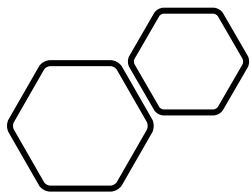


The Incomparable God

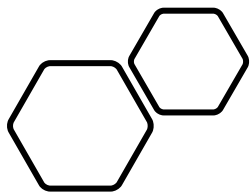
- Isaiah at a Glance:
 - Isaiah 1 – 39 Largely about Judgment of the Nations
 - Isaiah 40 – 66 The Messianic Epic
 - Focus is on God and “My Servant” – series of Messianic songs.
 - Between chapter 39 and 40 more than 100 years have past, not in reality, but in prophetic time.



“Of whom
does the
prophet say
this?”

“Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.

Act 8:33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."



“Of whom
does the
prophet say
this?”

“And the eunuch said to Philip,
“About whom, I ask you, does
the prophet say this, about
himself or about someone else?”

Act 8:35 Then Philip opened his
mouth, and beginning with this
Scripture he told him the good
news about Jesus.”

Astonishing Messiah

- The last 27 chapters are called ***THE MESSIANIC EPIC*** of the Old Testament
- Ch. 40 begins "Voice of one crying in the wilderness" John B.
- Ch. 66 New heavens and new earth (Rev. 21)
 - Same number of chapters in this section as N.T. books (40 - 66) = 27.
 - Same number of chapters as O.T. books (1 - 39) = 39
- There are more quotations in the N.T. from this section (40-66) than any of its size.
- Right in the center of these 27 chapters is this 53rd chapter.

Who is the “Servant” of whom Isaiah Speaks?

Can Israel
be an
innocent
sufferer?

- Is Israel a silent sufferer?
Uncomplaining?
- Is Israel a voluntary sufferer?
- Is Israel a redemptive sufferer?
- Conclusion: It can't be Israel (Isa. 1:4).

Servant Songs

- Isaiah 42:1 – 4 “My Servant”
- Isaiah 49:5 – 7 “a light of the nations”
- Isaiah 50:4- 9 “Me” “My back”
- Isaiah 52:13 – 15 “Astonished” at God’s servant
- Isaiah 53 The “Suffering” Servant

Humble Origins on Earth

- Isaiah 11:1 – 5 “A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD— 3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; 4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.”

Isaiah 53

- Astonishing Origins (v. 2)
 - Astonishing Appearance (v. 2)
 - Astonishing Reception (v. 3)
 - Astonishing Suffering (v. 4 – 6)
- Gal. 3:13 “Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”),” (Gal. 3:13; cf. Deut. 21:22 – 23)

Lessons Learned at the Cross



Lessons Learned at the Cross - Sin always Costs

- **Heb. 10:26** - "If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, 27 but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. 28 Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." (NIV)

Lessons Learned at the Cross: God Loves Us

- **(1 Peter 2:21 - 25)** "To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 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."

Lessons Learned at the Cross



- Christ Love Compels Us
- “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.”

Lessons Learned at the Cross: Obedience includes Suffering



- Christ' Obedience to His Father
- "In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.
- Heb 5:8 Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.
- Heb 5:9 And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

Our Resolve as we look upon the “Servant”:

- . How shall people who know what sin cost ever want to have anything to do with sin again?
- . How can we not hate and despise it with all that is in us, because we know what it cost the One who loves us so much?
- . Never again will we live that way - Our firm resolve.
- . The least commandment will, to us, be absolutely essential.

Jesus was Preached

- Result: “What is keeping me from being baptized?”
- We must see Jesus before asking: “What must I do?”
- Faithful people preached what Jesus said:
 - “He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. He that does not believe shall be condemned.” (Mark 16:16)
 - Believing faith is obedient faith.
 - The Ethiopian believed.
- Philip baptized the Eunuch.
- Do you believe?

