

THE SUFFERING SERVANT

Isaiah 52:13–53:12 | Isaiah: Behold Your God

Message by Pastor Ron Milne | October 18, 2026

The Mountain Peak of Prophecy

Written 700 years before a Roman cross made it history, Isaiah 53 is the clearest, most detailed Old Testament prophecy of Christ's suffering, death, and triumphant victory.

"Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus."
– **Acts 8:35**



1. His Startling Paradox

(Isaiah 52:13–15)

Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

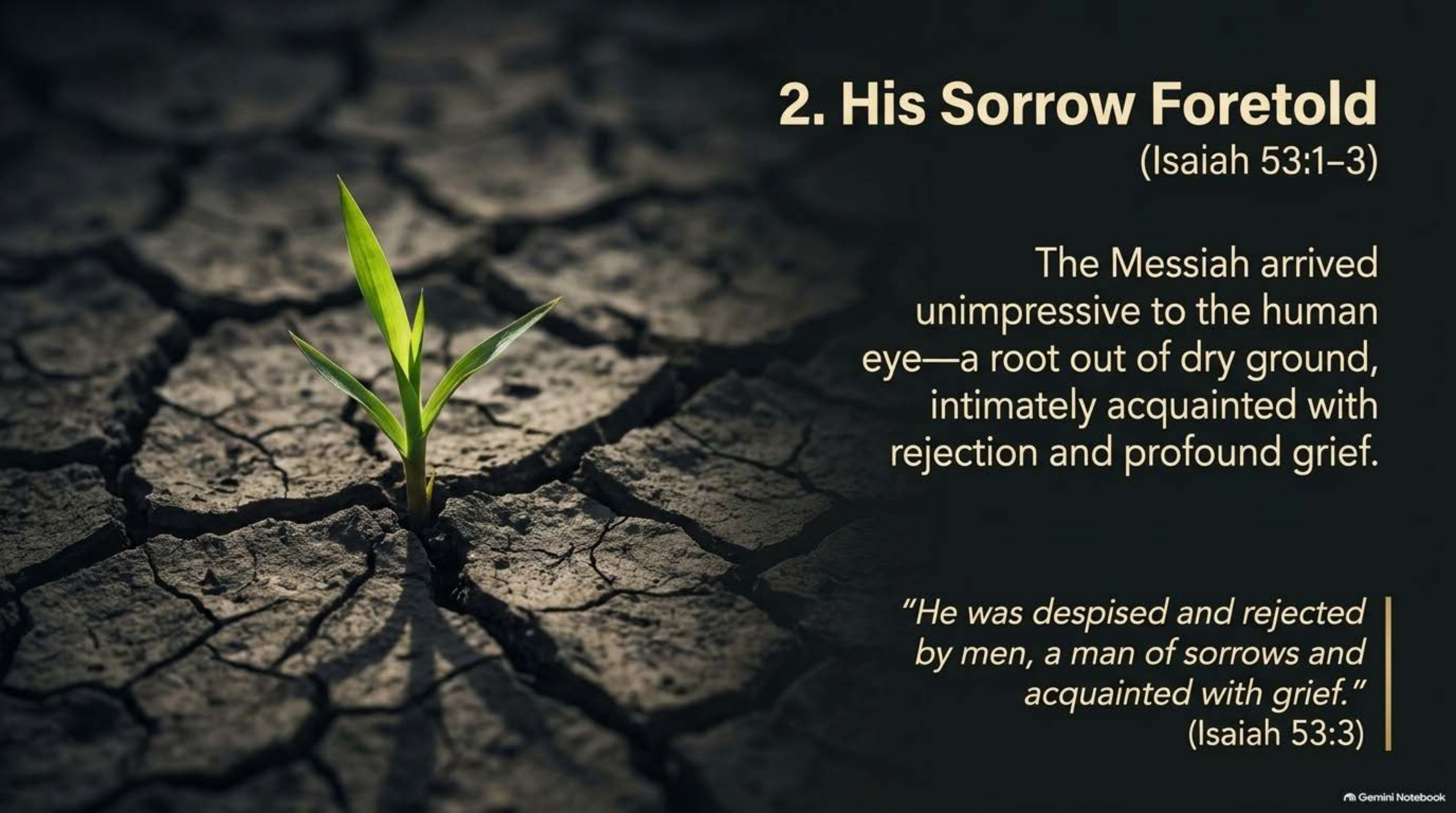
The Servant is simultaneously exalted to the throne of God and marred beyond human recognition.



