

# The Servant's Reward

Isaiah 53:10-12

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## **Introduction**

Today we come to the fifth and last section of this section of Isaiah's prophecy that so clearly presents to us the suffering of Jesus Christ as a vicarious atonement for sin.

- This is such an important thing for us to understand in our day because it is perhaps the most despised of all doctrines in the Christian faith.
  - The very idea that man's sins were so offensive that atonement had to be made,
    - and that it could not be made by anyone less than the Son of God Himself,
    - and that God would be the kind of God who would even require such a thing in the first place is just too much for sinful men to bear.
  - The very fact that they can't accept that God would require such measures is proof in itself that such measures are necessary!
    - Man, until he is renewed by the Holy Spirit, despises the cross.
      - It was so in the first century, it is so today.
      - The cross is foolishness to him and it is highly offensive to him until he is renewed by grace,
        - and then it is this amazing, gracious, provision of almighty God for wretched sinners!
  - We have not spent a lot of time looking at all the ways that unbelieving commentators have tried to deny the clear teaching of this passage...nor do we need to...
    - but I wanted to share with you a choice comment about this from J. A. Alexander where he speaks about the repetition of the doctrine of substitutionary atonement that we find in this great passage. He said:
      - "It may be added in conclusion, that so far from being rhetorical defects or indications of another author, they [the repetitions] are used with an obvious design, viz. that of making it impossible for any ingenuity or learning to eliminate the doctrine of vicarious atonement from this passage, by presenting it so often and in forms so varied and yet still the same, that he who succeeds in expelling it from one place is compelled to meet it in another."
    - Amen!
      - If ever you want to demonstrate to anyone that Christ died in the place of guilty sinners, this is the chapter to turn to.
      - Sadly, it has become fashionable once again in our day, in what is still called evangelical circles, to try to deny this doctrine which is at the very core of our faith.
      - History has already proven that those who deny it will end up far away from Christ if they persist in their error.

In this last section of the great prophecy which we find in Isaiah 53:10-12,

- We see the outcome of our Saviour's substitutionary atonement:
  - We see that He was rewarded.
  
- Isaiah has told us all along the Son would come to establish a kingdom of righteousness in this sinful world, and that all nations would be drawn to Him.
  - Single-handedly, He would achieve this!
  - It was a very bold prophecy to make in his day when Israel had already been carried off by the Assyrians and Judah was soon to follow by the Babylonians...
    - All because of their sin!
  
  - Despite these bleak circumstances,
    - Isaiah continues to prophecy all the more of the Righteous Kingdom that will be established by the Son of God whom he here calls the Servant.
    - It is a marvellous testimony that the promises of God are in no way weakened by contemporary circumstances.
      - They stand as sure as ever in the worst of times—
        - In fact, it is in those very times that the promises bring the greatest comfort to God's people.
  
      - All along, Isaiah told God's people that the Son will still come and the promised kingdom will be established!
        - Our text today speaks of His sure success, over seven centuries before He came.
        - It tells us of His exaltation that was spoken of at the very beginning of this particular prophecy in Isaiah...
          - in 52:13 where we were told right from outset that despite terrible sufferings,
            - the Servant would be exalted and extolled and be very high.

And now we see clearly that it is not merely despite His sufferings,

- but *because of His sufferings* that He is exalted and that He obtains the Kingdom for which He laboured.
  - He obtains the righteous kingdom through His sufferings, and we who are part of that kingdom are the beneficiaries!
  
- As we look this glorious conclusion to the work of the Suffering Servant today,
  - let us be filled with rejoicing that He did not fail!
    - How many kings there are who seek to establish kingdoms—
      - but all these kingdoms fail—

- They fail because they are neither righteous nor lasting—even the king Himself cannot continue by reason of death.
- But the Son of God does not fail in establishing His Kingdom!
  - It is both righteous and eternal!
  - This kingdom is the reward for His suffering.

**I. Jesus did not fail to obtain His kingdom because it was the Father’s good pleasure to give Him the kingdom.**

- How encouraging it is for us to know that!
  - God wanted Him to do this for us!

