**The Cross and Our Salvation: How God Saves His People – Outline #1**

*Suffering Servant: Isaiah 53 (Part 1 – 52:13-53:3)*

Intro and Background

**John Macarthur** - Where in the Bible do you find the clearest explanation of the gospel? In one of the four gospel books—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John? Perhaps in Paul’s letter to the Romans? Somewhere else in the New Testament? The answer may surprise you.  No passage gives a clearer explanation of Christ’s atoning work for sinners than Isaiah 53. It’s truly the first gospel and, because of its rich detail, the most astonishing prophecy in the Old Testament.

##### Characteristic #1:

#####  He was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, yet He was exalted and lifted high.

**John Hooper:** “I do believe and confess that Christ’s condemnation is my absolution, that his crucifying is my deliverance…his death is my life, his blood is my cleansing and purging, by whom only I am washed, purified and cleansed from all my sins, so that I neither receive nor believe any other purgatory, either in this world or in the other, whereby I am purged, but only the blood of Jesus Christ, by which all are purged and made clean forever.”

**Ray Ortlund:** “Self-invented punishment does not cleanse. Christ alone cleanses. Christ all by himself. Now and forever. And on terms of grace.”

***What does Christ’s purification of sins mean for you and me as Christians?***

**Ray Ortlund:** “Here is the wisdom of God... the undeserved sufferings of Jesus Christ outperforming the best of this world's "Sweet oblivious antidotes." And the mission of the church is not to offer the world a Christianized version of their own false salvation's but to communicate a good news they've never seen or heard before. If people do not sense that the Gospel is saying something unheard of in the usual remedies for human misery, are we speaking clearly?”

 **v. 15-** *Kings will shut their mouths because of him!!!*

##### Characteristic #2:

#####  He lived in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**John 12:37-38** - **37**Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, **38**so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

**Romans 10:14-16** - **14**How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? **15**And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” **16**But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?”

**Key passage: 1 Cor. 1:18-31**