A face so ruined it
repelled nations.

A sacrifice so perfect
it silences kings.

Application: Who in your circle needs to hear of the Servant who sprinkles the nations?

A small green seedling with three leaves is growing out of a crack in dark, parched, and cracked earth. The background is a vast expanse of similar cracked soil, creating a textured, geometric pattern.

2. His Sorrow Foretold

(Isaiah 53:1–3)

The Messiah arrived unimpressive to the human eye—a root out of dry ground, intimately acquainted with rejection and profound grief.

“He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.”
(Isaiah 53:3)



The sorrows of the lofty he knew... the sorrows of the poor he knew... Sorrows relative, and sorrows personal; sorrows mental, and sorrows spiritual. Affliction emptied his quiver upon him.

Charles Spurgeon

3. His Silence Under Suffering

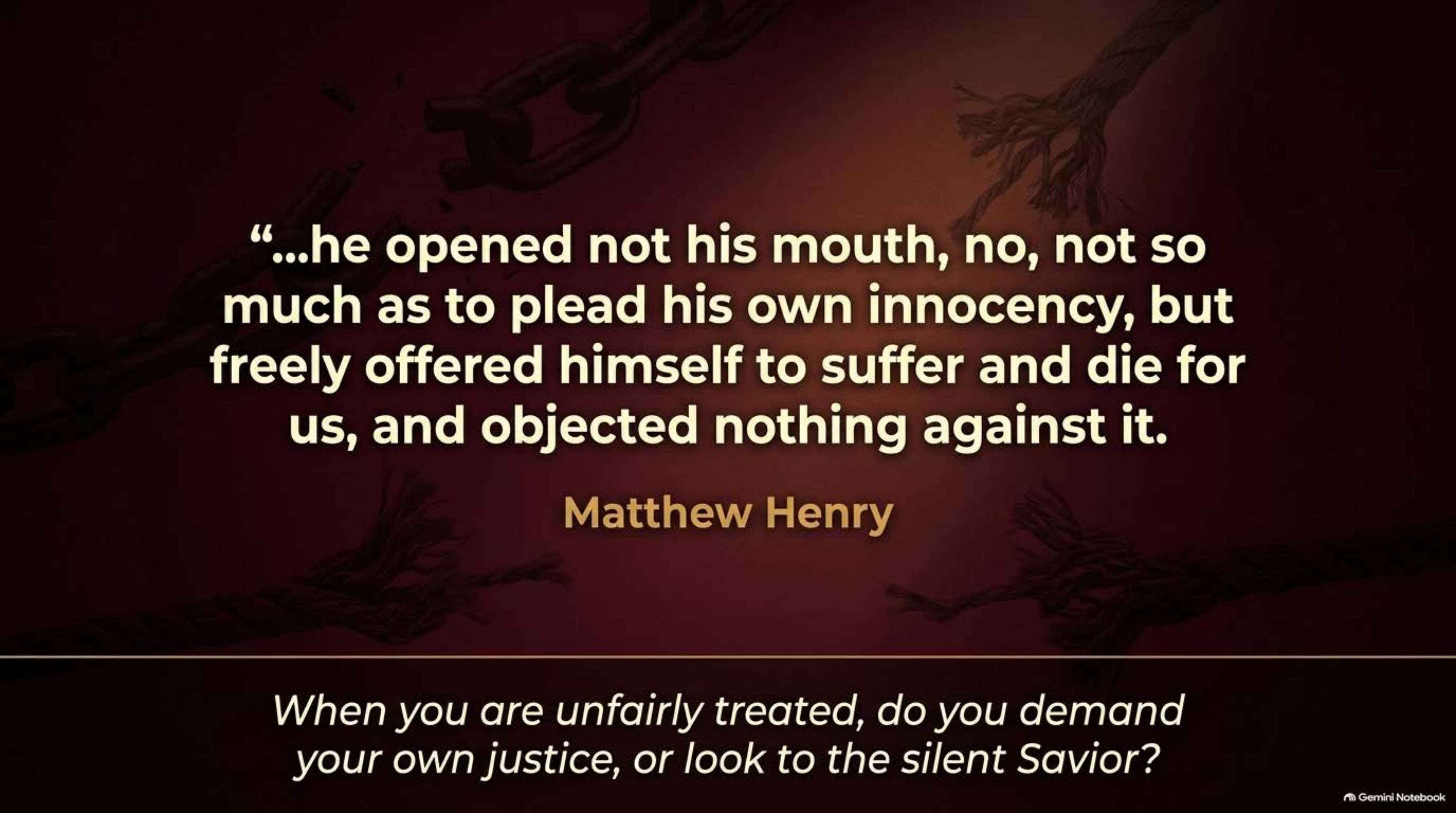
(Isaiah 53:4–7)

Christ willingly endured illegal, undeserved suffering without self-defense, securing the peace of the guilty.

