

## "Shock and Awe: God's Suffering Servant" Isaiah 52:13-53:12

When God's Son came to earth, almost no one recognized His greatness. Instead, He was dismissed, despised, forsaken and rejected by those He came to save. But that was not the end of God's story. He experienced suffering at the hands of men according to the intentional will of God – so that He could stand as our substitute, bearing the consequences of our sin, so that we could be healed and restored to God. One day God will fully reward His suffering, and this surprising story will reach a triumphant fulfillment. Do you recognize His greatness? Do you live in grateful awe?

- Appearance: He was a common failure
  - His suffering was shocking
  - His beginnings were unimpressive
  - His entire life was haunted by pain
  - Conclusion: His life was of no value
- Reality: He is the successful Savior
  - His suffering was substitutionary
    - † bore our griefs and sorrows
    - † pierced for our transgressions
    - † crushed for our iniquities
    - † chastened (punished) for our peace
    - † scourged (wounded) for our healing

Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats, one lot for the Lord and the other lot for the scapegoat. Then Aaron shall offer the goat on which the lot for the Lord fell, and make it a sin offering. But the goat on which the lot for the scapegoat fell shall be presented alive before the Lord, to make atonement upon it, to send it into the wilderness as the scapegoat. **Leviticus 16:8–10**

Then Aaron shall lay both of his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the sons of Israel and all their transgressions in regard to all their sins; and he shall lay them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who stands in readiness. The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to a solitary land; and he shall release the goat in the wilderness. **Leviticus 16:21–22**

- His suffering was voluntary

No one takes [my life] from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father. **John 10:18**

– His suffering was undeserved

...this 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. **Acts 2:23**

– His suffering was successful

...and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world. **1 John 2:2**

– His suffering will be rewarded