

Acts #34 “By His Stripes, We Are Healed”

Zech 12:10-14; Isa 53:1-5; 1st Peter 5:6-10; Acts 5:12-26

Isaiah 53 is a prophecy concerning Jesus Christ; it's a means of revealing Israel's Messiah in the Old Testament and it's the greatest single doctrinal representation of the details of the cross in Scripture.

Isaiah 53 will be spoken or sung or both at the Second Advent of Jesus Christ by born again Jews.

The families that remain at the Second Advent will be the born again Jews who will be there when Jesus Christ returns and when they mourn, they will sing Isaiah 53.

Isaiah 53:1 is the news that the entire world needs and someone has to tell the human race and that's where we come in as believers in Jesus Christ; it's why we're here and so, the divine side of salvation is revelation of Jesus and the human side is to believe God's revelation of His Son and His cross.

The root means Jesus Christ is the Founder of the Jewish race and nation.

The Lord Jesus Christ personally called Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldees and He, not Moses, personally delivered the Jews at the time of the Exodus.

Jesus Christ preserved the Jewish race so that they might fulfill their mission of witnessing for Him.

Jesus Christ was the Root of the Jewish race and now the Root is a tender shoot or plant; He has to become a plant (true humanity) to go to the cross but at the Second Advent, He is not only the Root of the tree but the Branch of the tree and as David's greater Son, He will reign forever. As the Branch.

There is no problem of life for which Jesus Christ does not have a solution.

The more we know about biblical truth, the more we know about God's grace solutions.

And for those who get to know the mind of Christ real well; they come to the place where everything in life, no matter how difficult it may be, can be faced and they will have perfect peace, stability and power.

The reason Jesus Christ can carry our burdens today is simple; it's because He carried our sins and that's the greatest load He ever had to carry.

Every time someone accepts Jesus Christ as Savior, he depends on the work of Jesus Christ who was punished and stricken for us.

And when anyone rejects the cross, he depends on his own works and his own works condemn him.

The point is: Jesus Christ was struck for us; struck by our sins as God the Father struck Him down at the cross and for those who accept Jesus Christ; they will never be struck by God's judgment.

But for the person who rejects Christ; their own works will be used to strike them at the last judgment.

God is absolute perfect righteousness and therefore He cannot have fellowship with us as sinners.

God is also justice and justice must punish transgression and iniquity.

Therefore, we should be punished but if someone is punished as our substitute and that someone satisfies the Father's requirement for full payment of our sin debt, we'll have peace as a result of being reconciled to God.

This means Jesus Christ our Substitute made everlasting peace between man and God.

But our context is spiritual drawing together where the great gap between man and God formerly existed but Jesus Christ by His work on the cross, pulled together that deep humanly incurable wound of sin which created a cavernous laceration.

So, the word translated 'healed' in Isaiah 53:5 means to sew up or draw together and because of Jesus Christ, man and God are now drawn together.

This was written centuries before the action was completed but in the mind of God it had already happened and we have it as prophecy which is certain of fulfilment.

God does not honor superstition; only faith in Him, His Son and His Word.

In this case, ignorance of biblical truth led to a superstitious practice.

The Bible does not record any results from this and the silence supports the principle of Jeremiah 17:5-6

"This is what the Lord says: Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord. That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives."

So, we have the grace of Almighty God illustrated before the grace of God is even presented in the Gospel!

Of course, now with this activity, there's a counter-attack and this one comes from religion.

Religion is always opposed to truth, it is the greatest enemy of the truth.

Wherever you find the disintegration of a nation, you'll find the leaders of that nation more concerned about themselves than about the issues of the people which are at stake.

God is graciously showing the Sanhedrin their complete helplessness to stop evangelism and the Sanhedrin has failed to read the signs.

Everything here points to a total corruption of the leadership of the Jews and this helps explain what happened to Israel in AD 70.