*He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth.*

(Isaiah 53:7)

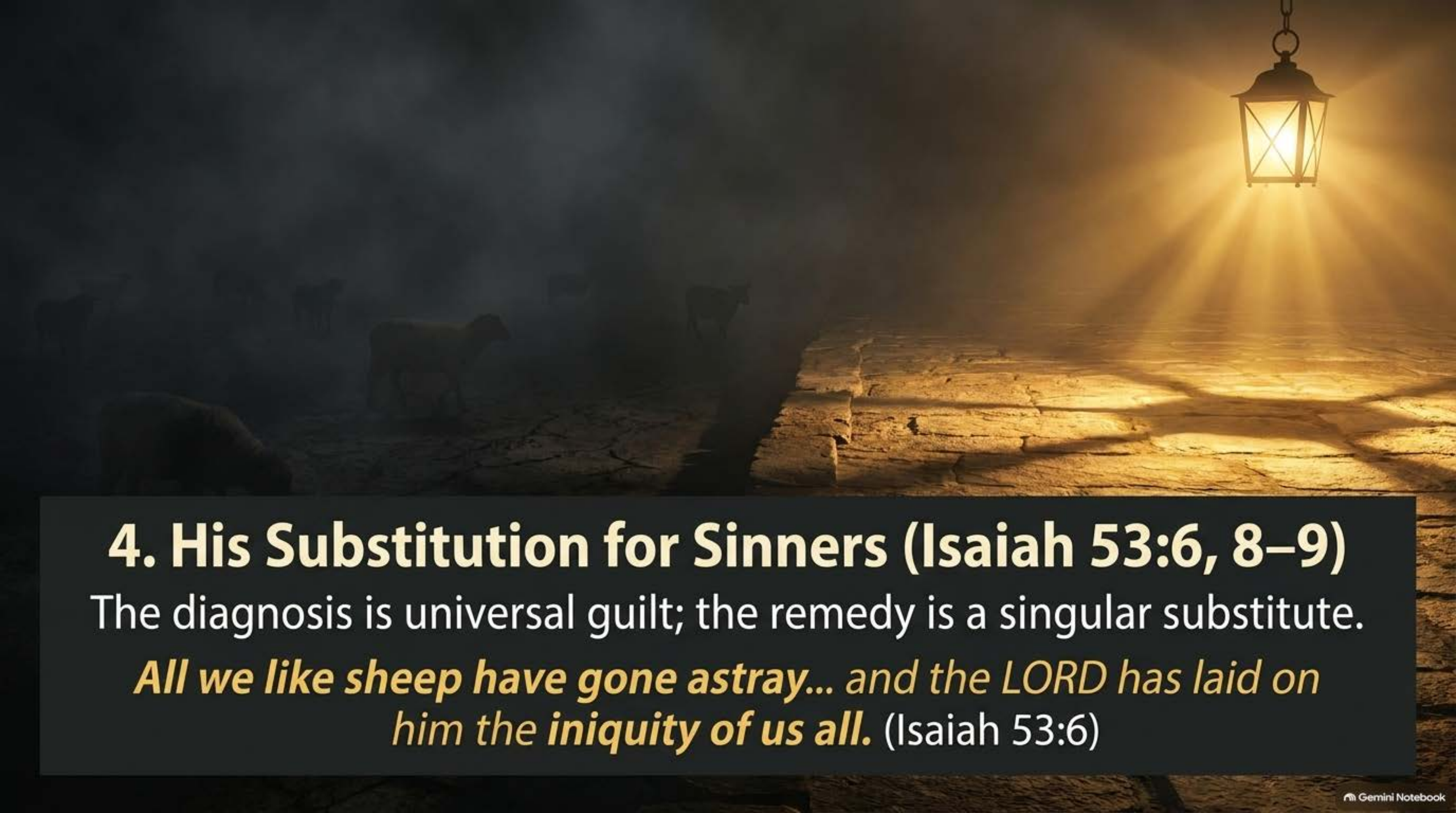




“...he opened not his mouth, no, not so much as to plead his own innocence, but freely offered himself to suffer and die for us, and objected nothing against it.

