

**PP Beautiful Feet: The Good News Foreordained**

**Part 2-Isaiah 52:13-53:**

**3/30-31/2019**

Last week, we saw how beautiful are the feet of him who brings good news  
That good news is the gospel, and it centers on the Person of Jesus and the salvation available  
through His life, death and resurrection  
That is the message we are privileged to proclaim

**PP Chart of the Gospel story**

The gospel begins with **Genesis 1**, and it's there we learn that God **created** all there is  
It is critical to understand what ought to be clear to all of us: God the Creator is God the owner  
We belong to God, He owns us, He is our Creator  
We are not created with self-ownership, for we belong to God as His creation  
And for awhile, **Genesis 2**, Adam and Eve lived in fellowship with God, their Maker, and Owner  
But in chapter 3, they rebelled against God, wanting to be free of any ownership but their own

They chose to rise up, but they instead, they **Fell**  
They wanted to break free from God, but horribly, they found that they sold themselves into  
slavery to a terrible master called sin  
In John 8, Jesus was having a discussion with some Jews and He said, **PP "If you abide in my  
word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth  
will set you free."** **John 8:31-31**  
They became defensive, responding, **PP "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been  
enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"** **John 8:31-33**  
Jesus said with chilling certainty, **PP "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a  
slave to sin."** **John 8:34**  
From time to time, someone can get a victory and overcome a bad habit, but the impulse within  
us to rise up against God is sinfully embedded into the soul of everyone  
He who sins is a slave to sin, unable to free himself, but the good news is **PP "if the Son sets you  
free, you will be free indeed."** **John 8:36**  
Freedom from the harsh, life-destroying power of sin, a power too great for us to break

If God wants us back, He must pay the price for our **redemption**, simply because we have no  
way to pay it

And He did in His Son, Jesus Christ, Who **PP "came not to be served but to serve, and to give  
His life as a ransom for many."** **Mark 10:45**

**PP** A '**ransom**' is the money paid to buy the freedom for a prisoner of war or out of slavery  
But cold hard cash has no value in spiritual slavery, no billionaire can buy freedom, from it  
**Isaiah 52:3** told us Israel was "**sold for nothing, and you shall be redeemed without money.**"

We were born into slavery to sin and no earthly currency can redeem us from it  
Jesus Christ paid the ransom in His blood, because sin brings the rightful sentence of death  
The only form of payment is blood, because there is life in the blood the bible says

**PP "In [Jesus] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of His grace"** **Ephesians 1:7**

For the person who has been redeemed by Jesus Christ, **PP "sin will have no dominion over  
you"** **Romans 6:14**

Do you understand the good news here...God our Creator is our owner, but we all have risen  
up against Him in rebellious sin and fallen into its power, yet God loves us and redeemed

us by paying the ransom in the life, death and resurrection of His Son  
 We have been bought with a price, belonging to Him Who ransomed us by His blood, and He takes responsibility to care for us, provide for us, not enslaving us to grovel in servitude, but released to enjoy serving and worshiping as His friends

Hebrews speaks of His redemption as being an *'eternal salvation'* (Hebrews 5:9), which reaches forward to the return of Jesus where He will bring about the **restoration** of all things  
 Jesus told us in Luke 21 what it will be like as His return draws close, saying, **PP** *"Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."* Luke 21:28

Christian, you are redeemed from the grinding mastery of sin by the cross of Christ, and the Spirit of God lives in you, but it is a foretaste of what is to come in the fullness of redemption

Yet even now, we are learning to more and more live in the freedom of our redemption, no longer shackled by a relentless orientation to sin, but free to live the way we were always meant, created for, in fellowship and worship of our God

**PP (Chart 2) Isaiah 53** is going to focus primarily on the **redemption** part of the gospel story, the suffering and death of Jesus, our Redeemer

Something foreordained long before He came to this world, and Isaiah prophesied it 750 years before it occurred

John Calvin called this chapter break a dismemberment, so understand that **53** begins at **52:13**, *"Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted."* 13

Jewish synagogues refuse to read Isaiah 53 in their services...it stirs up too many arguments, too much confusion as it's called *'the torture chamber of the Rabbis'*

