SURVEYING THE SERVANT SONGS

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Search the Scriptures ... for they speak of Me. John 5:39

A one-day Prophecy Seminar



History • Current Events • Prophecy • Evangelism ...To declare unto you all the counsel of God. Acts 20:27

Saturday 10th November 2018 Ron Jarlett

Epping Gospel Chapel Carlingford Rd and Duntroon Ave

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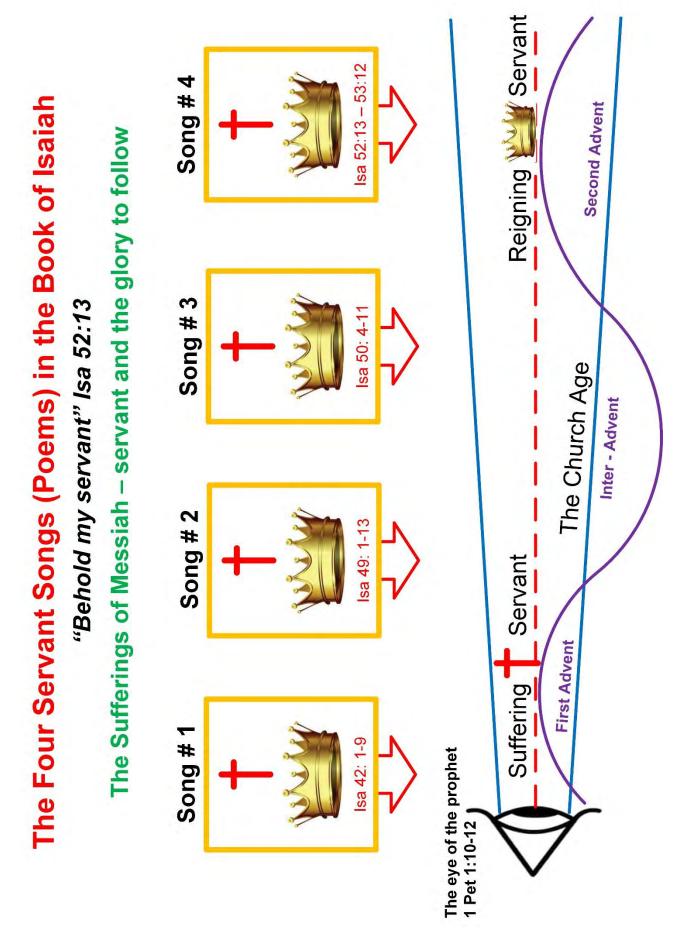
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The Servant of the Lord



I. The Servant of Jehovah – The Deliverer – Introduced (42: 1-7)

A. Introduction to the Suffering Servant Songs

Refer to "The Servant Songs Diagram" on page 3.

- 1. The Subject of the Servant of Jehovah in Isaiah:
 - a. The usage of the term "servant". The term is used 40 times in Isaiah and 20 times in Chapters 40 53;
 - b. The meaning of the word servant is "a worker", " a toiler or labourer";
 - c. The identification of the Servant. "...of whom does the prophet speak":

Acts 8:34. There are four usages of the word servant in Isaiah.

The first is David (Isa 37:35),

The second is Israel the nation (Isa 41:8, 9; 44:1, 2),

The third, a faithful remnant within the nation (Isa 65:8), and

The fourth, an individual – the Messiah (Isa 53:8, 11 and all references in the Servant Songs).

The Servant is not Isaiah, not the Jewish nation, but a special individual man.

- d. The Special Literary Features of the Servant Songs. The text of the songs is expressed in pictorial, conversational, autobiographical, editorial language.
- e. The New Testament Confirmation of the Identification of the Servant with the Lord Jesus Christ. The self-revelation of the Lord Jesus from the O.T. Lk 22:37 cf. Lk 24:44,45. The Apostles, 1 Pet 1:10,11. Acts 13:47 (cf John 20:21), Rom 10:16; 15:20,21. Acts 8:32-35.
- f. The Four Songs of the Suffering Servant.
 - Song 1 The Humble Servant (42:1-9);
 - Song 2 The Rejected Servant (49:1-13);
 - Song 3 The Afflicted Servant (50:4-11);
 - Song 4 The Crucified Servant (52:13 53:12).

The revelation of the servant in his suffering is presented progressively first humility, then rejection, then suffering, death, and finally triumph.



The First Song of 'The Servant of Jehovah'

The Humble Servant (42:1-7)

II. Five "Snapshots" of the Humble Servant – "Behold – Look intently" (vs 1)

Refer to "The Servant Songs Diagram" on page 3.

1. Estimation (vs 1)

"...in whom my soul delights".

