

Stories of Christmas

Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus - Humiliation

Isaiah

Opening

Gathering: Give examples of people you have seen who have displayed Christ's humility in their lives.

Today's Focus: Hundreds of years before Jesus came, God revealed through His prophets how He would humble Himself by sending His Son in the form of a despised man.

Key Verses: *He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.*
Isaiah 53:3

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very form of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death - even death on a cross! Philippians 2:5-8

Opening Prayer

Lesson

The Role of God's Prophets (*2 Kings 17*)

What did God require of the kings of His people?

1 Kings 11:37-38

How faithful were the kings of Israel, the northern kingdom?

2 Kings 17:21-22

How faithful was Judah, the southern kingdom?

2 Kings 17:19

Did God give up on the people immediately after Jeroboam turned them away?

2 Kings 17:13-14

The Prophet's Message (*Isaiah 1*)

How did Isaiah begin his ministry?

Isaiah 1:2-4

Why hadn't God tried to discipline them and turn them back to Him?

Isaiah 1:5-6

What was the problem? Were the Jews not religious enough?

Isaiah 1:11-14

What did God want?

Isaiah 1:16-17

How could they become righteous? What about their guilt of past evils?

Isaiah 1:18

What would happen if the people didn't return to God?

Isaiah 1:19-20

Knowing that the Jews would not repent and return, what did God say He would do?

Isaiah 1:21, 25

What hope would the Jews have after they were punished with exile?

Isaiah 1:26

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The Righteous King (*Isaiah 11*)

How would the Jews know when this time of restoration and righteousness begins?

Isaiah 7:14

How would the news get out to everyone?

Isaiah 40:3-5

What did Isaiah tell them about this child?

Isaiah 9:6-7

What kind of a king would this child become?

Isaiah 11:1-5

What would this great king mean for Israel?

Isaiah 11:10, 12

Why would the rest of the world rally around Israel?

Isaiah 49:6

How peaceful would things be under this king?

Isaiah 11:6-9

The Righteous Servant (*Isaiah 50:4-9*)

Why would this king be so successful?

Isaiah 42:1

How did this relate to Israel's original calling?

Isaiah 41:8-9

How obedient would this chosen servant be?

Isaiah 50:4-7

Isaiah's Four Servant Songs

Isaiah 42:1-7

Isaiah 49:1-6

Isaiah 50:4-9

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

While the Jews misunderstood what Isaiah was describing, how well did Isaiah understand?

1 Peter 1:10-12

The Doubter's Chapter (*Isaiah 52:13-53:12*)

Isaiah's fourth servant song (52:13-53:12) points directly to Jesus

It can convince Jews that Jesus is the promised Messiah - Called *The Doubter's Chapter*

How does Isaiah begin his fourth servant song that accurately describes Jesus?

Isaiah 52:13

How was Jesus highly exalted?

Philippians 2:9

How did Isaiah's next verse confuse the Jews' picture of this great king?

Isaiah 52:14

How did this describe Jesus?

Mark 14:65; 15:17-19

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The Doubter's Chapter (*Isaiah 52:13-53:12*)

How would this king save the whole world?

Isaiah 52:15

How did this reference to the sprinkling of blood of the atoning sacrifice point to Jesus?

1 Peter 1:2

What other sprinkling did Jesus bring to us?

Hebrews 10:22

How would the true message of this servant be accepted?

Isaiah 53:1

How was this fulfilled with Jesus?

John 12:37-38

Would this great king look like a great king?

Isaiah 53:2

Didn't Jesus attract people by His greatness wherever He went?

Matthew 13:54-57

Besides his looks, how well would this great king of the Jews be accepted by people?

Isaiah 53:3

How clearly was Jesus despised and rejected by men?

Mark 15:29-32

Although despised and rejected, what would this servant do for mankind?

Isaiah 53:4a

How did Jesus take away pains and troubles?

Matthew 8:16-17

How would this servant be supported by God during his thankless work for mankind?

Isaiah 53:4b

How was this played out in Jesus?

Matthew 27:43, 46

Why would God strike, smite and afflict this great servant?

Isaiah 53:5a

How directly was this fulfilled by Jesus?

John 19:33-34, 36

Would the servant do this because mankind would be so deserving?

Isaiah 53:5b-6

How does Peter explain that this was fulfilled by Jesus?

1 Peter 2:24-25

How willingly would this servant go through this suffering?

Isaiah 53:7

Did Jesus fit this description?

Matthew 27:12-14

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The Doubter's Chapter (*Isaiah 52:13-53:12*)

Would people recognize what was happening when this was carried out?

Isaiah 53:8

How was Jesus our substitute?

2 Corinthians 5:21

How would this great king be treated in his death?

Isaiah 53:9a

How did this describe Jesus?

Matthew 27:57-60

Was this servant treated this way because he deserved it?

Isaiah 53:9b

What should we learn from this for our own lives?

1 Peter 2:21-22

Why would this servant go through all of this suffering?

Isaiah 53:10-11

How did Jesus see the light of life?

Matthew 28:6

How does knowledge of this justify many?

Romans 10:9

How does Isaiah summarize his song on the suffering servant?

Isaiah 53:12

How was Jesus numbered with the transgressors?

Mark 15:27-28

Besides being forever thankful of what Jesus did for us, what should we learn from this?

Philippians 2:5-8

Closing Prayer

Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. How often can I say that my attitude has been the same as that of Christ Jesus?
(Phil. 2:5; Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Cor. 4:15-17; 11:1; Hebrews 6:10-12; 1 Peter 2:20-23; 3 John 9-10)
2. When have I tried to take the place of God or acted like I was in charge of things that only God controls?
(Philippians 2:6; Genesis 50:19; Job 38:1-42:6; Romans 12:18-19; 1 Corinthians 10:3)
3. What are some examples of when I have humbled myself?
(Philippians 2:1-4, 7-8; Isaiah 66:2b; Matthew 6:1-18; Luke 6:27-36; 14:7-14; James 3:13; 4:10)
4. In what ways do I take the very nature of a servant?
(Philippians 2:7; Joshua 24:14-15; Job 1:8; Matthew 20:25-28; Luke 16:13; 22:24-27; John 13:1-17; 1 Peter 4:10-11)
5. Is my faith strong enough to withstand the threat of death?
(Philippians 2:8; Matthew 16:24-28; John 16:33; Acts 7:54-60; 14:21-22; Romans 8:28-39; Philippians 1:20-24; 2 Timothy 3:12)

Next Week - *Psalms Tell of Jesus - Exaltation* (Psalms)