

Isaiah 53:1-6 – Your Savior Suffered for You to Give You Life

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: Do your parents ever remind you how much they suffered for you? How long labor and delivery were? How many times you were sick and they stayed up all night with you? How hard they worked for you to get that cell phone you left on a Tim Horton's table? How much time it took to prepare that plate of food you left to spoil? They wanted to give you **life**, they wanted to give **health**, and they wanted to give you **convenience**. But **everything they gave you came from God and with God's help** and **it was their duty to do many of those things** - though not the cell phone. **They gave from what they received and what was expected!** Not so with the gift you received from Jesus. When Jesus was rejected and suffered for you all the way to death, **he had no duty to do so** (you were his enemy) and **his gift was his own life!** This is what you will hear about today.

Our headings are:

Rejection of Christ who came to die to give you life

Affliction of Christ who came to die to give you life

Our goals are: That you will fully **comprehend the nature of and reason for Christ's rejection and affliction**, and these things will cause you to love and serve him better and announce his goodness to the world.

Rejection of Christ who came to die to give you life

1 Who has **believed our report?** And to whom has the **arm of the LORD been revealed** (and they will not believe)?

1. Isaiah wrote the Jews would reject a report.

Who gave that report? Christ would bring that report before he died.

What is the content of that report? Jesus would report the **Good News of God** that showed the **goodness of God**, the **sinfulness of man**, and **his redeeming work**.

The Jewish rejection of the Gospel absolutely came true and is confirmed in the New Testament.

John 1:11 He came to His own, and **His own did not receive Him**.

Luke 13:34 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, **but you were not willing!**

2. The Jews rejected the arm of the Lord he would show to them.

What arm? The **arm of the Lord is a symbol of his almighty power**; the arm of the Lord is a **symbol of his great mercy**.

You saw this in all the miraculous works Jesus did.

The Jews not only rejected the words of Christ, but they rejected his works also.

They even accused Jesus of casting out demons by Beelzebul. Matthew 12:24.

2 For He shall grow up before **Him as a tender plant**, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, **There is no beauty that we should desire Him.**

3. The Jews rejected Jesus' word and work because he did not fit their expectation.

Jesus would be a tender plant – simple, quiet, and calm.

a. Jesus was not like an earthly king like the cedar (trees) of Lebanon, who would fight the Romans and reestablish David's kingdom. He was a tender plant. **Weak looking**. A weakling! Probably short. (History: Short, dark, plain.) He was **not the tall and handsome King Saul...or like the majestic Solomon**. He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, not a young steed! But because of his resurrection from the dead, **his disciples asked him if he was about to set up the kingdom on earth!** (Acts 1)

b. Jesus was not born in the "right place," but in poor Bethlehem and raised in pathetic Nazareth. The Jews were looking for someone famous from Jerusalem.

John 1:46 And Nathaniel said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"...

c. Jesus was not educated by the right people, like those in the big city of Jerusalem, but in Nazareth.

d. Jesus did not associate with the "right people" but with "sinners" like tax collectors and fishermen.

Matthew 9:11 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

e. Jesus' condition was sorrowful. He moved around and lived on alms. The Roman record says he never laughed, only cried.

f. The Jews did not want to hear of the inclusion of Gentiles into God's kingdom. Jews would

especially not believe the Gentiles would be included in God's kingdom. Rom 10.

None of these reasons was a ground for hating and rejecting Jesus, but they did!

John 15:25 "But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, **'They hated Me without a cause.'**

3a He is despised and rejected by men,

4. Practically, how did the Jews show their rejection of Jesus?

a. The Jews literally hid their faces from him-a most personal insult. (Turning your face from someone!)

b. His friend sold him - for thirty pieces of silver.

c. His family thought he was crazy – having some kind of psychiatric breakdown – because of his words.

d. His friend betrayed him – the infamous Judas. This was very personal.

e. Other friends, led by Peter, denied ever knowing Jesus.

f. His other friends abandoned him – running away when he was arrested.

g. His enemies mocked him – as a false king, as a pretender...as a weak helpless man.

1Peter 2:23 [Jesus], when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten...

