

*Now Concerning Spiritual Things*  
an historical account of one man's walk with God

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A STUDY OF  
ISAIAH 53: 4 & 5

Editor's Introductory Note: The first part of this letter may get a little too "wordy" for you, but hang in there with me.

At some future date, I would like to spend some time with Isaiah, the prophet.<sup>1</sup> One reason is because he was such a powerful witness for our Lord more than seven hundred years before the fulcrum event in the history of man: the cross of Christ. If you were able to "see" in panoramic view, the history of man beginning with Adam, up to the present day, and then ask the movie projector Operator to reverse the projector and "freeze" on the most important single frame, the spotlight of time would be focused on the cross. Isaiah's writing, concerning that event, is amazingly accurate. The example I have in mind is found in verses four and five of chapter fifty-three. Within these two verses lie a detailed description of the cross, which includes (1) what Jesus suffered in his body for each of us and (2) what His sacrifice purchased for all believers. Here are these two verses from the New King James Version:

**4** Surely He *has borne our griefs* and *carried our sorrows*; yet we esteemed Him *stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted*.

**5** But He was *wounded for our transgressions*, He was *bruised for our iniquities*; *the chastisement of our peace* was upon Him, and *by His stripes we are healed*.

Listed below are Strong's definitions of the Hebrew word or phrase from which the above italicized, underlined words and phrases were translated.

*has borne*. Strong's #5375: accept, carry away, pardon, have no way to flee.

*our griefs*. Strong's #2483: disease, sickness.

*carried*. Strong's #5445: bear, carry.

*our sorrows*. Strong's #4341: grief, pain.

*stricken*. Strong's #5060: beat, smite, strike.

*smitten*. Strong's #5221: wounded, punish, slaughter.

*by God*. Strong's #430: Elohiym, plural for God

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<sup>1</sup>This is not a "tongue-in-cheek" statement. I fully expect to do exactly as I have written. You can do the same thing if your primary goal in life is centered in Christ. It's in the Book!

the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.  
*and afflicted*. Strong's #6031: abased, hurt, defiled.

*wounded*. Strong's #2490: slay, defile, pollute.

*for our transgressions*. Strong's #6588: rebellion, sin, trespass, revolt.

*bruised*. Strong's #1792: bruise, to crumble, beat to pieces, destroy.

*for our iniquities*. Strong's #5771: perversity, fault, moral evil.

*the chastisement of*. Strong's #4148: discipline, correction, reproof, chastening.

*our peace*. Strong's #7965: welfare, prosperity, good health.

*by His stripes*. Strong's #2250: black and blue marks, bruise, wounds.

*we are healed*. Strong's #7495: cured, repaired, made whole.

Here is an expanded translation of these two verses from the Greek definitions of these underlined, italicized words and phrases with bold emphasis added:

**4** Surely He has borne, accepted, carried away, pardoned and had no way to flee from (bearing) our **griefs, diseases and sicknesses** and (He) bore, carried our **sorrows, grief and pain**, yet we esteemed Him stricken, beaten, smitten, wounded, punished, afflicted, hurt, abased, defiled and slaughtered by God (Elohiym).

**5** But He was wounded, slain [and] polluted **for our transgressions, rebellion, sin, (and) revolt**. He was bruised, beat to pieces, (and) destroyed **for our iniquities, faults, perversity (and) moral evil**; the chastisement, discipline and correction, needed to obtain our **peace, welfare, prosperity and good health** was upon Him, and by His stripes, black and blue marks, bruises and wounds, we are **healed, cured, repaired and made whole**.

Here are these two verses from The Amplified Bible:

**4** Surely He has borne our griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses) and carried our sorrows and pains (of punishment), yet we (ignorantly) considered Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted by God (as if with leprosy), (Matt. 8:17)

**5** But He was wounded for our transgressions, He

was bruised for our guilt and iniquities; the chastisement [needful to obtain] peace and well-being for us was upon Him, and with the stripes [that wounded] Him we are healed and made whole.

What Jesus did on the cross, as described in these two remarkable verses, may be divided into three categories:

(1) *What He bore for us*: **our** griefs, diseases, sicknesses, sorrows, pain, transgressions, rebellion, sin, revolt, iniquities, faults, perversity and moral evil.

(2) *The Cost to Him*: He was stricken, beaten, smitten, wounded, punished, slaughtered, afflicted, hurt, abased, defiled, slain, polluted, bruised, beat to pieces and destroyed by God [Elohiym], **not man**.

(3) *The benefits to us*: He obtained, purchased [regained] **our** welfare [prosperity], salvation, good health, healing [cure], restoration [repaired], and wholeness [mentally, physically and spiritually].