**A. The Father is the One who sent the Son to suffer for His people’s sins.**

1. This is the unmistakable teaching of the first part of verse 10 where it says:
  - Isa 53:10: Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief.
  - a. This does not mean that the Father took delight in seeing His Son suffer.
    - He loved Him with eternal love that surpasses our understanding...
    - He had no delight in His suffering per se...
  - But it was His will that the Son should come and suffer for His people’s sins.
    - It was His will that they should be redeemed in this way.
      - It was His will that His Son should have the glory of doing this.
    - Paul speaks about the “good pleasure of His will” in Ephesians 1, and it is in this very matter—
      - That we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.
        - God was pleased to display His glorious grace through His amazing Son!
  - b. We must never forget that the Father wanted to do this.
    - Sometimes, Christians get the idea that because the Father is the one who must be appeased,
      - He had not part in planning the manner in which He would be appeased.
        - That it was all the Son’s doing—coming to intervene and placate His Father’s wrath when the Father had no interest in being placated.
    - But the scripture gives us a very different picture than that!
      - All the way through, we are constantly told that the God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...

- And that it was His good pleasure to give us the kingdom...
  - And that it was purposed by Him from the before the world began to do so...
    - Jesus constantly tells us that the Father sent Him and that He does nothing else but what the Father told Him to do.
  - Yes, we have much reason to thank the Son for what He did,
    - but we also have much reason to thank for the Father for sending Him to do it!
      - It was His will to redeem us in this way.
      - He is the one who purposed that Christ should come and suffer for us...
        - And in that sense, He is the one who bruised Him and put Him to grief.
2. We saw something of this last week when we considered that Jesus' sufferings were official.
- a. That He was officially condemned by those who represented the Father.
    - Even though they were perverted, they nevertheless (in spite of themselves) spoke for Him...
      - They spoke for the Father when they charged the servant for sin as those appointed by God to judge.
    - On their part, it was for His own sins that they condemned Him,
      - but on the Father's part,
        - He was charged on account of our sins.
        - The condemnation that came upon Him was the condemnation of His people whom He represented on the cross.
  - b. As we saw last week,
    - If Jesus had not been appointed by the Father to suffer in our place...
      - If He had just gone to the cross apart from the Father's will, there would be no atonement—only a crucified man.
      - He did not fail because He, by His sufferings, was obeying the Father and doing His will.
        - His going to the cross and all that led up to it (including His incarnation) was an act of amazing obedience as we are told in Philippians 2:
          - Phil 2:5-8: Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

- It is because of this act of obedience that the Father has highly exalted Him and given Him a name that is above every name.
- It pleased the Lord to bruise Him and to put Him to grief.

B. And so Isaiah tells us that the Father accepted His Son's sufferings for us.

- They were in accordance with His will, and so He accepted them.
- Verse 10 goes on to tell us God's response to Jesus sufferings—
  - It tells us what He did when Jesus offered Himself...
  - You see that it says:

1. "When you make His soul and offering for sin."

- or, an alternative (and I think better translation) is
  - "when his soul shall make an offering for sin."
  - This is every bit as grammatically possible and makes more sense because it is not the Father that offers Him,
    - but the Son who offers Himself as a priest...
      - Besides, the Father is not addressed in the second person here (as "you") and grammatically, the word can be understood without the second person.

TRANS> But whatever the case...

a. The language used here points to Christ as an expiratory sacrifice.

1) First, in that the word translated "offering for sin" is *a-shame* in Hebrew—the word that was used to describe the trespass offering in which restitution was made.

- It was the offering that especially recognised sin as a debt that had to be paid.
- And of course, this is the way Jesus' death is constantly spoken of...
  - Right here in Isaiah 53:
    - "The chastisement of our peace was upon Him"
    - "By His stripes we are healed."
    - "For the transgression of my people was He stricken"
  - And all through the NT...
    - Matt 20:28: just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.
    - John 10:15: As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

- The *a-shame* is mentioned here because it points to expiatory death—death as a payment for sin.

TRANS> But that is not the only thing that shows us that this is an expiatory sacrifice...

2) The fact that Christ's *soul* is mentioned also points to this...

- The *soul* or *life* (*nephesh* in the Hebrew) is to said to be in the blood...
  - The sacrifices involved the pouring out of the life (the blood) to make atonement.
  - And here it is not only the *nephesh* of Christ that offers the sacrifice,
    - but the *nephesh—the soul* that is offered—
    - It is the pouring out of His blood as an atonement.
      - Jesus refers to this when He takes the cup at the institution of the Lord's Supper and says,
        - “This is the new covenant in my blood, shed for the remission of the sins of many.”
        - His soul was poured out for us as a sacrifice!

b. So you see that Isaiah 53:10 clearly speaks about the servant offering Himself as an expiatory sacrifice for sin—

- to atone for sin, to remove it from His people.
  - Sin involves a robbing of God and that is why restitution must be made.
  - There is a debt incurred and the debt must be paid.
    - What a marvellous thing it is to have this terrible debt paid...
      - A debt that would take us to Hell forever! Paid!