5. But hear Christ's warning to those who rejected him!

John 12:48 "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

6. Lessons:

a. Do you see what the Lord endured for you? He had to endure these things for God to accept and adopt you as his child. He was rejected and afflicted because you should be rejected and afflicted.

b. Remind yourself of Christ's love for you. If you do, you will be faithful and not reject him when pressured by the Devil and his people? **And you surely won't get tired hearing this story...**

c. Tell others of his love. If you value it, you will tell others. Who hides a beautiful **engagement ring?**

Affliction of Christ who came to die to give you life

3b A Man of sorrows and **acquainted with grief**. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, **and we did not esteem** Him. 4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet **we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.**

1. Jesus' soul was tortured by great sorrows for you.

a. Grief was his friend...like we say: "He is my friend."

The intensity of his suffering was so great that his sweat became drops of blood.

b. Worse, Jesus was carrying the sins of people who thought they were good but they thought Jesus wasn't good. They thought *Jesus* was the guilty one!

c. Some Jews thought the crucifixion was God's punishment on Jesus for his wrongs, and he had to be crucified because he was the worst type of sinner. **You know a little of this frustration when people think you did something wrong, but you didn't, and then you can't change their mind.** Living with that knowledge is not easy.

5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was **bruised for our iniquities**; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His **stripes we are healed**.

2. His body was tortured for you.

a. Wounded is used to describe labor pains a woman has before giving birth! It is a torturous pain "evolution" can't remove!

b. Bruised is used to describe the Roman punishment of more than 39 lashes. In spite of the bad treatment, Jesus willingly allowed himself to be wounded and bruised for man's sins, fulfilling Genesis.

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall crush your head, **And you shall crush His heel."**

Man's "thorns and thistles" were placed on him.

3. This affliction of mental and physical suffering resulted in your forgiveness (spiritual healing).

(This passage is often misused by those who argue for miraculous physical healing, **but this is referring to spiritual healing.**)

1 Peter 2:24 who Himself **bore our sins in His own body on the tree**, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — **by whose stripes you were healed.**

This is called a "vicarious" suffering; Jesus suffered vicariously for you. This is just as a mother would suffer for her children, a soldier would suffer for his general, or a father would suffer for the sins of his son.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

4. Because of this spiritual healing, the lost sheep, the wondering Jews and Gentiles, are brought back on the right path.

The judgment of the wicked Jews and Gentiles was put on the Lamb of God.

5. Lessons:

a. Christ endured what you should have endured for your sins— God's most intense affliction. Nothing but the death of Jesus would have taken away your sins. Though someone might die for you, none is able to take the intensity of God's judgment, none is able to be pure enough to die for you, and none is able to rise from the dead for you.

b. Don't minimize Christ sacrifice by limiting it to healing of the body. Ultimately you will get a perfect body, but Christ died for the healing of your soul. If Christ died for the healing of this body, you would have a hard time explaining how people die after getting sick. Surely Christ did not die in vain.

c. Maybe you are thankful for all your parents did for you. And maybe you want to tell others about it. That is wonderful. But could you ever get tired of telling others about the one who died to save you from eternity in hell...the one who didn't have to do it...the one whom you hated?

Conclusion:

The Jews rejected Jesus because they hated his words – words that showed them **God's holiness, man's sinfulness, and man's need for Jesus to die for him.** The Jews rejected Jesus because **he welcomed Gentiles.** The Jews rejected Jesus because **he corrected their false teaching.** They rejected Jesus because **he associated with wicked needy men.** They rejected Jesus because **he was from a poor social, political, and educational background.** Jesus **did not look like the real leader** they were expecting. The Jews rejected Jesus though **he wanted to gather them to himself** and be their God. **The Jews then murdered him on that painful and shameful cross.** They spat on him and speared him in the side. **But in sacrificing an innocent man, they made his life an offering to God...** to free those who were trapped under the curse of sin and death. Hallelujah.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. You probably didn't hear anything new in this sermon today, but that's alright. Can you ever get tired of hearing his story? I hope not. This is your story. This is the story of the Lord's great love for you.

2. Do you praise him for what he has done for you? (He did much more for you than your mother every did or could do!) If you regularly remind yourself what Jesus did for you it is easier to praise him!

