

**Text: Matthew 26:69-27:26**

Section 1

69Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant-girl came to him and said, "You too were with Jesus the Galilean." 70But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." 71When he had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." 72And again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." 73A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Surely you too are one of them; for even the way you talk gives you away." 74Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know the man!" And immediately a rooster crowed. 75And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, "Before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. (Matthew 26:69-75)

Back in verse 56 we saw that "all the disciples left Him and fled." And now Peter, perhaps the most eager to do and to please of all the disciples, has three times denied Christ to servant girls and unarmed bystanders. Yet, a short time later all of these men would become powerful preachers and evangelists, fearlessly proclaiming salvation through the Name of Jesus Christ even unto the death. What changed? After the death and resurrection of Christ they received the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus had promised to them and who enables and empowers every Christian to serve and glorify God.

5"But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' 6"But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7"But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8"And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; 9concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; 11and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. 12"I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14"He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. 15"All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you. (John 16:5-15)

Immediately upon receiving the Holy Spirit, the disciples preached powerfully and fearlessly, with the former coward Peter in the forefront.

1When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. 4And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. 5Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. 7They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8"And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born? 9"Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11Cretans and Arabs--we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God." 12And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13But others were mocking and saying, "They are full of sweet wine." 14But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words. 15"For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day; 16but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:

17'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says,  
'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND;  
AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY,  
AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS,  
AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS;  
18EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN,  
I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT  
And they shall prophesy.  
19'AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE  
AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW,  
BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE.  
20'THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS  
AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD,

**BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME.**

**21'AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'** 22"Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know-23this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. 24"But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. 25"For David says of Him,

**'I SAW THE LORD ALWAYS IN MY PRESENCE;**

**FOR HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, SO THAT I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN.**

**26'THEREFORE MY HEART WAS GLAD AND MY TONGUE EXULTED;**

**MOREOVER MY FLESH ALSO WILL LIVE IN HOPE;**

**27BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT ABANDON MY SOUL TO HADES,**

**NOR ALLOW YOUR HOLY ONE TO UNDERGO DECAY.**

**28'YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE WAYS OF LIFE;**

**YOU WILL MAKE ME FULL OF GLADNESS WITH YOUR PRESENCE.'** 29"Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30"And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT one OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE, 31he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY. 32"Thus Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. 33"Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. 34"For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says:

**'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD,**

**"SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,**

**35UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.'"** 36"Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified." (Acts 2:1-36)

Their preaching, empowered by the Holy Spirit, convicted the Jews, and he commanded them to repent and believe. God used this preaching to add thousands of new Christians to their number.

**37Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"** 38Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39"For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." 40And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" 41So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:37-41)

Repent and believe. To repent means to turn away, to change directions, forsaking sin and following Christ. Peter commanded the Jews to do so, and three thousand were saved. Peter also had to repent following his denials, as Jesus had, after the resurrection, challenged him three times to declare his love for Christ. Peter did, and was restored.

**15So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?"** He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You " He said to him, "Tend My lambs." 16He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." 17He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You " Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep. (John 21:15-17)

Likewise, when we as believers inevitably fail, Christ will forgive us if we only ask. What a great and comforting promise!

**9If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)**

## Section 2

*1Now when morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus to put Him to death; 2and they bound Him, and led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate the governor. 3Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!" 5And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself. (Matthew 27:1-5)*

Judas was lost and, unfortunately, died in that condition. Jesus prayed before going to the Garden of Gethsemane knowing that Judas would die in his sins.

**12"While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled. (John 17:12)**

On some level, Judas certainly believed in God. Mere belief in God, however doesn't save, as James pointed out.

**19You believe that God is one You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. (James 2:19)**

From time to time, the idea comes up that Judas really meant well, that he intended to use his betrayal to force Jesus to use His power to prevent His arrest and instead take over the political government of Israel. Let's assume, for the moment, that this is true. What does that change? Nothing. Again, it is not enough to believe that Jesus exists, or even to believe that He is God. Salvation comes when we confess Him as Lord, as master. Judas did not do this.

**9that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. (Romans 10:9-10)**

The Bible teaches instead that Judas was under the influence of Satan. While this was allowed in order that God's plan that Jesus be arrested, tried, and crucified would come to pass, Judas's death is an unfortunate reminder of what happens to those that follow after Satan (either consciously or unconsciously). They are lied to, and eventually die physically and spiritually.

**26Jesus then answered, "That is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him." So when He had dipped the morsel, He took and gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. 27After the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Therefore Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." (John 13:26-27)**

**44" You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (John 8:44)**

Judas knew he had sinned, and felt great remorse. Remorse, however, is not repentance unto life. Devoid of hope, and knowing the judgment that awaited him, he still saw no option for himself but to end his life. The author of Hebrews spoke of something like this.