2. And we are shown that the Father fully accepted this offering for us!

- This offering that He Himself had appointed...
  - Verse 10 goes on to show this acceptance...
- a. First, it says that the Father shall see His seed!
  - That's us! That's you if you are trusting in Jesus!
    - The Father saw you cleansed by the pouring out of Jesus' soul for your sins!
      - He saw all of His people who were ever to be saved!
- 1) When the High Priest made an offering for the people's sins, He had the names of the 12 tribes upon his breastplate...

- He offered the sacrifice in their behalf—for their sins.
  - God accepted it, as far as ritual cleansing, for the sins of the people.
    - He saw the people (and not just saw them but had regard for them) for whom the sacrifice was offered.
- 2) So with Christ, when the Father is said to see His seed,
- It means that He sees the ones for whom the sacrifice is made!
    - He sees that the offering is made for them and He regards them as being cleansed by it.
  - When Jesus was cut off out of the land of the living, He did not have a seed in the sense of physical children.
    - The seed referred to are His spiritual seed who obtain life through His offering.
      - They are the ones spoken of again and again in Isaiah 53 under different names...
        - In 52:15, they are the *many nations* who are sprinkled by Him.
        - In 53:5, they are the *we* who are healed by His stripes.
        - In 53:11, they are *the many* who are justified.
- 3) Take great comfort in the thought that when Jesus was offered, the Father saw all of you for whom He was offered!
- He saw us as those for whom Christ was being offered!
    - The many for whom He gave His life a ransom!
    - His people for whom He was given the name Jesus—because He will save His people from their sins.
      - If you are trusting in Him, you are among these who are His seed and the Father sees you as such!
        - He did not suppose that Christ was dying a private death—but a death for His people’s sins—and He saw His people.
        - They were the people He had given them from before the foundation of the world.
        - He accepted His offering for every one of them.
      - If you are among them, He saw you when Christ made His offering.

TRANS> But that is not all that shows the Father’s acceptance of Christ’s offering—of the offering of His soul.

- Verse also tells us that when the offering is made by Christ,

b. He shall prolong His days!

- 1) That sounds like the fifth commandment—where the LORD promises to covenant children who obey their parents that they will live long in the land!
  - Well here is God's Son, obeying Him by dying on the cross...
    - And because He accepted His obedience, He prolongs His days!
  
- 2) And what a prolongation it is...
  - a) It is a prolongation of life in response to the pouring out of His life!
    - Think about that!
      - How can He prolong His life when He has poured out His life as an offering?
      - When He has been cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of God's people?
      - His life was gone!
    - There is only one way—
      - He must be raised to life again!
      - He is raised and then His life prolonged!
    - It is, no doubt, prolonged, according to the promise of God to David when He said:
      - Ps 89:4: Your seed I will establish forever, And build up your throne to all generations.
      - or more fully in Psalm 132:12:
        - Ps 132:12: If your sons will keep My covenant And My testimony which I shall teach them, Their sons also shall sit upon your throne forevermore.
  - b) But now put this together with seeing His seed when Christ is offered and what do you get?
    - You get eternal life for Christ and all of His people together!
    - He did not go to the cross as an individual, but as the one who was offering Himself for His people's sins!
      - And so when He is raised to life, it is not as an individual, but as the mediator of all His people...
        - There is the promise of resurrection to eternal life for all of them!
    - Thus, in Romans 4:25, Paul says that Jesus:
      - Rom 4:25: was delivered up because of our offenses, and raised because of our justification!
      - In other words, He was raised only because His offering for all of us was accepted!



- He was given life because He perfectly carried out the will of God when He made His soul an offering for our sins.

TRANS> The result is that the very thing that God had purposed all along is accomplished by His Servant...

- The end of verse 10 says:
  - Isa 53:10: The pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand!
  - This is just what the Father wanted to do!
    - God put the work of atonement in the hand of His Servant and the Servant did not let Him down.
      - The pleasure of the LORD prospered in His hand.
        - All that He had purposed to do to save His people was accomplished.
        - The Father delights to be gracious.
- But it was not enough only that the offering should be made and accepted for us.
  - The blessing of salvation must be brought to each one of those who are Christ's sheep.
  - And that is the subject of v. 11 to which we turn next.

