

# The Suffering Servant

*God's Arm, Unattractive, & Despised, pt.5*

**Isaiah 53:1-3**

October 25, 2026





Deloitte accounting is renowned for its professionalism, expressed through competence, attention to detail, and effectiveness...



Consider three statements in this stanza that continue our look into the Suffering Servant's resolve to redeem for the glory of God. His resolve must motivate us to live with resolve...



## Three statements in this stanza



I

**The Messiah's  
Global  
Message  
Sovereign  
Savior**



II

**The Messiah's  
Humble State  
Unattractive  
Savior**



III

**The Messiah's  
Resolute  
Service  
Despised  
Savior**



I.

# The Messiah's Global Message

## Sovereign Savior



# What is the Arm of Yahweh?

**1**

**Exodus 15:16;  
Acts 13:17**

**2**

**Deuteronomy  
5:15**

**3**

**Psalms 89:13;  
98:1; 136:12;  
Luke 1:51**

**4**

**Jeremiah 27:5**



## Message = Arm of the Lord

This is a statement that **most have not accepted** the testimony of the Servant or of the prophet.



# The Prominence of God's Arm in Isaiah

Isa 30:30; 40:10; 48:14; 51:5, 9;  
52:10; **59:14ff**; 62:8; 63:5, 12



**II.**

# **The Messiah's Humble State— Unattractive Savior**



The meaning of “***parched ground***” is connected to chapter 11 and the prophetic statement that Jesus would come from the ***root of Jesse***—



Biblically illustrated in

**Mark 6:1-4**



III.

# The Messiah's Resolute Service —Despised Savior



*“He Was Despised and  
Forsaken, and Not  
Esteemed”*

Isaiah 53:3a,c



# DESPISED

“**DESPISED** is the most comprehensive of all the terms here, involving that complete act of the whole man when he completely and utterly refuses something” (Robert D. Culver)



The rejection, **a constant in Christ's ministry** (John 1:11; 3:36; 8:59; 12:48; 19:19), was foretold by the prophet and realized under the critical eye of religious leaders and unbelieving hearts.



Despite the Servant's **great worth**, they considered Him unworthy of honorable attention and respect.



## A Word Picture for Constant Viewing

*This use of the passives is effective in creating a word picture that paints the Servant as one who **submits to the will of Yahweh**; a theme which Peter especially likes (**1 Peter 2:20-23; 4:19; 5:6**) as a motivator for walking worthy of the high calling of the faith (D.F. Payne)*



# A Precise Manual For Life

Again, God's word is demonstrating that it operates as **the manual to know and love God...**



**“A Man of Sorrows”**

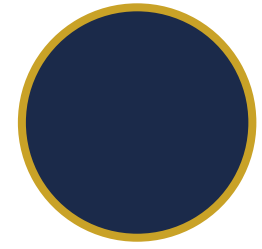
Isaiah 53:3b



The Servant was **familiar with**  
**grief** (Mk 3:5; 9:19; John 11:33,  
35)



**This Hebrew idiomatic  
phrase is the natural  
outcome of...**



# Examples of physical pain & mental pain

**Ex 3:7**

**2 Chron 6:29**

**Job 33:19**

**Psa 32:10**

**Psa 38:18**

**Jer 51:8**



## The Nature of His Sorrow

The question arises whether the Servant's sorrows are limited to **physical suffering** or do they include the **mental anguish of bearing the sins of a lost humanity**.



# **The lexical implication of ESTEEMED...**



**Not Esteemed.** The irony that I  
find in Jesus' Passion...



## *Not Esteemed*

**John 1:11**

He came to His own and they received Him not

**John 6:66**

many of His disciples withdrew

**John 8:59**

they took up stones to throw at Him

**John 12:48**

He who rejects Me will be judged on the last day

**John 19:16**

Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified

“When all that the human eye saw and the human mind apprehended was added up the result was zero. With this word, Isaiah completes a diagnosis of our human condition, which he has been unobtrusively pursuing throughout these three verses: to see the Servant and find *no beauty* in him (2cd) reveals the bankruptcy of the human emotions; to be one with those who despise and then reject him (3ac) exposes the misguidedness of the human will; to appraise him and conclude that he is nothing condemns our minds as corrupted by, and participants in, our sinfulness. Thus every aspect of human nature is inadequate; every avenue along which, by nature, we might arrive at the truth and respond to God is closed. Nothing but divine revelation can make the Servant known to us and draw us to him” (J. A. Motyer)



## A Final Thought

Audit your life and ask whether  
it ESTEEMS the Savior...