

Isaiah 53

Background: Isaiah was a prophet who lived about 700 years before Jesus was born. Isaiah 53 contains prophecies about the Christ's death.



Prophecy is God's message to people. It is fulfilled when the prophesied event happens.

Read Isaiah 53

What does v7 tell us about the response the Christ would make when tormented?

Read Matthew 27 v 11-14

How does Jesus respond to Pontius' Pilate's questions?

Read Isaiah 53 v 3

What are we told about the coming Christ?

Read Matthew 27 v 26-31

What happens to Jesus?

Read Isaiah 53 v 8

What response to Christ's arrest and death did the prophecy announce?

Read Matthew 27 v 15-23

How did the Priests and the crowd respond?

Read Isaiah 53 v 6

What does the prophecy tell us about the reason for Christ's death? (iniquity = sin)

Read Matthew 23 v 39-44

Why didn't Jesus save Himself? (look at the last sentence of Isaiah 53 v 6)

Why do you think God gave prophecies of events surrounding Christ's death, hundreds of years before it happened?

How do the prophecies help us understand the identity of Jesus of Nazareth?

Prayer: Father God, thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to die to pay for my sin. Thank you for the prophecies that gave hope to Old Testament people, waiting for the One who would rescue them from sin. Thank you that we can look at the prophecies today and see that Jesus' death was no pointless miscarriage of justice, you hold everything in your hands and you love us deeply. Amen.

Isaiah 53

Who has believed our message
and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
² He grew up before him like a tender shoot,
and like a root out of dry ground.
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
³ He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
Like one from whom people hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.
⁴ Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.
⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.
⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away.
Yet who of his generation protested?
For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was punished.
⁹ He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.
¹⁰ Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer,
and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin,
he will see his offspring and prolong his days,
and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.
¹¹ After he has suffered,
he will see the light of life and be satisfied;
by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many,
and he will bear their iniquities.
¹² Therefore I will give him a portion among the great,
and he will divide the spoils with the strong,
because he poured out his life unto death,
and was numbered with the transgressors.
For he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.