3. Do you tell this story to your children so they too can experience God's great love? Do **you tell this story to others?** This is the greatest story ever told. When you tell this story, it can **become their story as well...** And this is the only story you can say with confidence: **And they lived happily ever after!**

Finally, if you are not a Christian, let me remind you what Lord says, “Come and receive all he has purchased for you...come and get eternal life.” Will you come to God for eternal life today? If you come to him, he will never turn you away, but will count Christ’s suffering as yours!

John 20:1-6, 11-18- Mary Magdalene and Jesus!

TSK, GreekLexicon, Calvin, Henry, Gill, Poole, Barnes, Clarke, Vincent, Robertson, Trapp, Alexander, Geneva, Brink, Lightfoot, Handfuls, INT Beloved in the Lord: **Jesus' disciples had no expectation of his resurrection and made no plans for it.** They were so certain Jesus would still be dead that some women went to take care of his dead body on the Sunday after his crucifixion to complete the preservation process.

But God showed them! God showed them Jesus was raised from the dead for them! This is what you will hear about today.

Our headings are:

Mary Magdalene saw Jesus was raised from the dead

Mary Magdalene heard Jesus was raised from the dead

Mary Magdalene meets Jesus who was raised from the dead

Our goals are: That you will believe and **rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus,** knowing he was raised from the dead for you, and you will work to **spread the message of his resurrection** so the world can be saved.

Mary Magdalene saw Jesus was raised from the dead

1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

1. Early in the morning, about sunrise, Mary Magdalene (and others) went to Jesus' tomb and realized the stone that sealed Jesus' tomb was rolled away.

Mary and the women had courage, though their knowledge was lacking. Jesus had prophesied he would rise on the 3rd day.

They forgot Christ would be the "Deer of the Morning" (Psalm 22), the Bright and Morning Star (Rev. 22:16), and the "Sun of Righteousness with healing in his wings." (Malachi 4) So they brought spices that would preserve his dead body and make the area smell better. They forgot his message that Jesus was **living before Abram...** and he **was the Son of God** – and **he and the Father were one...** and **he was the resurrection and the source of all life...** and **death could not hold him.**

Matthew 17:22-23...Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up..."

2 Then **she ran and came to Simon Peter,** and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and **we do not know where they have laid Him.**"

2. Mary Magdalene then went to Apostles Peter and John, declaring she did not know where they had taken Jesus' body.

She assumed someone had stolen it. She did not know Pilate had sealed the tomb and put guards there, so it was impossible for someone to steal his body away. (**The other women went to the disciples much later.**)

3 Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. 4 So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. 5 And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the **linen cloths lying** there; yet he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there,

3. So Apostle Peter and Apostle John ran to the tomb, but Apostle John, being much younger, got there first, looked in the tomb, but did not see the Lord's body there.

Then Apostle Peter arrived and went in after Joh did. All they saw were linen cloths and the straps from his head neatly folded. The folded cloth (V7) showed this was not theft. No one had stolen the Lord's body. **No one tidies up after stealing.** **The Lord was raised from the dead!** For Mary Magdalene, seeing the empty tomb was not enough.

4. Lessons:

a. Devotion to the Lord is seen in service, not just talk!

b. If Jesus were not crucified on Friday, Mary Magdalene and the women would have come the following day to put spices on the body and would not have witnessed the resurrection! What wonderful providence of God! They were able to witness the most important event in human history!

c. Jesus had told his disciples multiple times he would be raised from the dead. (A timely recollection of God's Word is always helpful for a Christian.) But because they did not believe, they lost the blessings and stayed in a state of disappointment. Do you get the message? You too will be left disappointed if you move away from God's truth and hold your own ideas!

d. Jesus was raised from the dead for you. He laid down his life and he took it up again. He did it for you!

Mary Magdalene heard Jesus was raised from the dead

11 But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb.

1. In tears, believing others had stolen the body of the Lord Jesus, Mary Magdalene curiously stooped down and looked in the tomb...which was a new one...so no one else would have wanted to go there.

She had not done this before (the other women did)...as she had quickly run to tell the Apostles Jesus was missing.

12 And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

2. Mary Magdalene then saw two angels (one spoke), ready to report on why the body of Jesus was missing.

They also gave this report to the other women.

3. Based on the other accounts, the angels assured Mary the Lord was risen.

She had no reason to fear. No one had stolen Jesus' body. No animal had eaten the body. Jesus was alive. She would see him herself. Christ had to be crucified: a very shameful, and painful death...just as he spoke. Christ had to descend into the grave. Christ would rise again!

