowing that Jesus, the Righteous One, has made us righteous with his blood and that you, God, are fully satisfied with us because you are satisfied with Jesus.

## Thanksgiving

As Isaiah 53 points us to Jesus’s death for our sin, let it fill our hearts with gratitude towards Jesus, for suffering in our place so that we could have a relationship with God. Hear what he did for us in the following verses. And after each verse, say “thank you, Lord” out loud to God.

**Verse 5** “But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace”

---

<sup>3</sup> See John 10:3, Ps 23:3.

<sup>4</sup> See Ps 23:3.

[Breathe.]

**Verse 7** “He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he opened not his mouth”

[Breathe.]

**Verse 8** “that he was cut off out of the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people”

Now, in your own words, express your thankfulness to Jesus for being willing to suffer in your place and die for your sins.

[Pray for 30 seconds]

Because Jesus died for our sins and was “numbered with the transgressors,” he now makes “intercession for the transgressors” (Isaiah 53:12). Tell God how thankful you are that through Jesus’s death he took us from being his enemies to his adopted children.<sup>5</sup>

[Pray 30 seconds.]

Lord Jesus, Thank you for being pierced for our sin and crushed for our iniquities. Thank you for being chastised and punished by God so that we might have peace with him. You willingly went to the cross, quiet and humbly, not even protesting. You were cut off and killed so that our sin might be erased. Thank you for being the offering for our sin.<sup>6</sup> On the cross, you satisfied the wrath of God once and for all. We are grateful and amazed that you did this so that we can become a part of God’s family. So that we can boldly approach Him and trust Him to help us live our lives. This week we build our lives upon your loving sacrifice knowing that it is a firm foundation that cannot be shaken.

## Supplication

In Isaiah 53, verses 11 and 12, we see that by the knowledge of Jesus many shall be made to be counted righteous and that Jesus is making intercession for transgressors. This is more than just a promise of assurance for us, it is a promise of hope for those who do not yet know Jesus. Who do you know who needs to know Jesus and trust in his forgiveness? Lift your voice and pray for them to know and trust the Lord.

[Pray 30 seconds]

---

<sup>5</sup> Rom 8:3, 14.

<sup>6</sup> Rom 8:3.

O God, we praise your name. As we go into our communities, workplaces, and homes this week may our minds be continually on you, who died in our place and for our sin. May we be dependent on your grace and satisfied by the living water of your love. May we point others to your amazing mercy by our actions and words. Let our loved ones, friends, and neighbors see that you suffered and died so that they may be forgiven, too. Let them turn from going their own way, to trusting and following you. Give us the boldness to share with them. Soften their hearts so that your words might be received with great joy and thanksgiving.

## Benediction

You have blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens by sending Jesus Christ to live and die in our place. For you chose us and made us holy and blameless in love through Jesus being crushed for our iniquities and sin. You, Father, chose us to be adopted through Jesus and lavished on us the glorious grace of being in your family.<sup>7</sup> We thank you and pray all this in the name of your son Jesus.

AMEN.

## Credits

*Praying the Bible* is a copyrighted production of The Summit Institute, the equipping ministry of the Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina. If you would like to learn more about The Summit Institute, visit us online at [summitchurch.com/institute](http://summitchurch.com/institute).

Produced by Jonathan Welch and Luke Brown  
Engineered by Luke Brown and Branden Williams  
Written by Griff Crews  
Narrated by Jonathan Welch  
Music by Luke Brown and Nate Sousa

Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

---

<sup>7</sup> Adapted from Eph 1:3–6.