

The man of sorrows — who turns our sorrow into Joy

Introduction:

1. Sometimes we see an aspect of Jesus we don't think of very often
 2. Why does Isaiah describe our Savior as a man of sorrows acquainted with grief?
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I. A MAN OF SORROWS

A. A PROPHECY OF JESUS (53:1-2)

1. Although Isaiah is written over 7 centuries before the birth of Jesus...
2. This prophecy is given in PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE Tense!
3. Because God is Eternal — He Created Time and is Outside of Time and not bound by Time
4. The Creator of Time and Space Entered Time and Space Just as the Author of Time and Space Promised!

B. HIS ARRIVAL (53:2)

1. The Time of Jesus Arrival Was Like a Political, Religious and Moral Desert
 - a) Israel were Ruled By a Depraved Tyrant — Herod the Great
 - b) Herod was Ruled by Depraved Caesars in Rome
 - c) The People Were Ruled by Corrupt Religious Leaders at home
 - d) A Corrupt Priesthood controlled by Tradition rather than committed to Truth
2. I was In these Dry Conditions that a carpenter from Nazareth began sharing the Water of Life...

C. HIS APPEARANCE (53:2)

1. Isaiah gives the most detailed description of Jesus physical appearance in all the Bible
 - a) NASB: "He has no *statel*y form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him."
2. Jesus was Humble and raised in a humble home...
 - a) He was not a Politician or a Hollywood Celebrity, or the "Life of the Party" type
 - b) He did not appeal to people by some advantage of physical appearance
 - c) EX: In the movie "Jesus of Nazareth" the actor refused to blink his eyes in any scene of the movie. It give an unnatural stare that makes the viewer uncomfortable.
3. Our Culture is So Appearance Oriented Today that Sometimes we think we need to "dress up" the gospel to make it more attractive.
 - a) A Marketing Make-over to Make Christ and His Church More Attractive
 - b) A Different Gospel—A New and Improved Gospel because the True Gospel is Not Attractive Enough to Our Worldly Way of Thinking.
 - c) If the Truth isn't good Enough For Us Then Nothing Will Be Good Enough

D. HE WAS DESPISED AND REJECTED (53:3)

1. Jesus left the glory of heaven to be born in a manger for animals because there was no room in the Inn (Lk 2:7)
2. He came to His own and His own received Him not
3. Even During His Ministry He Was Despised and Rejected by the Scribes, the Pharisees, the Chief priests, and religious rulers.

E. HE WAS A MAN OF SORROWS (53:3)

1. Jesus Experienced Both Physical and Emotional sorrow
 - a) Jesus Wept Over Jerusalem
 - b) Jesus Wept at the Death of His Friend Lazarus (John 11:32–36)
 - c) Jesus Groaned within His Spirit and Was Troubled
 2. Jesus was a Man of Sorrow—But NOT For Himself—
but For the Suffering of Humanity...
 - a) He Had Compassion and Healed the Sick, Gave Sight to the Blind, Made the Lame Walk and Raised the Dead.
 3. His Sorrow is a Direct Result of His Compassion and Love!
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II. AQUATINTED WITH GRIEF

A. JESUS WAS WELL AQUATINTED WITH GRIEF

1. Grief is a deep sadness — an anguish of the heart.
 - a) Grief is what we feel when we experience loss
 - b) It washes over us in waves and when we think it's over it returns
 - c) It makes us feel like were going crazy—but that's what grief feels like

B. JESUS CARRIED THE WIEGHT OF THE WORLD IN HIS HEART

1. A mother grieving the death of her baby said, *“the hole in my heart was so deep that I couldn’t see the bottom.”*
2. Imagine the Grief of Every Lost Child in the World...
This is the Deep Sadness and Anguish of the heart that Jesus Carried.
 - a) (Isaiah 53:4) *“Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.*
3. This is why Jesus wept over Jerusalem... (Matthew 23:37)

C. JESUS CARRIED THE SINS OF THE WORLD TO THE CROSS

1. Jesus experienced intense sorrow and grief leading to the cross...
 - a) But Even Greater than the Physical Suffering...
 - b) Even Greater than the Weight of the World on His Heart...
 - c) Jesus Carried the Sins of the World to the Cross
2. As Isaiah Prophesied (Isaiah 53:3–7)
3. Jesus Paid Our Debt in Full at the Cross

