

The Arrival of the Messiah (Isaiah 53:1-3)

1 – Two Questions

Who has believed our report?

- *Statement of astonishment (few have believed this amazing report)*
- *Speaking: Believing Israelites (maybe as represented by Isaiah)*
- *Recipients:*
 - *The people (6:9-10)*
 - *The preachers (spiritual leaders – 56:10)*

To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

- *God's miraculous power to bring about His will*
 - *To judge (14:24-27; 48:14)*
 - *To shepherd (40:8-11)*
 - *To deliver (52:10; 63:10-12; Ex 6:6)*
- *Has been revealed*
 - *Through creation*
 - *Through revelation*
- *Implied: Believe!*

2a – His Origins

For He shall grow up before Him

- *Suggests growing – a process*
- *Suggests close relationship with God (the Father)*

As a tender plant

- Eze 17:22 Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will take also one of the highest branches of the high cedar and set it out. I will crop off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and will plant it on a high and prominent mountain.

As a root

- Gen 49:9-10 Judah *is* a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him *shall be* the obedience of the people.
- Isa 11:1 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.
- Isa 11:10 "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."
- Isa 37:31 And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah Shall again take root downward, And bear fruit upward.
- Rom 15:12 And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope."
- Rev 5:1-7

- Rev 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."
- Jer 23:5-6 ⁵ "Behold, *the* days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. ⁶ In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this *is* His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. (c.f. Isa 4:2; Zech 6:12)

Out of dry ground

- *Spiritually Dry People?*
- *Economically Poor Circumstances?*
"At minimum, this kind of symbolism suggests that this person was not born in a palace of a world empire with all the luxuries that are usually afforded to persons of royalty." Smith, G. *Isaiah 40-66* (p. 445)

2b – His Plainness

He has no form or comeliness

- *Nothing special to look at or which would draw your attention*
- *His outward appearance was unimpressive, plain*

There is no beauty that we should desire Him

- *Unlike Saul (1 Sam 9:20) or David (1 Sam 16:12)*
- *Unlike "Christian stardom" or secular celebrity of our day*
- *God didn't choose physical beauty or stature or status to save us*
- *God doesn't plan for good looks to be the premise of leadership*

3a – His Reception

He is despised and rejected by men

- *Rejected by His brothers*
- *Rejected by His kinsman (John 1:10-11; Mark 6:3)*
- *Rejected by spiritual & political rulers (John 19:15)*
- *Rejected by the nations (49:7)*

3b – His Troubles

A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief

- *One known for sorrows – possibly mistreated all of His life*
- *He was thought to be conceived out of wedlock... (John 8:41)*
- *His righteous life would have brought scorn*

3c – Our Response

And WE hid, as it were, OUR faces from Him;

He was despised, and WE did not esteem Him.

- *Romans 3:10ff*