

Last week we looked at the relationship that the Servant of God, the Messiah, the Savior, had with His Heavenly Father, His People Israel, and the Gentiles.

The Gentiles are those who had formerly been without light. This is what Isaiah says about the Gentiles in Isaiah 9:2-3: “The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them. Thou shalt multiply the nation, Thou shalt increase their gladness; they will be glad in Thy presence as with the gladness of harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.” Oh, how God has increased the spiritual nation of Abraham’s descendants now that He has made salvation available to the Gentiles through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Sadly, we, in this age have not fully passed on an understanding of God and His ways to the next generation.

Many of the Israelites were among those who had formerly been without light, also. They, too, were a people who walked in darkness even though they had been given the light of Jehovah God. The Levites did not live up to their calling to teach the people the Word of God and thus the people did not have anything to pass on to their sons and daughters, the next generation. Sadly, this was the downfall of the nation of Israel. They did not know how to obey God. And they did not know God. But, God has not forgotten the Jews. He is, even now, bringing them back into their land and preparing their soil for eventual surrender to Him as their Messiah.

This week, we will be covering many of the Messianic prophecies, especially those, that are written in the 53rd chapter of Isaiah. We will look at eye -witness accounts in the New Testament that show fulfillment of these Old Testament prophecies. Amazingly, there is so much here, that I’m not sure that we can even get a hold on all of it. However, I do want to begin this week’s study chronologically. So, we will look first into the prophecies given to Daniel by the angel Gabriel in chapter 9.

Day 1 - The Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the Betrayal of Jesus – Daniel 9, Matthew 24-25, Isaiah 52:13-53:4

This is what Gabriel said to Daniel in Daniel 9:24-26: “Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place. So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.”

We have been over this passage before in this study in Isaiah Part 3, Lesson 1. What does this passage of Scripture have to do with Isaiah 53:8? There is a key word that is present in both references and it is the word, “cut-off.” Familiarize yourself with both references.

If the “weeks” in Daniel 9:24-26 represent years, then our calculation for the number of days between the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince is seven sevens or 49 years and sixty-two sevens or 434 years for a total of 69 weeks or 483 years. If we assume that each year is equal to the Jewish common year of 360 days, then 483 years X 360 days per year is equal to 173,880 days. Now, some have gone back into history and accounted for all the weird things that have been done with ancient calendars and have figured that the 173,880th day from the decree to rebuild Jerusalem is the very day that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and the people proclaimed Him to be their King. We commonly call this Palm Sunday named after the palm branches that were waved and laid on the ground by the Jews in their tribute to Jesus as their King. Now, the prophecy in Daniel 9 says that after this (7) + 62 weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing.ⁱ

What does the word, “cut-off,” mean?

Please read and compare/contrast Zechariah 9:9, Isaiah 62:11, and John 12:12-14 for the Triumphal Entry of Jesus as King into Jerusalem.

During the week after Jesus’ Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem as King and before His going to the cross and dying for the sins of the people, Jesus taught in the Temple. Read some of these teachings to some of His disciples in Matthew 24 and 25 where His disciples ask Him hard questions like: what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?

Please work on your double-spaced worksheets for Isaiah 52:13 through 53:4.

What would God’s Servant look like according to the description of Him in this passage?

When would He look like this?

Day 2 - The Passover Meal and the Betrayal of the Messiah – Matthew 26, Exodus 11, 12, Isaiah 53

Jesus says to His disciples at the beginning of Matthew 26, “You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”

Today, I would like you to read all of Exodus chapter 11 and Exodus chapter 12:1-30.

Jesus wanted to celebrate the Passover with His Disciples. Please read Matthew 26:17-30.

Contrast/compare the Passover in Exodus 11-12:30 with what you know of Jesus, Our Passover, in Matthew 26:17-30. Please also read Genesis 3:15, Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Ezekiel 36:24-30.

Please work on your double-spaced worksheet for Isaiah 53:5-12. Mark all references to the Servant as separated out from references to sheep. Also mark all words with reference to iniquity(ies), transgressions, transgressors, and sin as the same marking.

According to Matthew 26, who would and did betray Jesus? Please also read Psalm 41:9 and Mark 14:10-11. Contrast/compare these Old and New Testament passages.

How much money was Judas Iscariot promised for selling Jesus out to the authorities? Read Zechariah 11:12-13 and Matthew 26:15 and 27:3-10. Compare/ contrast these Old and New Testament passages.

What did Judas Iscariot do with the money he received from the priests for betraying Jesus? Read Zechariah 11:13 and Matthew 27:6-7. Again, compare/ contrast these two passages.

What happened to Judas’ office among the twelve disciples after he committed suicide for having betrayed the Son of God? Read Psalm 109:7-8 and Acts 1:16-20. Please compare/ contrast these two passages of Scripture.

Day 3 - The Night Before the Crucifixion- Matthew 26-27, Luke 22-23, Isaiah 53, Psalm 38

Jesus and the Disciples left the place of “The Last Supper” and traveled to the Garden of Gethsemane. See Matthew 26:36-46 and Luke 22:39-46. Write down a sequence of events from the time that Jesus and the Disciples left the place where they celebrated the Passover meal to when Judas and the guards showed up at the Garden to take Him to the authorities.

Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss. Read on in the Matthew and Luke referenced passages above.

The party is moved from the Garden of Gethsemane to the palace of the high priest, Caiaphas. See Matthew 26:57-68. What goes on here? Are the accusations made of Christ true or false witness?

Did Jesus say anything when He was accused? See the cross-references in Isaiah 53:7 and Psalm 38:13-14.

How did Jesus respond when He was spat on? See Isaiah 50:6 and Mark 14:65.

Jesus was lead next to Pilate’s House. See Luke 23:1-5.

Again, was He accused falsely?

What did Jesus say when He was asked by Pilate if He was the King of the Jews?

Cross-reference the Luke passage above with Psalms 27:12, Psalm 35:11-12, Isaiah 50:6-8, and Isaiah 53:7-9.

From Pilate’s house, He was lead to Herod. See Luke 23:7-11.

Who was Herod? And where did his family come from? Why was he particularly odious to the Jewish people? You will have to use your knowledge of history that we have gone over in class to answer these questions. There are some references to these questions in the work of the historian Josephus if you would like to research into his writing.

From Herod, He was lead back to Pilate's judgment hall, for an appearing before Pilate a second time. Please read Luke 23:11ff. and Matthew 27:26ff. What did Jesus receive here?

From Pilate's judgment hall, Christ was led to Golgotha or Calvary and the crucifixion of the Son of God took place. See Luke 23:33ff. Prior to the cross Jesus received lashings. See Isaiah 53:5, Matthew 27:26.

Days 4 - 5 - The Crucifixion – Luke 23, John 19, Matthew 27, Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

Begin reading today with Luke 23:24 and continue through to verse 56. Also read John 19:2-42 and Matthew 27:22-61.

Now, that you have read these passages about the crucifixion of Jesus, you need to revisit Isaiah 52:13 through to the end of Isaiah 53. I would like you to cross-reference the verses in this passage with what you glean from the actual eyewitness accounts found in the gospel views written above. This may take you some time or you can cheat a little and find most of the cross-references in the margins of your Bible. However, either way, please don't miss the tying of the Old and the New Testaments together. Please write the cross-references to the New Testament verses in the margin of the double-spaced worksheet for Isaiah 52:13 - Isaiah 53:12. Next to each of the verses that you cross reference, I would like you to write your special marking for Messianic prophecy. My marking is a royal blue capital M with a circle around it. The Messianic prophecy marking being in the margin before the verse, alerts me to the presence of Messianic prophecies in specified verses throughout Scripture. This is so that I can quickly access them.

Before you end your lesson this week, I would like you to just read through three more passages of Scripture: Leviticus 16, Psalm 22, and Hebrews 8,9, and 10.

Next week, we will go more in depth into these passages. We will dig into the resurrection passages found both in the Old and New Testament accounts.

Now that you have completed Isaiah 53, please write the theme of this chapter on the corresponding double-spaced worksheet of Isaiah 53 and on the Isaiah-Theme-Summary chart in the appendix.

ⁱ Sir Robert Anderson, *The Coming Prince*, Grand Rapids, MI, Kregel Classics, 1957, pp. 67-76.

THE SERVANT, THE MESSIAH - ISAIAH 52:13 - 53:12

The Suffering Servant				The Satisfied Savior
Isaiah 52:13-15	Isaiah 53:1-3	Isaiah 53:4-6	Isaiah 53:7-9	Isaiah 53:10-12
<p>God's Servant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -will prosper -will be high & lifted up -will be greatly exalted -His appearance will be marred more than any man's -His form will be marred more than any of the sons of man -His blood will sprinkle many nations -He will shut the mouth of kings - for what they had not been told they will see & what they had not heard they will understand 	<p>God's Servant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -had no stately form or majesty that we should look upon Him -had no appearance that we should be attracted to Him -was despised and forsaken of men -men will hide their face from Him -was despised and we did not esteem Him -grew up before God as a tender shoot, like a root out of parched ground -was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief 	<p>God's Servant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -bore our griefs -carried our sorrows -was pierced through for our transgressions -was crushed for our iniquities -was chastened for our well-being -was scourged for our healing -God has caused all our iniquity to fall on Him -we esteemed Him stricken, smitten & afflicted by God 	<p>God's Servant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -was oppressed & afflicted -was led like a lamb to the slaughter -by oppression & judgment was taken away -was cut off out of the land of the living for His people's sins (was the one man who was to die for the nation of Israel for their sins) -did not open His mouth -was like a sheep that is silent before its shearers -did not open His mouth -did no violence -there was no deceit in His mouth -was assigned a death with wicked men, and a tomb of a rich man 	<p>God's Servant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -by His knowledge, the Righteous One, God's Servant, was to justify the many & bear their iniquities -was to be poured out to death, numbered with the transgressors in order to bear the sins of many and intercede for the transgressors -rendered Himself as the guilt offering -pleased God to crush Him & put Him to grief -will see His offspring -will prolong His days -His hand will prosper in the LORD's good pleasure -will have anguish of soul resulting in His seeing "it" (His offspring?) and being satisfied -will have a portion with the great, will divide the booty with the strong