

WORLD VIDEO BIBLE SCHOOL

Fundamentals of the Faith

Charlie DiPalma

LESSON #18 — GOD’S ANSWER FOR SIN

Now, with those points in mind, let's move on to Roman numeral 5 in our outline, and that is: God's answer to Man's problem with sin. God's answer to Man's problem with sin. You know, it would be very horrible if all we had was the knowledge that we were guilty of sin, and there was nothing that we could do about that. Can you imagine how horrible that would be to live a life knowing you had done these things wrong, and there's nothing that can be done about them? There's no remedy for those sins, you're just going to have to be prepared to spend eternity separated from God. But thanks be to God, and His great love and His mercy and His grace, He's made it possible for us to have His remedy for sin. His solution for sin. And we'd like to study about that in this particular section of lesson two. We'd like to begin by noticing the point that His solution for sin was predicted, and it was predicted long before the solution for sin came into the world. And we know the solution is Jesus.

But let's turn back to the pages of the Old Testament, to the book of Isaiah. Isaiah chapter 53 is one of the most beautiful and remarkable chapters that God has revealed in His Word. It's a wonderful passage of Scripture that tells us, some 700 years before the Lord came to this earth. It gives a description of Jesus the Christ, the Messiah, in such detail and accuracy, that we can know without a shadow of a doubt that Jesus was who He claimed to be, the Messiah, the Christ, the Savior, long awaited, Who came to the world for you and for me. But let's look at just several of these passages of Scripture, in the book of Isaiah chapter 53. Let's look first at verse 5 and 6. “But he was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned everyone to his own way; And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” And then in verse 12. “Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.”

What a remarkable and beautiful passage of scripture that is, predicting the coming of Jesus into this world. Notice what he says in verse 5 and 6. You'll see in these verses the idea of substitution. That is, one man substituted for the rest of humanity. And that man was Jesus, the Christ. Notice that he says that He was wounded for our transgressions. That word means “pierced through.” And that's an amazing prediction of the crucifixion of Jesus. Jesus was pierced through because of my sins, and yours. What love motivated that gift and that sacrifice. Think about Jesus as they nailed Him to the cross, piercing through His hands and His feet with those nails. Think about Jesus as the soldier pierced his side with the sword. And God predicted that He would do that 700 years before it happened. He was bruised for our iniquities. The word translated “bruised” means “crushed.” Our sins were placed upon Jesus. The weight of those sins, He felt physically, and He felt spiritually, as He agonized with that

death on the cross. The chastisement for our peace was upon him. We are separated from God because of our sins. We need something to enable peace between us and God. Something to enable us to be reconciled back to Him. Jesus made that peace possible by His willingness to accept the chastisement that I deserve, and that you deserve.

What love the Father showed for us, and Jesus showed for us on that cross. By His willingness to accept the chastisement, the difficult things physically and spiritually that you and I deserved. He said, "By His stripes we are healed." Stripes are lashes. Think of the scourging that was administered to those before they were crucified by the Roman soldiers. They would take a whip that had leather thongs on it, or knots in it, and would have pieces of bone and metal and other sharp objects. And they would beat that person unmercifully. And many died under that scourging before they were even crucified. Jesus survived the scourging, and He was lashed. He was whipped, for you and for me, and God predicted that this would happen.

And it talks about how He went as a lamb before His shearers silently, not offering a wordy long defense of himself. When He answered, He answered briefly. And the Father laid on Him the sins of all of us. What a remarkable thing God has done for us in His Son.

In verse 12, though we see the idea of victory. Yes, Jesus as the Savior was going to die, but He would be victorious. He would have the spoils, and we use that term, "to the victor goes the spoils." So he's talking about, Jesus would be victorious, over sin, over death, over Satan. He would arise from the dead on the third day, according to the Scriptures. And why was God going to reward Him, and take care of Him, and be pleased with Him? Because He poured out His soul, unto death. He was numbered with the transgressors. Think how they placed him between two thieves, and intended that He die the death of the criminal. And He did indeed do that. And He did it for you and for me. And by that sacrifice, by His blood shed upon that cross, God made possible our peace with Him.

That's why Paul would say in Colossians 1, verse 20, that Jesus came and made peace through the blood of His cross. There's God's remedy for sin: His son, offering His own body and His own blood on the cross, for you and for me. May we ever keep in our minds, the loving sacrifice of the only begotten Son of God on our behalf. And may it motivate us to live victoriously over sin, deny ourselves, live for Jesus. Let's all do better at living for Jesus who died for us.

Welcome back to the continuation of our study of some of the fundamental principles and doctrines of the Christian faith. We're thankful that we can study together and continue on our study of lesson number two, we're talking about Man's problem with sin, and God's solution for sin. Thus far, we've seen a definition of sin. We've seen the history of sin as far as man's dealings with God's law is concerned. Then we've seen how does sin work in our lives. And last time we completed our study of the result of sin. And we began the fifth major point in our outline on this lesson, that is, God's answer to Man's problem with sin. And we saw that it was predicted that God would give a solution for sin, and that solution, as talked about in Isaiah chapter 53, would be the sending of His only begotten Son into the world, to bear our sins. To be the one upon whom God laid the iniquity of us all.