2. Preparation (vs 1, 6)

"...the Spirit upon him, upheld by My Hand".

3. Destination (vs 1, 4, 6, 7)

"...justice to the nations".

4. Characterisation (vs 2 – 4)

"He will ... he will not".

5. Liberation (vs 6, 7)

"a covenant to the people, a light to the gentiles to bring release, light and sight".





The Rejected Servant (Isa 49:1-12)

Refer to "The Servant Songs Diagram" on page 3.

1. The Servant's Call and Commission (49:1-2)

"...from the womb... my mother." "...He has hidden me".

2. The Servant's Discouragement and Trust (49:3-4)

"...I have laboured in vain." "...my work and reward is with the Lord".

- 3. The Servant's Mission to Jew and Gentile (49:5-6)
 "...to raise and restore the tribes of Israel." "...a light to the gentiles".
- 4. The Servant Despised but Worshipped (49:7)
 "...to whom man despises." "...kings and princes shall worship".

5. The Servant restores Israel (49:8-12)

"...a covenant (New) to the people." "...to restore the desolate places (in Israel)".



The Third Song of 'The Servant of Jehovah'

The Afflicted Servant (Isa 50:4-11)

Refer to "The Servant Songs Diagram" on page 3. Introduction - "The Cause of Exiled Israel's Woes". (M. Unger) Isa 50:1-3.

- 1. The Education of the Servant (50:4-5) "one who is taught".
- 2. The Determination of the Servant (50:6-7) "like a flint".
- **3.** The Vindication of the Servant (50:8-9) "justifies (vindicates) me".
- 4. The Consolation of the Servants Disciples (50:10) "Trust God even in 'dark' times".
- 5. The Destination of the Servant's Enemies (50:11) "fire, torment".

The Forth Song of 'The Servant of Jehovah'



The Crucified (Slain) Servant (Isa 52:13 – 53:12)

Refer to "The Servant Songs Diagram" on page 3.

Introduction

- 1. The most complete atonement passage in the bible, 700 years before the event. Historical fact with interpretive detail – cf the parallel with the Gospels and the Epistles.
- 2. N.T. Interpretation Guide. Lk 22:37; Matt 26:51; Acts 8:29-35.

3. The Ancient Jewish Interpretation

Targum Jonathan: "Behold my Servant Messiah who is high and lifted up, and very exalted, more exalted than Abraham, elevated above Moses, higher than the ministering angels";

Babylonian Talmud: "The Messiah - what is his name? The Rabbis say 'the leprous one' – those of the house of Rabbi say, 'the sick one' as it is said 'surely He hath borne our sicknesses' ";

"Our rabbis with one voice accept and confirm the opinion that the prophet is speaking of the King Messiah".

4. The Modern Jewish Interpretation

"As many of the nations were astonished at thee, O Israel, saying at the time of the captivity, truly he is disfigured above all mankind in his countenance and form" (David Baron paraphrase).

Reply:

- a. It is for the transgression of my (Isaiah's) people (Israel) that he suffered;
- b. The suffering was voluntary, unresisting, and fatal none of which was fulfilled in Israel the nation.
- 5. The Sin Question Its remedy revealed in this song:
 - a. The description of the sinner in the songs weary, blind, broken, mourners 42:3, 7; 61:1-2;
 - b. The fourth song goes to the heart of the problem, the root causes / transgression, iniquity, sin, cf 53:5-8, 12.

6. The Substitutionary Remedy:

- a. The work is penal and legal 53:11 "justify many";
- b. The work is substitutionary "he bore" 53:11-12, cg Lev 16:22;
- c. The work is atoning:
 - (1) "his soul poured out in death" 53:12;
 - (2) a "tresspass offering" 53:10 the offering to settle debts and pay compensation Lev 5:16.

The Forth Song of 'The Servant of Jehovah'



The Dying Lamb Triumphant (Isa 53:12 - 52:13)

Introductory Revelation of the Suffering Servant (52:13-15)

A condensed form of the remaining song – A summary of the whole prophecy.

1. Exaltation

His Crowning Glory (53:12) "Exalted Very High".

2. Degradation

His Deep Suffering – His Disturbing Disfigurement (52:14) "marred more than the sons of men".

3. Lustration

Or Purification – His Purifying Priesthood (52:15) "He shall sprinkle".

4. Consternation

His World Wide Supremacy (52:15) "kings shut their mouths".

5. Revelation

His Dramatic Disclosure (52:15) "they shall see, understand".



