

THE SUFFERING KING ARRIVES

Isaiah 53; John 16:33 Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 12.17.23

As humans, we focus on our own pain and suffering, don't we? It doesn't seem fair. But, to be fair with God, have you ever thought of the opposite question, "Why did God's Son have to suffer?"

BIG IDEA: When the Eternal King arrived, the surprise was that he would be made to suffer. But that bad news carries good news!

ISAIAH 53

³ 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.

⁵ 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.

What crushed Christ? Was it the weight of the crossbar he carried? Was it the weight of his body hanging from his spiked wrists? No! He was crushed by the weight of our sin!

2 Corinthians 5:21: He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

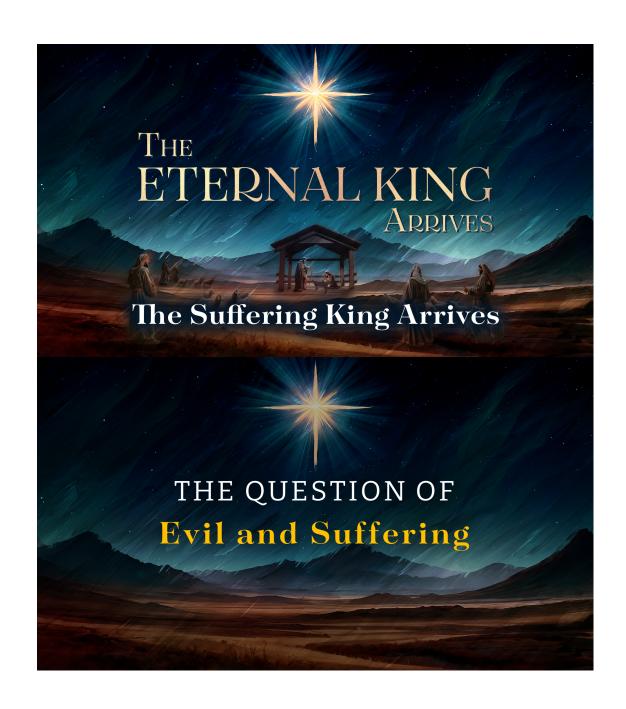
The gospel is not simply "Christ died." Every great leader has died. Alexander the Great died. Lincoln died. The gospel message is that "Christ died for our sins and rose again."

Atonement: "The atonement is the work that Christ did in his life and death to earn our salvation." Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." NIV

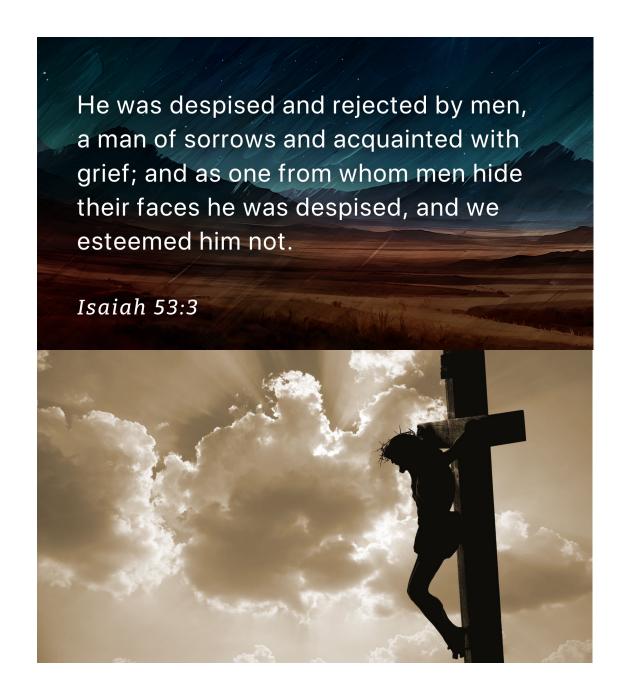
Apply: How does the fact that God suffered for you change the way that you view your suffering and that of the whole world?

What suffering person can you reach out to this week?





Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? Isaiah 53:1 For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. Isaiah 53:2



Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

Isaiah 53:4

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.

Isaiah 53:5

