

**Seven Hundred Years Before Jesus of Nazareth...  
Isaiah 52:13-15**

**Isaiah prophesied that God's Messiah would be both a servant and exalted.**

<sup>13</sup> Behold, my servant shall act wisely:<sup>[b]</sup> he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

**Text Message:**

- These verses in Isaiah 52:13-15 serve as a summary of the entire chapter of Isaiah 53. Notice the first word “behold.”
- The word “behold” is one that is meant to grab our attention. It means “pay attention!” or “get this!”
- The question still debated is this: *Who is “My servant?”*
- In the book of Isaiah, the words “My servant” are used of Isaiah (20:3), Eliakim (27:20), David (37:35), and the nation of Israel (41:8-9, 43:10, 44:1-2, 44:21, 45:4, 49:3, 40:5-6).
- God's servant is not named but described. Is God's servant:
- The nation of Israel (Jewish interpretation 1,000 AD - today)?  
A Messiah that is to come (Earliest Jewish interpretation)?  
Jesus of Nazareth (First-century biblical interpretation)?
- In an unexpected and surprising way, Jesus fulfills all three by becoming Israel's representative and that He is coming again!
- The Hebrew phrase translated here as “high and exalted” appears in Isaiah two other times of Israel's God! (6:1, 57:15). In other words, the servant here shares God's exalted status!

**Isaiah prophesied that God's Messiah would experience Good Friday.**

<sup>14</sup> As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

**Text Message:**

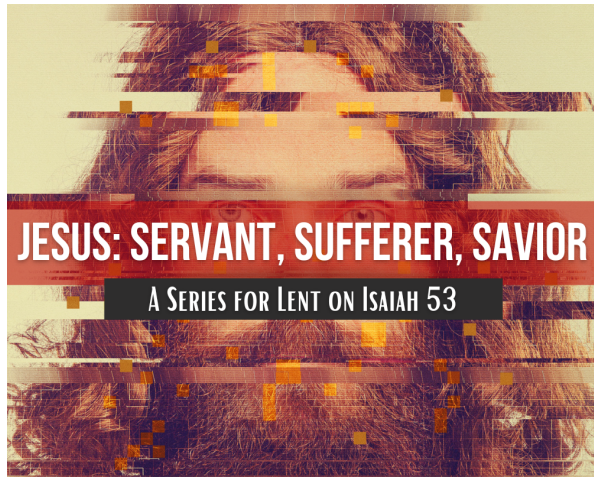
- Pay attention to the word “astonished.” Some translations read “appalled” (CSB, NIV) or “amazed” (NLT).
- These are all great translations. The Hebrew verb is שָׁמַם (*sha-mame*) and comes from a root verb which means “to be put to silence.” It refers to an experience so unbelievable that there are no words to say.
- Here we have an accurate picture seven centuries before Christ was born of His death by crucifixion!
- I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. Isaiah 50:6
- Jesus' death by crucifixion is what Isaiah said would cause astonishment to the point of silence!
- *Have we become too familiar with Jesus' crucifixion? Have we ceased to be astonished, appalled- put to silence?*

**Isaiah prophesied that God's Messiah would have worldwide impact.**

<sup>15</sup> so shall he sprinkle<sup>[c]</sup> many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.

**Text Message:**

- Earlier in the text, Isaiah  
The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.
- The language of God “baring His holy arm” is a metaphor of showing His strength, yet God's holy arm would be bared in the most paradoxical way: through the death of His Son.



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