Northwest Bible Church - Sept. 3, 2017 - Christ in the OT series - Alan Conner

**The Suffering Servant: Israel or Messiah**

*Isaiah 52:13-53:12*

Intro

**A. THE JEWISH INTERPRETATION.**

1. The Ancient Jewish view.

2. The Modern Jewish view.

**B. CRITIQUE OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL VIEW.**

1. The masculine singular pronoun.

2. Israel not a submissive, voluntary sufferer (Isaiah 53:7; 50:6).

3. Israel cannot bear its own sins, let along those of others (Isaiah 53:5, 8).

4. Israel was not killed (Isaiah 53:8-10) or assigned to a grave (Isaiah 53:9).

5. How could the knowledge of Israel “justify many”? (Isaiah 53:11).

**C. SUPPORT FOR SEEING JESUS IN Isaiah 53.**

**D. THE EVANGELISTIC POWER OF Isaiah 53**

1. Ethiopian eunuch and Isaiah 53 (Acts 8:26-35).

2. Barry Leventhal.

Conclusion

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| **ISAIAH PREDICTED THAT THE SERVANT…** | **700 YEARS LATER, JESUS CHRIST…** |
| would be disfigured by suffering (52:14; 53:2-3) | was flogged, spat on and mocked ([Mark 15:17-19](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Mark 15.17-19)) |
| would come from humble beginnings (53:2) | grew up in Nazareth, a city with a very poor reputation; and not where the Messiah was expected to come from ([Luke 2:39-40](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Luke 2.39-40), [51](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Luke 2.51)); John 1:46 Nathanael said to him, “Can any good thing come out of Nazareth? |
| would be rejected by many (53:3) | while on the cross, was mocked, blasphemed and reviled, even by those who were crucified with him ([Matthew 27:39-44](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt 27.39-44)). John 1:11 He came to His  own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. |
| would bear our sins and suffer in our place (53:4-6,11) | “…himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.” ([1 Peter 2:24](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/1 Pet 2.24)); He was literally scourged by Roman whips and pierced by the nails of the cross. |
| would heal many (53:4-5) | healed many ([Matthew 8:16-17](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt 8.16-17)); resurrection bodies. |
| voluntarily took our punishment upon himself (53:6-7) | said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep” ([John 10:11](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/John 10.11)). John 10:18 “No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have **authority** to lay it down, and I have **authority** to take it up again.” |
| remained silent during his suffering (53:7)  was numbered with transgressors; interceded for them (53:12) | did not defend himself to Herod, Pontius Pilate or the Sanhedrin ([Matthew 26:62-64](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt 26.62-64); [27:11-14](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matthew 27.11-14); [Luke 23:9](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Luke 23.9))  disciples carried swords to Garden of Gethsemane (Lk. 22:36-37 quotes Isaiah 53:12 as fulfilled here), and Peter cut off ear of servant; also crucified with robbers (Mk. 15:27); prayed for those who crucified him and mocked him (Lk. 23:34) “Father forgive them for they know not what they do”. |
| would die (53:8,12) | died on a cross ([Mark 15:37](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Mark 15.37); [John 19:33-34](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/John 19.33-34)) |
| would be buried with a rich man (53:9) | was buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, a rich man ([Matthew 27:57-60](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt 27.57-60)) |
| would not remain dead, but see his seed, prolong his days and be exalted (53:10-12) | rose from the dead three days after the crucifixion and still lives today and millions of people see themselves as his spiritual seed ([Matthew 28:1-10](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt 28.1-10)) |