## **II. Jesus did not fail to obtain His kingdom because He justifies all those that the Father has given Him.**

- Verse 10 spoke of the work that Christ did 2000 years ago—when He offered His soul for our sins,
  - Verse 11 speaks of the application of that work to His people all through history so that they may become a part of His kingdom.
    - It is one thing for Him make Himself an offering for our sins—it is another thing for us to receive pardon and justification through that work.
- A. First of all, Isaiah shows us in verse 11 that Christ's labour was sufficient to meet all that the Father requires of those who are to be justified.
  - It says of the Father that "He shall see the labour of His soul and be satisfied."
  - 1. That means that what Jesus did for His people was sufficient to procure for them the forgiveness of sin and eternal life.
    - The labour of His soul included not only the offering up of His soul on the cross, but also His entire life of perfect obedience.
      - Until He came, there was none righteous, no not one.
      - The whole world was guilty—no one had met the requirements of God.
        - All had sinned and come short of the glory of God.

- But Jesus was entirely different...
    - And He was different not just as an individual,
      - but as the representative of all His people—the second Adam...
    - He lived the very life that they were called to live in the first place,
      - and He did it even in a fallen world...
        - and then He died to atone for their sin as we have just seen.
    - The Father saw **all** this labour and accepted it.
      - And so it was that after the work was complete,
        - He gave His Son all authority in heaven and earth and gave Him the nations as His inheritance.
        - He gave Him authority to give life to all those He had given Him.
2. This is what Peter declares concerning Jesus in Acts 2 when he first preaches the gospel after Jesus' resurrection:
- Acts 2:32-36: "This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: "The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."
  - The Father was satisfied with the work of His Son...
    - And for that reason He established Him on the throne and gave Him authority to gather together all His people from all over the world.
      - He made Him Lord and Christ because He accepted His labours.
  - To use the words of Daniel who say a prophetic vision of Christ when He ascended into heaven to reign, after His resurrection.
    - Dan 7:13-14: "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.
  - All this was given to Him because the Father was satisfied with the labour of His Son.
    - It was on the basis of this that the Son sent out His disciples into the world after He rose from the dead,
      - declaring that all authority had been given to Him in heaven and earth.

- Before His work had been accepted, He did not have this authority.
  - It was given to Him because of the labour of His soul that was approved by the Father.
    - It was in view of this completed work that Jesus said:
      - John 10:14-16: "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.
- The reason that people are being gathered into Christ's kingdom to this very day is because of His labour that the Father accepted.
  - He has sent out His servants (preachers) and His Spirit to gather in all that the Father has given Him—all who are chosen for salvation!
    - If you have entered His kingdom, this is the reason!
      - It is because the Father has accepted His Son's work and has made Him to be Lord and Christ and has given Him the nations as His inheritance.
    - Jesus did what had to be done to make us beautiful.

TRANS> But how are individuals brought into this kingdom?

- The basis of their acceptance is the work that Jesus did for them 2000 years ago...
  - But how do they enter the kingdom?
    - We are told right here in verse 11...

B. Through the knowledge of Him (by faith), His subjects are justified.

1. When the New King James Version says,

- "By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many,"
  - The translators have reflected the ambiguity in the original as far as the meaning of the words "By His knowledge."
    - Grammatically, it could mean, "By the knowledge that He has."
      - This would be like Isaiah 50 where the Servant studied to find out what was required of Him and then acted on that knowledge, even though it meant that He must suffer.
        - It is a powerful truth.
          - But the problem is, that is not what is in view in this verse.
          - It is not talking about what Jesus had to do to justify us, rather about how we come to be justified.
  - So it seems better with the context to understand "By His knowledge" to mean "By the knowledge of Him," that is *by faith*.
    - When Jesus prayed His great high priestly prayer, He said,

- “This is eternal life, that they might know you and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”
  - Throughout His ministry, He spoke of finding life through the knowledge of Him.
2. Whether or not it is the meaning of this particular verse or not,
- It is a truth that is plainly taught in the scriptures that we are justified by faith in Jesus Christ.
    - The way to obtain His righteousness is by the knowledge of Him as Lord and Christ!
    - It is by knowing Him as the one who offered Himself for sinners,
      - It is by knowing Him as that offering for you—trusting in Him alone to take away your sins.
      - It is by looking to Him to take away your sin and guilt so that you can be forgiven and live forever in God’s favour.
  - The idea is that by His labour, Jesus did everything that had to be done to make you righteous and beautiful...
    - And He makes this known to you so that you might embrace it and be declared righteous.
      - Jesus is just right for you.
3. But what is it to be justified?
- a. In the original, the word righteous (in the phrase “my righteous servant”) is the same root word as the word “justify,”
- And the verse is structured in such a way that the word righteous and word justify are right next to each other!
    - This has a powerful way of showing that we are justified through the servant’s righteousness...
      - The righteous one makes righteous!
      - The many are the ones, in this chapter, that have sin and transgression and iniquity—
        - but because of the servant, they are “made righteous.”
        - When put next to the Son, their sins are given to Him and His righteousness is given to them.
        - That is what “justify” means—to make righteous.
          - And that is exactly what Jesus does when you believe!
- b. To be made righteous does not mean here that He changes your character...
- It rather means that He imputes the righteousness He obtained for His church to you so that you are no longer judged to be a sinner.

