

Loving What God Did for Us

Knowing and Loving God - Session Eleven - page 1

What Old Testament book gives the most prophecies of the coming Christ?
Why is blood so important for salvation?

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In the book of Isaiah there are many prophecies concerning the coming Christ and of His true identity. God revealed what He will do to bring salvation to the world. As we have a greater understanding of what God did for us, we will have a greater appreciation of Him and of this beautiful plan of salvation that is for us today. The Christ is God with us. In Isaiah we see the two natures of the coming Christ; His deity and His humanity.

(Isaiah 7:14) Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

(Isaiah 9:6) For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

When we read a verse concerning Christ, we need to ask the question, is this speaking about His deity or humanity? This will help us to better understand the verse that we are reading.

We understand that God's plan of salvation always includes the shedding of innocent blood to cover the sins of mankind; (Leviticus 17:11) For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul.

In the Old Testament days God had people sacrifice an animal for the covering of their sins. In the New Testament we see that God was incarnated in flesh and became our sacrifice. God is our savior. (Isaiah 52:10) The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. God revealed His power before all nations, so they will see what He has done to bring salvation; (1 Corinthians 1:18) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

In Isaiah 53, we see that Christ will come, suffer, and die. He will do this so that we will be able to obtain healing and salvation through the shedding of His blood. Let us take a close look at Isaiah 53.

Isaiah 53:1

(Isaiah 53:1) Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? The question here is, who has God's power been extended to? The answer is - those that believe are those that receive God's power; (Romans 1:16) For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Isaiah 53:2-3

(Isaiah 53:2-3) For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, *there is* no beauty that we should desire him. (3) He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

The Almighty is now in the form of a man. This form is like a tender plant compared to His divine form. And when it states that He is like a root out of dry ground nothing

beautiful for us to see means that Christ was born into a humble family, not into a wealthy family. Because of this He was despised and rejected.

Isaiah 53:4-6

(Isaiah 53:4-6) Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. (5) But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. (6) All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He suffered for us, to bring healing and salvation from our sins.

(Matthew 8:17) That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.

(1 Peter 2:24) Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Isaiah 53:7-8

(Isaiah 53:7-8) He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. (8) He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

He was falsely accused, beaten and then crucified. And He never spoke against those that did this great injustice. (Matthew 26:62-63) And the high priest arose, and said unto him, Answerest thou nothing? what *is it which* these witness against thee? (63) But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.

Who will preach this message of Christ? The answer is - the church; (Acts 2:36) Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

Isaiah 53:9

(Isaiah 53:9) And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither *was any* deceit in his mouth.

A wealthy man named Joseph place Jesus' body in his grave; (Matthew 27:60) And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

Isaiah 53:10-12

(Isaiah 53:10-12) Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. (11) He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. (12) Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Loving What God Did for Us

Knowing and Loving God - Session Eleven - page 3

It was the will of God that the Christ suffer and die for an offering of sin.

(Matthew 26:39) And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

(Leviticus 17:11) For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul.

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