Now on this subject of God's answer to man's problem, we want to see what was God's motivation in bringing into the world a solution for our problem with sin. And of course, the

motivation is portrayed very beautifully in the book of John, in John's account of the gospel, in John chapter 3, verse 16. John 3, verse 16. Most people are familiar with this text of the Scripture. It says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." God so loved the world that He was willing to give. And He was not willing to give anything that didn't cost Him something. He gave to the point that He gave his only begotten Son, the most precious gift that we could ever ask for. And we're thankful that His love was that grand, was that great, was that immense, that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. If we will be a people who will focus on the love of God, and the way that God has shown His love to us, we will be a happier, more joyful, more dedicated people. And let's keep in mind as we go through our study, on man's problem with sin and God's solution, the love of God which motivated His doing these things.

And we said that God predicted that he would send a solution for sin in the form of His Son. Now let's see the fulfillment of that prediction. Before that, we'll turn to two verses from Matthew's account of the gospel. Matthew chapter one, verse 21, is the first passage that we want to look at. Matthew 1, verse 21. "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." So here is a prediction that Mary, the Virgin, would bear a Son. And the name is given for that Son, Jesus, which means Savior. And the reason that name was chosen was that He would save His people from their sins. So there is God's promise to fulfill the coming of the Savior in the world, in the form of His Son, Jesus.

And in Matthew the second chapter and verse 1, Matthew chapter 2, verse 1. "Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men came from the east to Jerusalem." So, we see that it was fulfilled. Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin, was born of Mary, was born in the city of Bethlehem, as was predicted. You will remember from a prior class, Micah chapter 5, verse 2, God predicted that this One who was coming forth to be a ruler in Israel, would be born in Bethlehem. And this one who came would be from everlasting, would be eternal, a clear prediction of Jesus. And this passage tells us of the fulfillment of that prediction.

What price did God pay to make it possible for us to have the solution for sin? We've already seen that, and alluded to, in Isaiah chapter 53. But we'd like to look at some other passages of Scripture which reinforce that point. First, let's turn to the book of Hebrews. Hebrews, the ninth chapter, and verse 22. Hebrews 9, verse 22. The Hebrew writer, of course, was trying to convince these Christians who had a Jewish background not to go back to Judaism, that it was an inferior system when compared to Christianity. And he said in Hebrews 9, verse 22, "And according to the law, almost all things are purged with blood. And without shedding of blood, there is no remission." So God tells us that without the shedding of blood, there is no remission, there is no forgiveness of sins. That's clear then that it had to be the blood of Jesus, had to be shed, in order for us to have remission or forgiveness of sins.

Also, in the book of 1 Peter. 1 Peter chapter 1, verse 18, and verse 19. 1 Peter, 1:18-19, "Knowing that you are not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb, without spot and without blemish." God uses the beautiful word "redemption" here. And He says that Christians weren't redeemed from their aimless life in the past, by

corruptible things, like silver, or gold, things that man places so much value upon. What does the word redeem mean? It means “to buy back by paying the ransom price.” It was used of slaves, one would buy back a slave by paying the ransom price. Well, God bought us back from our slavery to sin by paying the ransom price. And we're not redeemed with corruptible things, but with the blood of Christ. We can be redeemed, we can be bought back from our slavery to sin, by the blood of Christ and only by the blood of Christ. What a precious gift. What an immense price the Father and His Son paid to make our forgiveness possible. Notice he describes Jesus as of a lamb without spot and without blemish, sinless, perfect, completely righteous, without any sin at all.

Then in the book of Ephesians, Ephesians chapter 1, verse 7. Ephesians 1, verse 7. “In Him we have redemption, through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.” So God tells us if we're in Him, that is, if we're in Christ, we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins, through His blood. There's the price that was paid again. You and I can be redeemed, we can be forgiven, through the blood of Christ. And it's all available, according to the riches of God's grace. His abundant, overflowing grace. And grace is when God gives us something that we do not earn. He gives us salvation. The only way we could earn it is to live perfectly. And none of us can do that, as we know very well. So we have redemption, we have forgiveness, through the blood of Christ, according to the riches of God's grace.

Then in the book of Revelation, chapter 1, verse 5. Revelation 1, verse 5. “And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth, to him who loved us, and washed us from our sins, in His own blood.” That's a beautiful passage of scripture talking about Jesus as the Christ, the Messiah, Who loved us, and gave Himself for us, that He might wash us from our sins, in His own blood. What a remarkable passage, what a wonderful thought from God, that ought to fill our hearts and minds. And fill our hearts and minds with thanksgiving, and praise to God. To know that He was willing to give His own Son, Who was willing to give His own blood. Not the blood of an animal, or the body of an animal. Not the blood of another human being. But the blood of His only begotten Son, Jesus, that washes us from our sins, cleanses us from our sins. That's a beautiful passage, and one that we ought to think about regularly and frequently throughout our life of service to the Lord here. So what price did God pay? The Father gave His Son. The Son gave His life, His own body, His own blood, to redeem us, to make it possible for us to be forgiven, washed, cleansed, from our sins.