III. IMPLICATIONS FOR US

A. SORROW AND GRIEF ARE A PART OF THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

1. **Atheistic Materialism cannot explain Human Consciousness, or Moral Conscience or Human Emotions.**
 - a) But The Bible Reveals that God who is Eternal Spirit Created us in His Image —with Personality, Intellect, Will, Emotions and Moral Conscience
 - b) Jesus Wept and so will we, Jesus Grieved and so will we, Jesus Experienced Sorrow of the heart and so will we
 - c) because we were created in the image of God.
2. **So GRIEF is NORMAL, it is NATURAL and it is Even NECESSARY**
 - a) JOB Experienced Grief—because he lost everything, even his family. (**Job 6:2–3a**)
 - b) DAVID described his grief (**Ps 6:6-7a**)
as his pillow soaked with tears in the night—and his soul cast down.
 - c) Grief Sometimes it Makes People Feel Like They Are Going Crazy
 - d) It Washes Over Us Like a Wave pummeling us... then it recedes and we think were ok but then it washes over us again unexpectedly, the recedes
3. **THERE ARE MANY MYTHS ABOUT GRIEF — Here are a few... ¹**
 - a) **MYTH 1: People with strong faith don't Grieve.**
 - (1) But we see that Jesus was Well Acquainted with Grief
 - b) **MYTH 2: A Strong person should be able to get through a loss without showing emotion.**
 - (1) Yet We Know That Jesus Wept at the grave of His friend Lazarus
 - c) **MYTH 3: Crying is a sign of Weakness**
 - (1) Weeping is a normal and natural response to deep sadness.
 - (2) We Weep Because We Care, we love, and we have experienced loss.
 - (3) Tears are words that can't be spoken, but must come out of our heart
 - d) **MYTH 4: If You Feel or Express Intense Feelings You are Losing Control of Yourself.**
 - (1) CS Lewis lost his wife to cancer, and later he wrote: "No one ever told me that grief felt so much like fear."
 - e) **MYTH 5: Grieving Only Lasts a Short Time**
 - f) **MYTH 6: Continuing to talk about the loss, or tragedy or the person who died only makes the pain last longer.**
 - g) **MYTH 7: A Strong person should be able to Deal with Grief Alone**
 - h) **MYTH 8: After a Tragic loss or a loved one has died, you can never be happy again...**

Grief is difficult enough w/o the pressure of unrealistic expectations that only make it harder.

¹ Journeying through Grief, Book 1, Kenneth C. Haugk, p.31

B. BUT EVEN IN SORROW—JESUS HAD HOPE

1. **Even in spite of all the Sorrows and the Grief Jesus Carried...**
—He Had Hope Keeping Him Focused on the Plan of God (**Hebrews 12:1-2**)
2. **Even In Our Sorrow and Grief — We Too Have Hope Because of Jesus**
3. **Even Our Grief can bring us closer to God**
4. **We Can Keep Going—Even in Pain—For the Hope that is Set Before Us**
The Hope of Eternal Life (Titus 1:2**)**

C. JESUS WENT TO THE CROSS TO TURN OUR SORROW INTO JOY

1. **(John 16:19–22) Only Jesus Can Turn Our Sorrow into Joy!**
2. **Mary Went to the Tomb early before light but it was empty, Jesus was gone.**
 - a) She was in tears and couldn't recognize Jesus alive from the dead.
 - b) She Thought he was the gardener and said, if You've taken away my Lord please tell me where you have laid Him.
 - c) Jesus said, Mary and she recognized it was Jesus.
3. **Her tears obscured her vision so she could not recognize Jesus!**
 - a) Her Sorrow and Tears Obscured her vision
 - b) But Jesus Turned Her Sorrow into Joy!
4. **We might describe grief as a broken heart...**
 - a) Jesus knows what that is like and is able to comfort us (Psalm 34:18-19)
 - b) **Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning. (Psalm 30:5)**

CONCLUSION:

1. **Jesus was the man of Sorrows—who turns our sorrow into Joy**
2. **He is near the broken hearted**
3. **And comforts the afflicted**

(John 16:22) Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you.

Mt 5:6⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.