

**Christmas Songs: The Suffering Servant**  
**Isaiah 52:13-53:12**  
**December 15, 2024**

Losing faith and finding God.

The predictive prophecy of God's Word is powerful.

**The Suffering Servant: His Surprising Victory, v. 13-15**

Behold! My Servant.

He will accomplish all My purpose!!

Many will be astonished at His eventual glory. v. 14

This mutilated appearance is an odd presentation of glory.

He shall sprinkle many nations. v. 15

Many nations will receive the benefits of His sacrifice.

**The Suffering Servant: His Misunderstood Humiliation, v. 1-3**

Who is speaking here?

To Whom has the arm of the Lord revealed.

This is God's greatest work.

If you judge by a this-worldly standard, you will miss it entirely.

**The Suffering Servant: His Substitutionary Sufferings, v. 4-6**

With His wounds we are healed.

This is the center of the chiasm\*, the most important section.

What is the substitutionary atonement?

**The Suffering Servant: His Just Condemnation, v. 7-9**

He endured this injustice, silently.

He endured justice, willingly.

**The Suffering Servant: His Glorious Exaltation v. 10-12**

It was the Lord's will to crush Him.

Jesus will see the fruit of His labors *and rejoice*.

The Suffering Servant has succeeded. He is making many righteous.

**Meditation**

**Three Deep Longings Satisfied in Isaiah 53**

Three benefits that the Servant, Jesus, achieved for us on the cross: He justifies us; He makes us offspring; and He shares the spoils of victory.

These three gifts of grace correspond to three tremendously deep longings that we have. We long for some way to get rid of guilt and a bad conscience for all that we have done wrong. We long to be loved and accepted as part of a significant group or a family. We long to be resourceful people with things at our disposal so we can act and fulfill our best intentions.

The Servant satisfies each of these longings at the cost of His own life: He justifies the ungodly; He makes us part of the offspring of God; and He shares with us the spoils of universal triumph. And when He does that, we see God: the good pleasure of the Lord is prospering in His hand. He sees it and is satisfied.

I urge you to trust Him this morning. You cannot justify yourself. You cannot make yourself a child of God. You cannot win the spoils of battle. You can only receive them as a gift and trust the work of Christ. Put your trust in Him, and all that is His will be yours.

John Piper

\*Chiasm: a series of words or ideas followed by a second presentation of similar words or ideas, but in reverse order. (An inverted parallelism; an "X", so to speak.)