**26For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES. 28Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY " And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE." (Hebrews 10:26-30)**

### Section 3

*6The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it is the price of blood." 7And they conferred together and with the money bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers. 8For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. (Matthew 27:6-8)*

Isn't it strange that the chief priests, although they had conspired to put an innocent Man to death and therefore had blood on their hands, argued over the comparably petty matter of what would be lawful to do with the thirty pieces of silver. Jesus spoke harshly of those rulers that selectively applied the Law for the sake of their own traditions, or labored over minutia while neglecting major points of obedience.

**6And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written:**

**'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS,  
BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.**

**7'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME,**

**TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.'** 8"Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men." 9He was also saying to them, "You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition.10"For Moses said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER'; and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER, IS TO BE PUT TO DEATH'; 11but you say, 'If a man says to his father or his mother, whatever I have that would help you is Corban (that is to say, given to God),' 12you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or his mother; 13thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and you do many things such as that." (Mark 7:6-13)

**24**"You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! **25**"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. **26**"You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also. **27**"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. **28**"So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. **29**"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, **30**and say, 'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' **31**"So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. **32**"Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers. **33**"You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell? **34**"Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, **35**so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. **36**"Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. (Matthew 23:24-36)

#### Section 4

*9*Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: "AND THEY TOOK THE THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER, THE PRICE OF THE ONE WHOSE PRICE HAD BEEN SET by the sons of Israel; *10*AND THEY GAVE THEM FOR THE POTTER'S FIELD, AS THE LORD DIRECTED ME." (Matthew 27:9-10)

Here's a potential problem for you: the prophecy being referred to is not in Jeremiah, but in Zechariah.

**12**I said to them, "If it is good in your sight, give me my wages; but if not, never mind!" So they weighed out thirty shekels of silver as my wages. **13**Then the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter, that magnificent price at which I was valued by them." So I took the thirty shekels of silver and threw them to the potter in the house of the LORD. (Zechariah 11:12-13)

Several answers have been given for this. One is that Jeremiah was the first prophetic book in the arrangement of Scriptures used at that time, and therefore "Jeremiah" was used as a generic name for all of the prophets. Another is the possibility that the final chapters of the book bearing Zechariah's name were not written by Zechariah, but by another author, possibly Jeremiah. Perhaps the insertion of the name Jeremiah was merely an early copyist's error. In short, scholars are still debating this issue. The important thing, though, is that a seemingly obscure Old Testament prophecy was fulfilled in great detail in this event.

#### Section 5

**11**Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor questioned Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" And Jesus said to him, "It is as you say." **12**And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He did not answer. **13**Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?" **14**And He did not answer him with regard to even a single charge, so the governor was quite amazed. **15**Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the people any one prisoner whom they wanted. **16**At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. **17**So when the people gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" **18**For he knew that because of envy they had handed Him over. **19**While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message, saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him." **20**But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death. **21**But the governor said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." **22**Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Crucify Him!" **23**And he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they kept shouting all the more, saying, "Crucify Him!" **24**When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves." **25**And all the people said, "His blood shall be on us and on our children!" **26**Then he released Barabbas for them; but after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified. (Matthew 27:11-26)

So, Jesus was brought before Pilate. The Jews has already condemned Jesus to death for the crime of blasphemy, which the Law indicates is a capital crime.

**16**Moreover, the one who blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death; all the congregation shall certainly stone him. The alien as well as the native, when he blasphemes the Name, shall be put to death. (Leviticus 24:16)

Why, then, did they not simply take Jesus out and stone Him? This surely happened at other times—it happened to Stephen when he was martyred not too long after this.

**54**Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him. **55**But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; **56**and he

said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." 57But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse. 58When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning him; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59They went on stoning Stephen as he called on the Lord and said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" 60Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Having said this, he fell asleep. (Acts 7:54-60)

Remember, though, that Stephen's execution by an angry mob was not lawful according to the Romans, who ruled Jerusalem at this time. Under the Romans, the Jews were not given the power of capital punishment. Therefore, in order for Jesus to be "lawfully" executed He had to be condemned and sentenced to death by the Roman authorities. One commentator has suggested that this small dignity (a legal execution rather than one at the hands of an angry mob) was granted to Jesus by the Father to demonstrate that the rule of law was established by God and still an important and binding concept, although in this case it was applied to one falsely convicted.

**1Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. 2Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. 3For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; 4for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil. (Romans 13:1-4)**

The main reason, though, that Jesus died at the hands of the Romans was that both Jesus Himself and the Old Testament indicated that Jesus would die by crucifixion, a method of execution unique to the Romans.

