Good Friday

The Gospel in the Old Testament – Isaiah 53

John 12 v 32 – Jesus prophesying about His death on the cross: And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself....

Trust that this message of the cross will draw you to Jesus today.

READ: Isaiah 52 v 13 – 52 v 12

- Prophecy concerning the crucifixion of Jesus.
- Use as backbone to reveal the Gospel of Christ, Message of the Cross

SUFFERING KING

Isaiah 52 v 13:

Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

> Isaiah looks beyond the cross and sees the resurrected, ascended Jesus, exalted and very high.

Isaiah 52 v 14:

As many were astonished at you his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind

People could not believe how Jesus suffered. Beyond recognition as a man.

Isaiah 52 v 15:

so shall he sprinkle many nations.

Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.

When Jesus comes again, all will see that He is the King of kings, and Lord of lords.

WILL YOU BELIEVE?

Isaiah 53 v 1:

Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

Not many will believe. Therefore, the saving power of God was not revealed to many.

John quoted this scripture in **John 12 v 37**: Though he had done so many signs before them, **they still did not believe in him**, ³⁸ so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: (Isaiah 53 v 1)

1 Cor 1 v 18: For the **message of the cross** is **foolishness** to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the **power of God**. ¹⁹ For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate." ²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, **God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.** ²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but **we preach Christ crucified**: a **stumbling block to Jews** and **foolishness to Gentiles**, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God**. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

3 Responses - message of the cross:

- Believe Power of God to save.
- 2. **Opposition** Stumbling block it doesn't fit our believes.
- 3. **Dismiss** foolishness see it as nonsense. Laugh it off.

Jesus on the cross:

Plan of God (wisdom) John 3 v 16: For God so loved the world, that He gave...

Romans 1 v 17: For I am not ashamed of the **gospel**, for it is the **power of God for salvation** to **everyone who believes**, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "**The righteous shall live by faith**."

What is our response today? Will you believe the report? Will you believe this Gospel?

HIS MISSION TO EARTH

Isaiah 53 v 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.

Jesus had humble beginnings on earth (Christmas story)

- Born in manger, parents were peasants, poor, carpenter worked with hands, disciples where fisherman, mixed with the tax collectors, prostitutes and sinners.
- Nothing in appearance to attract people to Him.
- Unlikely Savior:

John 1 v 14: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

The report of John after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus.

JESUS KNOWS GRIEF AND SORROW

Isaiah 53 v 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.

Jesus knew what grief and sorrow was.

Hebrews 4 v 15: For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

THE GOSPEL IS PERSONAL

Isaiah 53 v 4:

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

- When He was on the cross people fought God punished Him for His own sin.
- Only afterward did the remnant know, it was for our sins.

Romans 10 v 13: For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

John 1 v 12: But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: ¹³ who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

SUBSTITUTE FOR US

Isaiah 53 v 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.

Romans 5 v 6 - Christ in our place: You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 Peter 3 v 18: For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God,

- In my place, while I was in sin, because of love.
- Became a substitute for us.

Romans 4 v 25: (Jesus).... who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

1 Peter 2 v 24: "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." ²⁵ For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

ALL HAVE SINNED

Isaiah 53 v 6:

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.

Romans 3 v 23: ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 3 v 19:and all the world may become guilty before God.

Romans 3 v 10: As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. ¹² They have all turned aside;

Wages (Payment) for sin is death (Rom 6 v 23)

2 Corinthians 5 v 21: For He (God) made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

WILLING TO GO TO THE CROSS

Isaiah 53 v 7, 8

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?

Mark 14 v 61 – Jesus on trial: And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?" ⁶¹ But He kept silent and answered nothing.

Unfair trial, many false witnesses.

Matthew 27 v 27: Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. ²⁸ And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. ²⁹ When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put *it* on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head. ³¹ And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His *own* clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.

This passage found in Acts 8 – Ethiopian eunuch traveling from Jerusalem to Gaza. Phillip meets him on the way. reading this scripture. Phillip asks "Do you understand what you are reading?". "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

Acts 8 v 35: Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?

SINLESS SACRIFICE

Isaiah 53 v 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.

 Wicked people wanted to bury Him with criminals but instead – New tomb, Joseph of Arimathea

John 8 v 46: Jesus asks the Pharisees, who knew the law: Which of you convicts Me of sin?

Hebrews 7 v 26: For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens......

THE WILL OF GOD

Isaiah 53 v 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.

Jesus' crucifixion was God's will

Hebrews 10 v 5: ⁵ Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; ⁶ with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. ⁷ Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll— I have come to do your will, my God.'"

⁸ First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹ Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

- Jesus came to do God's will
- Father God's will = That you be saved & be holy

John 3 v 16: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Matthew 26 v 39: He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

REVELATION OF, AND FAITH IN JESUS, SAVES

Isaiah 53 v 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.

Revelation & knowledge of Jesus (as Savior & Lord) saves us.

John 17 v 3: And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

John 14 v 6: Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Acts 4 v 12:, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

JESUS EXALTED BECAUSE OF THE CROSS

Isaiah 53 v 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.

- Because of the Cross, Jesus was exalted and honoured.
- He is seated in Heaven, ruling the universe.
- He received an inheritance: the saints who believe in Him.

Hebrews 12 v 2: ...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Ephesians 2 v 6: (Christ Jesus), ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE CROSS

2 Corinthians 5 v 14: For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

We live for Christ

¹⁶So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if **anyone is in Christ**, the **new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!**

· We live as new creations

1 Peter 2 v 24: "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness;........

We live for Righteousness

Galatians 2 v 20: I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but **Christ lives in me**. The life I now live in the body, **I live by faith in the Son of God**, who loved me and gave himself for me.

We live by Faith in Jesus

Luke 9:23-24: Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

· We follow Him.

AMEN