The Forth Song of 'The Servant of Jehovah'

The Crucified (Slain) Servant of Jehovah - (Isa 53:1-12)

Introduction

- 1. The Structure of the Poem / Song:
 - a. A song has stanzas this has five stanzas cf paragraphs and stanza divisions in the Revised Standard Version Bible.
 - b. Stanzas:
 - (1) 52:13-15 Introductory
 - (2) 53:1-3 Historical;
 - (3) 53:4-6 Doctrinal;
 - (4) 53:7-9 Historical;
 - (5) 53:10-12 Doctrinal.
- 2. The Suffering Endured by the Servant / Messiah

We must distinguish between the sufferings inflicted by man and those by God.

- a. By God 53:4, 10.
- b. By man 53:7-8 cf Acts 2:23. Cf the cries "I thirst" and "my God why have you forsaken me?"

Stanza 2 – Historical - The Servant Suffering Unjustly

The Early Years of Life and Ministry - Despised, Misjudged (53:1-3).

Stanza 3 – Doctrinal - The Servant Suffering Vicariously

"for me" (53:4-6).

Stanza 4 – Historical - The Servant Suffering Voluntarily

The Closing Years of Life and Ministry - Trial, Execution (burial) (53:7-9).

Stanza 5 – Doctrinal - The Suffering Servant Triumphant

"prolong His days" (53:10-12) "...divide the spoil with the great/strong".



Principles of Servanthood

The Servant Songs in Isaiah

-	The Servant	Jesus	The Believer	
Song No. 1 – Isa 42:1-9				
42:1	Chosen	1 Pet 2:4	John 15:16	
42:1	Spirit-anointed	Acts 10:38	Gal 3:2; Eph 5:18	
42:2-3	Humble, Gentle	Matt 12:18	Phil 4:5; 2 Tim 2:24-25	
42:3a	Compassionate	Mark 1:41	Col 3:12	
42:4	Faithful	John 17:4	Gal 5:22; 1 Cor 4:2	
Song No. 2 – Isa 49:1-13				
49:1	Called	Luke 1:32-33	Rom 8:28-29; Acts 13:2	
49:1,5	Prepared	Mark 1:11	2 Tim 3:16-17	
49:6	Committed	John 4:34	Rom 12:1-2	
49:3	Glorified His Master	John 17:4	1 Cor 10:31	
49:4	Discouraged	Lk 9:41	2 Cor 4:8-9	
Song No. 3 – Isa 50:4-11				
50:4-5	Disiplined	John 4:4	1 Cor 9:27	
50:4b	Teachable	John 8:29	Eph 4:21; Heb 5:12; 1 Pet 2:2	
50:4	Compassionate	Mark 1:41	Col 3:12	
50:5	Submissive	Heb 10:7	Rom 12:1-2	
50:5-7	Committed	Luke 9:51	1 Cor 11:1	
50:7-9	Sufficiency in God	1 Pet 2:23	2 Cor 3:5-6; Rom 8:32-34	
50:6-7	Persecuted	1 Pet 2:23	1 Pet 2:21	
Song No. 4 – Isa 52:13 – 53:12				
52:14	Persecuted	John 15:18	John 15:18-19	
53:5-6	Sacrificed	1 Cor 15:3	2 Tim 4:6; 1 John 3:16	
53:10-11	Rewarded	Rev 2:26-27	Matt 25:21	
53:12	Victorious	Rev 3:21	Rev 3:21	



Messianic Prophecies in the Book of Isaiah

- 1. He will be called before His birth to be God's Servant (49:1).
- 2. He will be born of a virgin (7:14).
- 3. He will be a descendant of Jesse and thus in the Davidic line (11:1, 10).
- 4. He will be empowered by the Holy Spirit (11:2; 42:1).
- 5. He will be gentle toward the weak (42:3).
- 6. He will be obedient to the Lord in His mission (50:4-9).
- 7. He will voluntarily submit to suffering (50:6; 53:7-8).
- 8. He will be rejected by Israel (49:7; 53:1, 3).
- 9. He will take on Himself the sins of the world (53:4-6, 10-12).
- 10. He will triumph over death (53:10).
- 11. He will be exalted (52:13; 53:12).
- 12. He will come to comfort Israel and to bring vengeance on the wicked (61:1-3).
- 13. He will manifest God's glory (49:3).
- 14. He will restore Israel spiritually to God (49:5) and physically to the land (49:8).
- 15. He will reign on David's throne (9:7).
- 16. He will bring joy to Israel (9:3).
- 17. He will make a New Covenant with Israel (42:6; 49:8-9).
- 18. He will be a light to the Gentiles (42:6; 49:6).
- 19. He will restore the nations (11:10).
- 20. He will be worshiped by Gentiles (49:7; 52:15).
- 21. He will govern the world (9:6).
- 22. He will judge in righteousness, justice, and faithfulness (11:3-5; 42:1, 4).

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