Rabbis originally held that **Isaiah 53** was about the Messiah, the deliverer, but it was too clear that Jesus Christ fulfilled every bit of it, so in the 12th century AD they began to say that Isaiah was writing about the present and future sufferings of Israel

But do you recall the story of Philip and his conversation with the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8? The Ethiopian had been reading **Isaiah 53:7-8**, **PP** *"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth."* (Acts 8:32)

He then asked, **PP** *"About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"* Acts 8:34

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

**Isaiah 53** is clearly about Jesus, who is the Lord's *servant*, which Matthew makes clear in his gospel as he quotes Isaiah, **PP** *"This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: 'Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.'"* Matthew 12:17-18

Now follow the gospel story of redemption chapter 53 as we see His life, death and resurrection

### **PP 1-The Life of Jesus our Redeemer**

*"Who has believed what he has heard from us?"* 53:1

Out of the gate, there is a call for faith, to believe, to entrust your soul to the truth of Jesus  
 The Messiah, the deliverer will come in a way, and a form that no will expect, **52:14**, ***“His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance”***...beaten, crucified terribly  
***“For He (Jesus the Son) grew up before Him (God the Father) like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground.”***, a time when Israel was hopeless, dominated by Rome  
 From a child, Jesus **PP** ***“increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.”***  
**Luke 2:52**

***“He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, and no beauty that we should desire Him” (53:3)***, unlike King Saul and King David, Jesus was in appearance unimpressive

## **PP 2-The Suffering of Jesus our Redeemer**

***“He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.” 53:3***

**PP** ***‘despised’*** means to be grossly underestimated, He was viewed as having no worth or value  
***‘acquainted with grief’***, Jesus utterly experienced rejection from people He had created, yet not only that, He stepped fully into a daily river of the suffering of others with perfect compassion, bearing sickness and carrying pain

***“Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.” 53:4-5***

It was all ***‘our griefs’***, ***‘our sorrows’***, ***‘our transgressions’***, ***‘our iniquities’***, yet they were all placed on His innocent soul, struck and smitten and afflicted in our place

We are the ones who ***“like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” 53:6***

Onto an innocent victim, was laid our sin, an act thoroughly familiar in the Jewish sacrificial system

You see, the worshiper had to bring a sacrifice, one without spot or blemish

You couldn't select a sick sheep that you knew was worthless and take that to the temple to offer to God

Even thrift stores don't want our junk, how much the rightful owner of all His creation

So the worshiper had to bring the unblemished sacrificial animal to the temple, and except for the birds, that same worshiper was handed a knife by the priest, the sinner laying hold violently on the animal's head, where he would confess his sins onto that animal

Afterwards, holding the animal's head, he would slit its throat

The priest would have a conical container to catch the blood, a container never allowed to be set down and the blood congeal, but quickly taken to the altar and splashed on its four sides and put on its four horns

It is not the physical property of blood that provided forgiveness, it was the life of the animal that its blood represented

In shedding His blood, Jesus died, His life given in place of ours

He died that we might live, the perfect for the sinner, redemption for the one in bondage

***“He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?”***

**53:7-8**

He didn't complain, He didn't shrink back, this was the redemption planned before God brought everything into creation, foretold by Isaiah 750 years earlier

Jesus died, and was buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, *"his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth."* 53:9

**PP 3-The Resurrection of Jesus our Redeemer**

*"Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities."* 53:10-11

The story would not end with the death of the Redeemer, for God would *'prolong His days'* He would live, and see many to be accounted righteous, bearing their sins, their iniquities *"Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors."* 53:2-12

God the Father will exalt His Son, and those who believe in Him will share in the riches of His Son

**PP** *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places"* Ephesians 1:3

Friends, this is redemption, this is how God in Christ purchases us back to Himself

We, the sinner, the defiant ones, who rose up against our Creator to gain our own freedom but fell into the bondage of our own sin

It is through His life, suffering to death and resurrection that He has ransomed us, our Redeemer

**PP** *"[Jesus] gave His life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us His very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds."* Titus 2:14 (NLT2)

Amen?

Pray