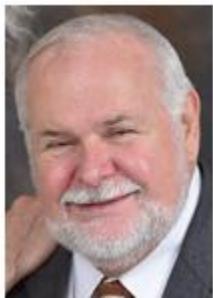


# Scott's Thoughts

December 7, 2025



*“But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.” (Isaiah 53:5, ESV)*

The prophet Isaiah spoke these words publicly some seven hundred years before the birth of the one he was speaking about. He spoke these words of hope and most likely did not know that he was speaking about a man that could and would change the entire world. If Isaiah was speaking without knowing the person that he was speaking about, how were the people of his day able to take hope and peace into their lives just because Isaiah said so? We might say that would be a big ask. Yet, in speaking of future events Isaiah gave comfort because they were words God had given him to say by the Holy Spirit. Isaiah knew not whom he was speaking about but he did know the source of those words. Isaiah spoke words of encouragement but they also came at a cost. That is where the rub comes in. He was speaking to a people who had become less than obedient. A people who wanted all the blessings that God is capable of giving, but they wanted the blessings without having to follow God's directions for living. They were a people who claimed to be God's people but they paid little to no attention to the instructions God had given them in the past. Isaiah spoke a great deal about the love that God has for mankind and what He (God) had done to provide hope for all who would believe and obey. Isaiah asked the people of his day to comply with the will of God, most of the people

wanted the healing that the promise could bring but convinced themselves that compliance on their terms would be better than compliance on God's terms.

Is it any different today? Many people believe but their belief has never moved them into action. Their attitude seems to be “If it is free then just give it to me.” Is there a cost or is it free? The cost for salvation is the life blood of Jesus Christ! No matter how hard we work, we can never earn salvation. We can become obedient to God and receive salvation as a free gift. Obedience is never payment. It is simply compliance.

The prophet Isaiah told the people of his day what God wanted from them. Today we still have the words God gave Isaiah to speak to the people of his day and those words still ring true today. God has provided a way to salvation for all mankind today and it is just as real as it was oh so many centuries ago. The way is Jesus and the key is obedience. It is possible to find how to become obedient from the pages of the Bible still today. All it takes is an open honest mind and some time to study the pages of the Bible.

*“Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.” (Proverbs 3:7–8, ESV)*

Thanks for listening and keep on shining

—Scott