- You are swept up into Jesus so that when God looks upon you and all others who are in Christ, He sees you in union with Christ...
    - He sees the already paid penalty for sin...
    - And He sees the already lived life of perfect obedience.
      - Jesus lived and Jesus offered Himself, not as an individual, but as the representative of all whom the Father had given Him.
    - God judges all the sheep together with their shepherd,
      - And because He has accepted the shepherd, all the sheep are included with Him and in Him.
      - He has taken care of everything and you are justified by faith in Him.
        - You are declared to be righteous because He is righteous.
- c. But I must ask you, have you indeed been justified through the knowledge of Christ?
- Are you actually trusting in this righteous servant to make you righteous?
    - He did the necessary work 2000 years ago, but unless you believe, you have no benefit from His work.
    - You are still in your sins and waiting to be eternally condemned unless you have repented and are trusting in Him for righteousness.
      - Surely you know that you don't have righteousness in yourself!
        - Oh no, you are full of sin—you come short of the glory of God.
        - Righteousness is all to be found in Him—through faith.
          - Why do you think He suffered as He did?
          - Isaiah has told us repeatedly—
            - It was on account of the sins of His people.
            - He was paying the penalty of their sins so they could be forgiven...
      - It is a crazy exchange!
        - He takes our sin and suffers, we take His righteousness and do not suffer!

TRANS> You see that verse 11 goes on to close out the thought...

- It tells us that...

C. He bears (takes upon Himself) the iniquities of His people when they believe.

1. You will remember that *bearing our iniquities* speaks of taking them from us and laying them upon Himself.

- He relieves us of the terrible load, the guilt that weighs us down and keeps us from communion with God...
  - The guilt that brings condemnation on us.
  - He takes it all away!
  
- 2. In one sense, He did this when He made His soul and offering—when He went to the cross and bore the penalty of our sin...
  - But here is speaks of what He does when you believe—when you, as an individual sinner, come to him for salvation...
    - He takes your sins away and sets you free—
      - He says, “here, let me take that, for I have already paid for these sins!”
        - And it leaves you totally free!
        - As Paul says in Romans 8,
          - Romans 8:1: There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus,
    - All that sin that bore down on you and that was ready to sink you into Hell forever—
      - It is gone! Gone!
        - if you will but come to this Saviour who offered Himself on the cross and believe.
        - You no longer have to bear it—
          - He takes it and He bears it for you.

TRANS> And so you see that Jesus does not fail to obtain His kingdom of righteousness.

- Not only because He did just what the Father told Him to do when He offered Himself for us on the cross...
  - But also because He comes to us and makes Himself know to us so that we may be justified through faith in Him.
    - He would not have a righteous kingdom if He did not make the subjects of that kingdom righteous—but you see that He does!
  
- And this brings us to verse 12 which is the conclusion this passage that we have been looking at for five weeks now.
  - This passage that began in Isaiah 52:13 by telling us that
    - even though the servant suffered so that He was hardly even recognised as a man,
      - He would be exalted, and extolled, and be very high when His work was done.
    - And now we come the conclusion in Isaiah 53:12 in which we are told that:

### III. Jesus did not fail to obtain His kingdom because of the extraordinary way He went about obtaining it.

- It was not merely that He obtained it *even though* He suffered so that His visage was marred more than any man...
  - It is rather than He obtained it *because* He thus suffered!
  - What an extra-ordinary way to obtain a kingdom!