Matthew Henry

When you are unfairly treated, do you demand your own justice, or look to the silent Savior?



4. His Substitution for Sinners (Isaiah 53:6, 8–9)

The diagnosis is universal guilt; the remedy is a singular substitute.

All we like sheep have gone astray... and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

The Anatomy of Sin & The Shepherd's Cure

Chet (Missing the Mark)

Falling short of God's holy standard.

Avon (Iniquity)

The inner crookedness of a twisted, corrupted nature.

Pesha (Transgression)

Willful, defiant rebellion stepping across God's boundaries.

***Under the Law, the sheep died for the shepherd.
At the cross, the Shepherd died for the sheep. (John 10:11)***



The essence of sin is
man substituting
himself for God...

...while the essence
is God substituting
himself for man.

John Stott, The Cross of Christ

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin..." (2 Corinthians 5:21)

5. His Success Beyond the Grave (Isaiah 53:10–12)

Death was not the final chapter. Christ's suffering accomplished eternal redemption, resurrection, and exaltation.

"Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied."
(Isaiah 53:11)

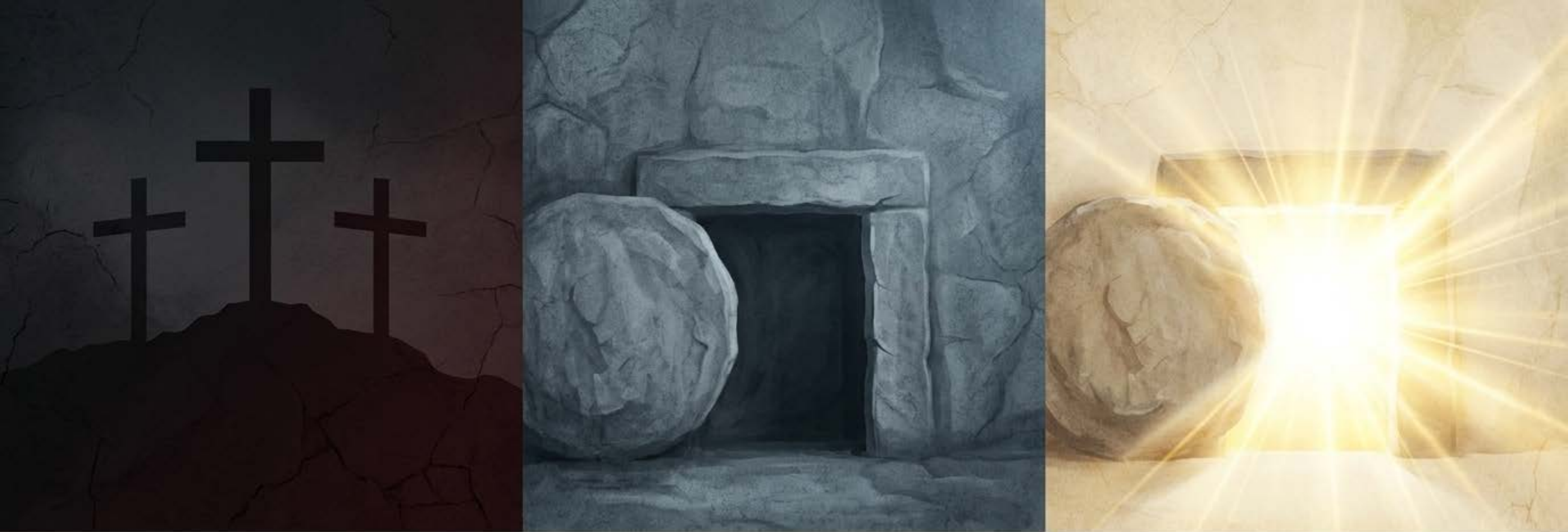
*“His death was the sacrifice
and his resurrection was a stamp
on the document paid in full.”*

David Jeremiah

It is finished.

(John 19:30)





Jesus bore what was ours to bear.

Through His suffering, we receive forgiveness,
righteousness, so, and eternal life.

*“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”
(John 17:3)*

**Will you trust the Man of
Sorrows who suffered in
your place and triumphed
over death?**