

## Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—The Suffering Servant Endures Reproach and Death (c. 689 BC)

Isaiah 52:13–53:12

### The Messiah's Suffering Eclipsed by His Exaltation

- 52:13 Behold, My servant will prosper,  
He will be high and lifted up and greatly exalted.
- 14 Just as many were astonished at you, *My people*,  
So His appearance was marred more than any man  
And His form more than the sons of men.
- 15 Thus He will sprinkle many nations,  
Kings will shut their mouths on account of Him;  
For what had not been told them they will see,  
And what they had not heard they will understand. [[Rom 15:21](#)]

### The Messiah Will Not Appear in Majesty

- 53:1 Who has believed our message?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? [[John 12:38](#); [Rom 10:16](#)]
- 2 For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot,  
And like a root out of parched ground;  
He has no *stately* form or majesty  
That we should look upon Him,  
Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.
- 3 He was despised and forsaken of men,  
A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;  
And like one from whom men hide their face  
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

### The Messiah Will Offer Himself as a Sacrifice for Sins

- 4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore,  
And our sorrows He carried; [[Matt 8:17](#)]  
Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken,  
Smitten of God, and afflicted.
- 5 But He was pierced through for our transgressions,  
He was crushed for our iniquities;  
The chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him,  
And by His scourging we are healed.
- 6 All of us like sheep have gone astray,  
Each of us has turned to his own way;  
But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all  
To fall on Him. [[1 Pet 2:23–25](#)]
- 7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted,  
Yet He did not open His mouth;  
Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,  
And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers,  
So He did not open His mouth.
- 8 By oppression and judgment He was taken away;  
And as for His generation, who considered  
That He was cut off out of the land of the living  
For the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke *was due*? [[Acts 8:32–33](#)]
- 9 His grave was assigned with wicked men,

Yet He was with a rich man in His death,  
 Because He had done no violence,  
 Nor was there any deceit in His mouth. [[1 Pet 2:22](#)]

### The Messiah's Glorious Accomplished Work

- 10 But the LORD was pleased  
 To crush Him, putting *Him* to grief;  
 If He would render Himself *as* a guilt offering,  
 He will see *His* offspring,  
 He will prolong *His* days,  
 And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand.
- 11 As a result of the anguish of His soul,  
 He will see *it and* be satisfied;  
 By His knowledge the Righteous One,  
 My Servant, will justify the many,  
 As He will bear their iniquities.
- 12 Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great,  
 And He will divide the booty with the strong;  
 Because He poured out Himself to death,  
 And was numbered with the transgressors; [[Luke 22:37](#)]  
 Yet He Himself bore the sin of many,  
 And interceded for the transgressors.

## Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—Zion's Spiritual Children (c. 689 BC)

### Isaiah 54

#### The Many Children of Zion

- 1 "Shout for joy, O barren one, you who have borne no *child*;  
 Break forth into joyful shouting and cry aloud, you who have not travailed;  
 For the sons of the desolate one *will be* more numerous  
 Than the sons of the married woman," says the LORD. [[Gal 4:27](#)]
- 2 "Enlarge the place of your tent;  
 Stretch out the curtains of your dwellings, spare not;  
 Lengthen your cords  
 And strengthen your pegs.
- 3 "For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left.  
 And your descendants will possess nations  
 And will resettle the desolate cities.

#### God Has Not Rejected Israel Forever

- 4 "Fear not, for you will not be put to shame;  
 And do not feel humiliated, for you will not be disgraced;  
 But you will forget the shame of your youth,  
 And the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more.
- 5 "For your husband is your Maker,  
 Whose name is the LORD of hosts;  
 And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel,  
 Who is called the God of all the earth.
- 6 "For the LORD has called you,

Like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit,  
Even like a wife of *one's* youth when she is rejected,"  
Says your God.

- 7 "For a brief moment I forsook you,  
But with great compassion I will gather you.
- 8 "In an outburst of anger  
I hid My face from you for a moment,  
But with everlasting lovingkindness I will have compassion on you,"  
Says the LORD your Redeemer.
- 9 "For this is like the days of Noah to Me,  
When I swore that the waters of Noah  
Would not flood the earth again;  
So I have sworn that I will not be angry with you  
Nor will I rebuke you.
- 10 "For the mountains may be removed and the hills may shake,  
But My lovingkindness will not be removed from you,  
And My covenant of peace will not be shaken,"  
Says the LORD who has compassion on you.

#### **Future Glory of Zion**

- 11 "O afflicted one, storm-tossed, *and* not comforted,  
Behold, I will set your stones in antimony,  
And your foundations I will lay in sapphires.
- 12 "Moreover, I will make your battlements of rubies,  
And your gates of crystal,  
And your entire wall of precious stones.
- 13 "All your sons will be taught of the LORD;  
And the well-being of your sons will be great. [[John 6:45](#)]
- 14 "In righteousness you will be established;  
You will be far from oppression, for you will not fear;  
And from terror, for it will not come near you.
- 15 "If anyone fiercely assails *you* it will not be from Me.  
Whoever assails you will fall because of you.
- 16 "Behold, I Myself have created the smith who blows the fire of coals  
And brings out a weapon for its work;  
And I have created the destroyer to ruin.
- 17 "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper;  
And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn.  
This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD,  
And their vindication is from Me," declares the LORD.