

THE LORD'S "SERVANT SUBSTITUTE" IN ISAIAH IN MONTHLY FORM

The Days of the Month Are Coordinated with the Verses of the Four Servant Songs in Isaiah 53, 42, 49, & 50.

ISAIAH 53. (See Isaiah 53's three-verse Introduction below at Days 13-15, Isaiah 52:13-15.)

Verse & Day 1: "But who has really believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been really revealed?"

2. For the Servant grew up before the LORD like a raw shrub & like a root out of dry ground. He had no special face or form that we should look at him; there was nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. 3

3. He was, in fact & finally, despised & rejected by others, a man of suffering & acquainted with grief; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised & we held him of no account whatsoever." +

4. "But really! He himself took on himself our deep weaknesses & he carried our sicknesses, though we thought of him as stricken & struck down by God & that was why he was so afflicted. (8) 17 SUB

5. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, & by his stripes we are healed. SUB

6. All we like sheep have gone astray, we have all turned to our own way, & the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all." SUB

7. "He was oppressed, & he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter & like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, he did not open his mouth. THE LAMB [] 29

8. By a perversion of justice, in fact, he was taken away. But who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken—for the transgression of My people. SUB

9. They made his grave with the wicked & his tomb with the rich, though he had done no violence & there was no deceit in his mouth."

10. "Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. But when you [!] make his life the sacrifice for sin he shall see his offspring, he shall prolong his days, & through him the will of the LORD shall finally triumph. SUB

11. Out of his anguish he shall see light & find satisfaction—through those, namely, who come to know him. In sum, The Righteous One, My Servant, shall make many righteous, & he himself shall bear their iniquities. SUB

12. Therefore I will assign him the very many for his portion, & numberless shall be his catch. Why? Because he poured himself out to death & numbered himself with the rebellious. Yes, in exactly this way, he himself took on himself the sins of oh so many & made intercession for the transgressors." SUB

ISAIAH 52:13-15 (These three verses, Isaiah 53's introductory verses, are here coordinated with the days of the month.)

13. "Look! My Servant shall triumph! He shall be exalted & lifted up & shall be very high. (28)^A

14. But meanwhile, just as then there were so many who were appalled by him [Hebrew: "by you,!" *alika*], for so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, & his form beyond that of mortals— + (27)

15. —just so shall he startle many nations now. Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which had never been told them before they shall now actually see, & that which they had never heard before they shall now actually ponder." (Isaiah 53:1ff., at the top of the page, follows this introduction.) (28)^C

Isaiah 53's three introductory Servant Songs—in Isaiah 42, 49, & 50—will now complete our monthly reading. (Encircled marginal numbers = Matthew's Gospel; squared marginal numbers = John's Gospel.)