4. The angels told her to go with joy and tell the world Christ was raised so the spiritually dead can be raised!

5. Lessons:

a. The details of Christ's resurrection teach the truthfulness of Jesus' words he had spoken before he died. Details illustrate truth. That's how cops know if you are speaking the truth. This is what preaching is. **It is a reminder of the details of what Christ has done for you so you could trust him more.**

b. You, like Mary, must speak of the resurrection. The Gospel is nothing without the resurrection. Because he lives, you live and others can live!

1Corinthians 15:13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14 And **if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty** and your faith is also empty.

c. Don't rely on a crucifix or a bumper sticker to speak of Christ. Use your words. It is the most wonderful story in the world.

d. One of the benefits of preaching is to remind you of the words of Christ. So listen. Make notes. Talk about the sermon.

Mary Magdalene meets Jesus who was raised from the dead

14 Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus.

1. Coming out of the tomb, Mary saw Jesus but did not recognize him.

We don't know why. Maybe the coming out from the dark tomb to bright light, maybe he wasn't facing her, maybe she was weeping, maybe he was dressed differently, or maybe his nature was somewhat different.

15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, **why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?**" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

2. Jesus then asked Mary Magdalene why she was weeping and for whom she was looking.

3. Assuming Jesus was just the gardener, she supposed he had taken the Lord's body away and she offered to take his body back.

16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher).

4. Then Jesus spoke in a certain way Mary Magdalene clearly recognized his voice.

She responded in a way showing she knew who he was. She called him "teacher." She knew the voice of her teacher.

17 Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'"

5. She then tried to cling to Jesus, but he forbade her from doing that.

There are all kinds of weird speculation as to what this meant. We know Jesus wasn't afraid of being touched after the resurrection. Jesus offered Thomas to touch his side. He ate. So Jesus wasn't a phantom! More, Jesus allowed multiple people to touch his feet.

Matthew 28:9 And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him.

The answer is simple: Mary had work to do. ***So Jesus was saying, "Don't stay with me. Don't worship now. There will be time to worship. (She was saved from much, so she loved more.) Now is the time to speak of the resurrection."*** She had seen the empty tomb, she had heard the voice of the angels, now she had met Jesus for herself. It was time to announce the resurrection so men and women could be saved.

18 Mary Magdalene came and **told the disciples that she had seen the Lord**, and that He had spoken these things to her.

6. Mary then did as she was told for the glory of the Savior and the good of the disciples (Mark confirmed it).

7. Lessons:

a. No one could stop God's redemption plan. God declared it in Eden, fulfilled it at the cross, in the grave, and on Resurrection Sunday. Jesus is alive. Because he lives you can live. Worried about your spouse dying from cancer? Worried about your children dying in an accident? Worried that you can die in a plane crash? Don't. You have a resurrection! You have eternal life. So live victoriously!

b. Believe in the resurrection. If you don't believe in the resurrection, you are pitiable and you will have to answer to the one who lived and died for you as to why you rejected it._

c. Be eager to jump out of bed every Sunday to come and meet with Jesus and sing of his resurrection!

d. Tell of the resurrection. The world needs to hear it so it can have hope.

Conclusion:

The resurrection **proved** everything Jesus said. The resurrection **guaranteed** that everyone who believes in Christ would be raised from the dead also. Mary Magdalene saw it, heard of it, and experienced it! So she had to tell!

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. You've heard of the resurrection of Jesus! Rejoice. He rose from the dead for you. He rose so you don't have to die. He took death captive when he rose! Revelation 1:18 "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore...John 14:19 ... Because I live, you will live also.

2. With new life, keep fighting the Devil, the world and your flesh. Live with confidence. You cannot eternally die from Covid-19. And even if you physically die, you will be raised up too! So laugh at Covid, with all its power, as its sting has been pulled! Laugh at cancer. Laugh at old age. Laugh at loneliness. They can't take away your life! **Death, Adam's gift to you, has been defeated!**

Finally: If you don't believe in the resurrection but claim to be a Christian, you are pitiable! The resurrection saves you from hell. Jesus is alive, though he died as punishment for the sins of the world. If you want him to take away your sins and give you new life, ask and you will receive. He will do a work in your heart that will amaze you.