

What was the purpose of the servant's suffering? Was the servant a victim, or did he willingly suffer for others (53:10-12)?

How will the servant be rewarded (53:11-12)? Is this enough considering all the pain and punishment he took to heal and protect others?

REFLECT

How willing are you to accept discomfort, pain, lack of material things or disapproval from friends in order to benefit others? What prevents or motivates you to do so?

RESPOND

Take some moments to silently reflect on Jesus' as revealed in this prophetic passage. What do you owe Him for all He has suffered for you? What one thing will you do this week to remember His sacrifice and express your love and gratitude to Him?

for further reading:
This sermon series is inspired by John Piper's book, *The Passion of Jesus Christ* (Crossway Books, 2004)



15 REASONS WHY JESUS CHOSE TO DIE.

OUTLOOK
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CALLING US TO FOLLOW



15 REASONS WHY JESUS CHOSE TO DIE.

Life is defined by where we stand with respect to the cross of Christ.

+ TO CREATE A PEOPLE WHO ARE HIS OWN
[We belong to Him.]

Titus 2:13-14

..Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

You are not your own; you were bought at a price.

1 Corinthians 1:18

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.

Dallas Willard
He...carefully selected an image that brilliantly conveys Himself and His message: the cross. The cross presents the lostness of man as well as the sacrifice of God and the abandonment to God that brings redemption. No doubt it is the all-time most powerful image and symbol of human history. Need we say He knew what He was doing in selecting it?



ROB McCORD

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OUTLOOK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

+ THAT WE COULD LIVE FOR HIM AND NOT OURSELVES [We believe in Him.]

2 Corinthians 5:15

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.

Luke 9:23

Then He said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me."

Galatians 2:20

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.

+ TO SET AN EXAMPLE OF SUFFERING AND HUMBLE OBEDIENCE [We become like Him.]

1 Peter 2:20-21

But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps.

Hebrews 12:3

Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Philippians 2:5-8

...being found in appearance as a human being, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

John Piper
In the experience of the believer, first comes the pardon of Christ, then the pattern of Christ...[His] unique suffering, after pardoning and justifying sinners, transforms them into people who act like Jesus... Like Him in suffering to do good to others. Like Him in not returning evil for evil. Like Him in lowliness and meekness. Like Him in patient endurance. Like Him in servanthood. Jesus suffered for us uniquely, that we might suffer with Him in the cause of love.

The Suffering Servant

LIFE GROUP STUDY

RELATE

What makes someone a hero in America today?

If you needed an organ transplant and someone donated theirs to you, what would you owe them, if anything?

What principle, insight, or quote from this sermon was most meaningful to you?

READ

Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12

The Old Testament contains many prophecies that Jews understood to describe the promised Messiah. Isaiah foretold Jesus' suffering for our sins in the 700's B.C.

Read the passage's description of the servant. What kind of person is he? How do you find yourself responding to him?

Write down words or phrases from the passage that could describe Jesus' life and death on the cross. How many similarities do you find? In what ways does this support the claim that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God?

Why do you think that the servant was despised (53:2-6)? What about his experience is most significant to you? Why?