#### A. In one respect He is like all other victors that have ever appeared in history...

1. He is among those who conquer and obtain the spoils of their conquest...
  - That is what the first part of verse 12 is getting at...when the Father says:
    - Isa 53:12: Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong.”
  - Just like Cyrus or any other conqueror in history,
    - Jesus was victorious and He obtained the reward of His victory.
    - The kings of history conquer and then their armies return from the battle with the gold and silver and the livestock of the nation they conquered...
      - They come back and they celebrate in the streets.
      - The conquering king celebrates with generous gifts out of those spoils among all their people, just as Jesus poured out the Holy Spirit after He had conquered.
2. That is what we have seen of Jesus!
  - He came forth from the battle and was declared to be Lord and Christ.
  - He emerged from the fray victorious and declared to His people the good news and ordered them to proclaim Him among all the nations as Lord.
    - To this day, His servants go forth proclaiming His victory and declaring that He is Lord and Christ,
      - declaring that He has been made head over all things and will reign until He has brought all of His enemies under His feet.

#### TRANS> Just like all other conquerors who are recorded in the annals of history,

- That is all that Isaiah is saying when he says:
  - Isa 53:12: Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong.”
- Like any king, He has conquered and He has received His reward.
  - In this, He is just like the others.
  - But in another respect, He is very different than all the other conquerors.

#### B. He is different because of the unique way that He obtained His kingdom!

- He did not go out with a horses and chariots and military captains and soldiers.

- He did something entirely different.
  - His unique way of obtaining His reward is explained under four points...
1. First, that He obtained His reward because He poured out His soul unto death!
    - What a strange method!
      - Instead of slaying thousands and tens of thousands He poured out His own life!
      - How could a man conquer by pouring out His own life?
        - How could He be victorious by dying?
        - We have already seen—He poured out His soul (His life) as an offering for sin.
        - When the offering was accepted, He was raised up with eternal life for Himself and for all His people.
  2. Secondly, He obtained His reward because He was numbered with the transgressors!
    - How strange again.
      - Instead of taking prisoners of war and trying them in His courts of justice, He gave Himself to be condemned in the halls of justice.
      - He allowed Himself to be charged as the worst of criminals and to be executed by the cursed death of the cross.
        - He bore all the shame and all the guilt and all the penalty of the worst sinner, even though He had done no wrong.

TRANS> The reason He allowed Himself to be condemned is given next...

3. Thirdly, He obtained His reward because He bore the sins of many!
  - As we have seen, He took the sins of others His own.
    - He was condemned as a transgressor because all our iniquities were laid on Him.
    - He was officially cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of His people.
    - He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities.
  - This is what He did to obtain His kingdom...
    - He did all this for His people.
    - He did this so that they could be made righteous through Him and live forever!
    - He purchased life for His people by taking their death and condemnation.



TRANS> What a method!

- And finally, we shown here that...
- 4. He obtained His reward because He made intercession for the transgressors!
  - That is, for the transgressors whose sin He bore...
    - He made intercession for them so that His work might be applied to them as individuals...
      - So that they might receive the Holy Spirit that their stubborn hearts might be overcome and that they might repent and believe.
      - So that all the benefits of His work might be applied to them that they might be justified by faith and be granted eternal life.

C. Clearly, this is no ordinary way to obtain a kingdom—

- And it is no ordinary kingdom!
  - This is a kingdom of righteousness that endures forever!
- All other kingdoms eventually fail!
  - They fail because they king has no way to make his kingdom righteous before God...
    - It is only a matter of time until death and curse overtake them and they are destroyed because they have no righteousness.
      - The kings but for all their might and power cannot even keep themselves alive, much less their subjects.
      - They conquer by the sword but they have no power to make their subjects righteous and to reconcile them with the God of heaven.
  - But Jesus Christ does have the power to make His subjects righteous...
    - Because He poured out His soul as an offering and was numbered with the transgressors to bear the sins of His people.
      - He gives His subjects righteousness,
        - and in giving them righteousness,
          - He gives them eternal life.
          - His kingdom is the only kingdom that cannot be destroyed.
    - He sets His people free from the curse by His own suffering so that they live forever!
      - It is a kingdom that cannot be shaken!
  - Have you entered into this kingdom?

- What a kingdom it is!
- What a king King Jesus is!
- There is no one like Him!
  - He has the power of an endless life and He will reign until all His enemies have been made His footstool!
    - Those who believe will enter His kingdom as His joyful willing subjects where there is love and peace forever...
    - Those who do not believe will be cast into the lake of fire, away from His glorious kingdom in the place of darkness where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- What other king would ever think of doing what He has done in His great love—even if they could!
  - It is absolutely astounding that He, the Lord of glory, should become a sin offering for His people!
    - There is no king like our king!
    - There is no kingdom like His kingdom!
      - Let us serve Him all the gratitude and devotion and honour that is due!