

“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”
Lent and Holy Week Meditations, 2023
Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio

For Lent and Holy Week this year at Zion Lutheran we will reflect on the many meanings and teachings from Scripture about our Lord Jesus being, and having the title, “The Lamb of God.” Throughout the Old Testament it is clear that God would atone for all of humanity’s sins through a sacrifice He would choose. The Old Testament animal sacrifices pointed to this final saving sacrifice. The prophets foretold of the human who would be this sacrifice. The Gospels clearly identify Jesus as this sacrifice and the New Testament epistles give teachings that Jesus as the Lamb of God gives us forgiveness, life and salvation. Finally in Revelation, Jesus is honored and praised as the Lamb of God.

Wednesday, March 29, “Jesus’ Suffering is the Fulfillment to Bring Us Peace”

The salvation work Jesus undertook to do for us was no mystery to Him. Isaiah’s prophecy in 52:13-53:12 plainly states what the holy Servant of the LORD God would go through great suffering to save sinners. And there are many other Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah as well.

Jesus knew these prophecies and that the Father’s will was for Him to fulfill the prophecies. Jesus said in Luke 22:37

“For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors.’ For what is written about me has its fulfillment.”

Jesus directly quoted Isaiah 53:12, the last verse of the 15 verses of the “Suffering Servant Son” and said it applied to Him. *“For what is written about me has its fulfillment”* Thus, Jesus taught His disciples, and us, that the whole of the song is about Him. He is the Suffering Servant of the LORD. He is the fulfillment.

What would His suffering accomplish? Jesus brings us peace with God. We meditate on these Scripture words and Jesus’ salvation for us today.

I. Jesus bore all _____

The world considered that Jesus was _____ and deserved suffering and punishment.

“We esteemed him stricken, smitten by _____ and afflicted.”
(Isaiah 53:4)

But the fact is that Jesus was not Himself evil, but He carried our evil _____ away from us. (The *Final* Scapegoat of the Last Day of Atonement – Leviticus 16:21)

“and the _____ has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53:6)

In all this suffering Jesus gave no complaint.

“He opened _____ his mouth” (Isaiah 53:7)

II. Jesus _____ bore our sins.

“Yet it was the will of the _____ to crush Him” (Isaiah 53:10)

God the Father’s will was for Jesus suffer like this. Why?

Isaiah 53:11 “Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,

make many to be accounted _____, and he shall bear their _____.”

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been _____.” 1 Peter 2:24 teaches
Isaiah 53:5