**14"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; 15so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life. 16"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. 17"For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. 18"He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (John 3:14-18)**

Psalms 22 describes the circumstances of Jesus' death in astounding detail, especially considering that the human author was likely not aware of crucifixion as a manner of execution.

**1My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?  
Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning.  
2O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer;  
And by night, but I have no rest.  
3Yet You are holy,  
O You who are enthroned upon the praises of Israel.  
4In You our fathers trusted;  
They trusted and You delivered them.  
5To You they cried out and were delivered;  
In You they trusted and were not disappointed.  
6But I am a worm and not a man,  
A reproach of men and despised by the people.  
7All who see me sneer at me;  
They separate with the lip, they wag the head, saying,  
8"Commit yourself to the LORD; let Him deliver him;  
Let Him rescue him, because He delights in him."  
9Yet You are He who brought me forth from the womb;  
You made me trust when upon my mother's breasts.  
10Upon You I was cast from birth;  
You have been my God from my mother's womb.  
11Be not far from me, for trouble is near;  
For there is none to help.  
12Many bulls have surrounded me;  
Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled me.  
13They open wide their mouth at me,  
As a ravening and a roaring lion.  
14I am poured out like water,  
And all my bones are out of joint;  
My heart is like wax;  
It is melted within me.  
15My strength is dried up like a potsherd,**

And my tongue cleaves to my jaws;  
And You lay me in the dust of death.  
16For dogs have surrounded me;  
A band of evildoers has encompassed me;  
They pierced my hands and my feet.  
17I can count all my bones.  
They look, they stare at me;  
18They divide my garments among them,  
And for my clothing they cast lots.  
19But You, O LORD, be not far off;  
O You my help, hasten to my assistance.  
20Deliver my soul from the sword,  
My only life from the power of the dog.  
21Save me from the lion's mouth;  
From the horns of the wild oxen You answer me.  
22I will tell of Your name to my brethren;  
In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.  
23You who fear the LORD, praise Him;  
All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him,  
And stand in awe of Him, all you descendants of Israel.  
24For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted;  
Nor has He hidden His face from him;  
But when he cried to Him for help, He heard.  
25From You comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I shall pay my vows before those who fear Him.  
26The afflicted will eat and be satisfied;  
Those who seek Him will praise the LORD  
Let your heart live forever!  
27All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD,  
And all the families of the nations will worship before You.  
28For the kingdom is the LORD'S  
And He rules over the nations.  
29All the prosperous of the earth will eat and worship,  
All those who go down to the dust will bow before Him,  
Even he who cannot keep his soul alive.  
30Posterity will serve Him;  
It will be told of the Lord to the coming generation.  
31They will come and will declare His righteousness  
To a people who will be born, that He has performed it. (Psalm 22:1-31)

Why was Jesus Christ, the Son of God, crucified? To take our sins upon Himself, so that all that repent and believe, confessing Him as Lord and Savior, would have everlasting life.

1Who has believed our message?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
2For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot,  
And like a root out of parched ground;  
He has no stately form or majesty  
That we should look upon Him,  
Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.  
3He was despised and forsaken of men,  
A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;  
And like one from whom men hide their face  
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.  
4Surely our griefs He Himself bore,  
And our sorrows He carried;  
Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken,  
Smitten of God, and afflicted.  
5But He was pierced through for our transgressions,  
He was crushed for our iniquities;  
The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him,  
And by His scourging we are healed.

- 6**All of us like sheep have gone astray,  
Each of us has turned to his own way;  
But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all  
To fall on Him.
- 7**He was oppressed and He was afflicted,  
Yet He did not open His mouth;  
Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,  
And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers,  
So He did not open His mouth.
- 8**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  
For the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due?
- 9**His grave was assigned with wicked men,  
Yet He was with a rich man in His death,  
Because He had done no violence,  
Nor was there any deceit in His mouth.
- 10**But the LORD was pleased  
To crush Him, putting Him to grief;  
If He would render Himself as a guilt offering,  
He will see His offspring,  
He will prolong His days,  
And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand.
- 11**As a result of the anguish of His soul,  
He will see it and be satisfied;  
By His knowledge the Righteous One,  
My Servant, will justify the many,  
As He will bear their iniquities.
- 12**Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great,  
And He will divide the booty with the strong;  
Because He poured out Himself to death,  
And was numbered with the transgressors;  
Yet He Himself bore the sin of many,  
And interceded for the transgressors. (Isaiah 53:1-12)

**3**For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,  
**4**and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, (1Corinthians 15:3-4)

**16**"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:16)