

## The Exchanges That Happened On Jesus' Cross

These verses are about Jesus' crucifixion, taken from Isaiah 53:3 to 12. Verse 3; 'He was despised and rejected and forsaken by men, a Man of sorrows and pains, and acquainted with grief and sickness; like One from Whom men hide their faces. He was despised and we did not appreciate His worth or have any esteem for Him'. Verse 4; 'Surely He has borne our griefs, our sicknesses, our weaknesses, our distresses and carried our sorrows and pain, yet we ignorantly considered Him stricken, smitten and afflicted by God'. Verse 5; 'But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our guilt and iniquities, the chastisement needed to obtain peace for us was upon Him and with the stripes [wounds, whipmarks, welts] that wounded Him, we are healed and made whole'. Verse 7; 'He was oppressed, yet when He was afflicted He was submissive, and opened not His mouth; like a Lamb that is led to the slaughter ... so He opened not His mouth'. Verse 9; 'They assigned Him a grave with the wicked ... although He had done no violence, neither was any deceit in His mouth'. Verse 10; '... You and He made His life an offering for sin; He shall see His spiritual offspring ...' Verses 11 & 12; 'He shall see the fruit of His travail and be satisfied ... because He poured out His life unto death, and He let Himself be regarded as a criminal and be numbered with the transgressors, yet He bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors'.

The exchange on the cross was complete. The cross is where God provided every solution for mankind. The work on Calvary was a perfect work – a perfect and complete, divinely appointed exchange. To satisfy eternal divine justice, God put upon Jesus all the evil that was within the human race so that in return, by faith, the one who repents and believes, may receive all the goodness of God that is due by justice. Jesus took all the evil so we can enjoy all the good that the Lord has for us. All we have to do is accept it. Jesus has already done the rest. Jesus was punished for our sin so that we might be forgiven. There is a difference between sin and sins. Sins are the acts caused by overall sin; that is the sin nature born in every one of us. 'If we say we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and his word not in us' (1 John 1:10). Why? 'Because all have sinned and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23). 'If we say we have no sin we are deluding ourselves and the truth is not in us' (1 John 1:8). The sin nature in us, drives us to commit sins.

Exchange: Jesus was wounded for our freedom from eternal judgement. In verse 5 of the above passage of scripture, we read that Jesus was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities. Jesus suffered the bruising and wounds – and we go free.

Exchange: Jesus was striped for our healing and health. Jesus was lashed or whipped for our sicknesses so that we might be healed. Jesus was made sick that we might have health. There is a difference in being healed and being in divine health. It is the will of God for the believer to be in health. 'Beloved, I pray that you may prosper and be in health, as your soul prospers' (3 John 1:2). Divine health means we do not suffer chronic illnesses, as long as we live our lives sensibly and are wise. To be healed is to be cured of an existing illness that we may have had before accepting Jesus as our Saviour, but in the realm of Christianity, there are no hard and fast rules. We could become ill just simply because we live on this sin-soaked, bacteria-ridden earth. However, Jesus was striped for our healing and we, as Christians, have the right to ask for healing. We can claim divine health, as long as we are right with God and walk according to His purposes, and of course, as long as we don't abuse our bodies by overwork, overeating, etc.

Exchange: Jesus became sin for our righteousness. In Isaiah 53:10 we see that God the Father and Jesus Himself made His life an offering for sin. 'For your sake He made Christ sin, Who knew no sin so that through Him we might become the righteousness of God' (2nd Corinthians 5:21).

Exchange: Jesus became a curse for our blessing. 'Christ purchased our freedom, redeeming us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. For it is written: Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree [is crucified] (Deuteronomy 21:23). To that end through receiving Jesus Christ, the blessing promised to Abraham (Genesis 12:3) might come upon the Gentiles so that we through faith, might receive the promise of the Holy Spirit' (Galatians 3:13 & 14).

Exchange: Jesus became poor so we could enjoy heavenly riches. 'For you are becoming progressively acquainted with the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though He was rich, yet for our sakes He became poor, in order that by His poverty you might become rich' (2nd Corinthians 8:9). It is through His grace that we became spiritually rich. We didn't deserve it, but He did it for us anyway. That is the true grace of God; kindness, gracious generosity, unmerited, unearned favour and spiritual blessing. Jesus exhausted the poverty curse – He was hungry, thirsty, unclothed, was buried in a borrowed tomb and wrapped with borrowed burial linen. He did that for our sakes.

Exchange: Jesus accepted death for our life. 'But we are able to see Jesus, Who was ranked a little lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honour, because of His having suffered death, in order that by the grace of God to us sinners, He might experience death for every individual person' (Hebrews 2:9). 'As one man's sin led to condemnation for all men, so one Man's act of righteousness leads to God and life for all men' (Romans 5:17). 'I came, that you might have life, and have it more abundantly' (John 10:10).

Exchange: Because of Jesus, we are able to swap the old sinful man [self] for the new righteous man [self]. 'We know that our old man [self] was nailed to the cross with Him, in order that our body of sin might be made inactive for evil, so that we might no longer be the slaves of sin' (Romans 6:6). 'Put on the new man [self] created in God's image, in true righteousness and holiness' (Ephesians 4:24). 'You have clothed yourselves with the new man [self], which is ever being renewed into more perfect knowledge, after the image and the likeness of Him Who created it' (Colossians 3:10).

Exchange: Jesus suffered pain, sorrow and grief so we would have no pain, sorrow or grief. 'A Man of sorrow and pains and acquainted with grief' (Isaiah 53:3). 'God will wipe away every tear from our eyes and death shall be no more, neither shall there be anguish, mourning, sorrow, nor grief nor pain any more' (Revelation 21:4).

Exchange: Jesus suffered rejection for our love and acceptance. 'He was despised, rejected and forsaken by men' (Isaiah 53:3). 'What quality of love the Father has given or shown to us, that we should be named the children of God!' (1 John 3:1) 'To the praise of His glorious grace, which He has made us accepted in the Beloved' (Ephesians 1:6).

It is on the cross where God provided the exchange of solutions to every single problem known to man, and they were fully taken care of on Jesus' cross. After everything was done, Jesus said, "It is finished." (John 19:30). Jesus did it. 'God had completely disarmed the evil principalities and powers in high places that were ranged against us, and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him (Jesus) and on the cross' (Colossians 2:15). All we need to do is accept the list of exchanges and walk in our new life, based on the Word of God.

Amen and God bless you.

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