In these three categories, note the cost to Jesus in paragraphs (1) and (2) and the benefits given to believers in paragraph (3). Now go back and reread carefully in paragraph (3) the benefits in these two verses of Old Testament scripture *promised to every believer today!*

Here are two New Testament references to the salvation, healing and deliverance ministry of Jesus as described by Isaiah in these two verses of scripture. The first one is from Matthew:

“When evening had come they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed, And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

‘He himself took our infirmities  
And bore our diseases.’”<sup>2</sup>

The apostle Peter also inserts in his writing the following reference to Isaiah’s prophecy:

“Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed.”<sup>3</sup>

Notice that Peter’s reference to our healing, purchased on the cross by Jesus, is not present tense as is Isaiah’s reference, but is *past tense*: “by whose stripes you [believers] *were healed*.”

Plainly and simply this means that *our salvation, deliverance and healing*, for example, were all purchased for us on the cross about two thousand years ago.

Therefore, the only thing left for you and me to do is *believe* it and then search the word of God for instructions on how to receive or obtain these blessings. It’s in the Book.

*Believing*, in this case, does not mean with the mind, it means with the heart, as the apostle Paul wrote, “If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe *in your heart* that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the *heart* one believes unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”<sup>4</sup> These blessings were promised to you and me by God through the prophetic pen of Isaiah more than two thousand, seven hundred years ago!

Are there other places in scripture where such promises are made? Let’s look and see. Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascended back to the third heaven, sat down at the right hand of God the Father and assumed all power and authority. He will hold that position until he has completed what He came to do, namely to reestablish the world order as it was before Adam’s sin. That includes The Great White Throne judgment, casting into the fire of hell Death and Hades, Satan and those under his authority and influence (including the beast and the false prophet)<sup>5</sup> in preparation for the perfect eternal state after the earth has been cleansed by fire.<sup>6</sup> Then Christ, having completed all the Father gave Him to do, will return to the Father the authority He was given, so He (God the Father) can be all in all.<sup>7</sup>

Shortly before His ascension to assume all power and authority, the position He now holds, Jesus gave to his followers what we now call the Great Commission wherein He charged His disciples with their (our) responsibilities and opportunities in His absence from the earth. Here is His Charge as recorded by the apostle Mark:

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be **saved**, but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs shall follow those who believe; In My Name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink

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<sup>4</sup>Romans 10:9, 10. Notice in these two verses of scripture that by faith you confess Jesus as Lord in order to receive salvation, or in other words, in the kingdom, *confession precedes possession*. Healing is received the same way. That is the absolute opposite of receiving blessings in the world where *possession precedes confession*.

<sup>5</sup>Revelation 19:20; 20:1-15.

<sup>6</sup>See 2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 20:11.

<sup>7</sup>See 1 Corinthians 15:24-29.

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<sup>2</sup>Matthew 8:16, 17.

<sup>3</sup>1 Peter 2:24

anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them;<sup>8</sup> they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”<sup>9</sup>

These words of Jesus were just as prophetic as were the words of Isaiah, except they were prophetic of the Gospel message kickoff campaign *only ten days away*.

The word *saved* in the above scripture is translated from the Greek word, **sozo** (Strong’s #4982). In the New Testament, concerning salvation in Christ, when the words *save* (present tense) or *saved* (past tense) are used, they are translated from the original Greek word **sozo**. If my count is correct, the word *sozo* appears in the New Testament ninety-three times. Here is the meaning of the word *sozo* from Strong’s concordance: **save, deliver, heal, preserve, make whole**. Now look at the similarity between what Isaiah wrote about the cross of Christ more than seven hundred years before that event and what Christ Himself said about being *saved* (**sozo**) by trusting in Him after the event of the cross:

**Isaiah:** salvation, healing, good health, prosperity and wholeness.

**Christ:** save, deliver, heal, preserve, make whole.

In summary, here is what Isaiah and Jesus prophesied: (1) Salvation will be in His Name, (2) in His Name believers (not Apostles) will cast out demons, (3) walk in health, (4) prosper, (5) speak with new tongues, (6) lay hands on the sick and they will recover<sup>10</sup> and (7) under certain conditions, supernatural protection will be given to believers in need.

It is interesting to note that Jesus was not punished on the cross by man but by God (Elohiym), meaning God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. That means Jesus subjected himself to the cross as the sinless son of Man to meet the criteria set forth by scripture. Every bit of punishment inflicted upon Him was inflicted upon one who was like the first Adam before he sinned. He felt the whip, the beating, the torture, the nails just as you or I would have. It had to be that way or the plan would have failed. When He prayed

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<sup>8</sup>In the early Church, Apostles and believers alike were neither snake handlers nor poison drinkers. However when the ship in which Paul was a passenger ran aground on Malta, everyone went ashore and built a camp fire for warmth and to dry out their clothes. When a venomous snake fastened itself on Paul’s wrist as he was putting sticks on the campfire, the natives of Malta expected Paul to swell up and die quickly. Instead the poison had no effect on him because of God’s supernatural protection.(See Acts 28:1-6)

<sup>9</sup>Mark 16:15-18.

<sup>10</sup>Implied in this statement is Spiritual authority over the physical which I have briefly mentioned in my last two letters.

in Gethsemane the night before his execution, Jesus was praying *as a man* who dreaded what was ahead. His act of atonement for the sin of man came after His ascension to the third Heaven when He applied His own blood to the mercy seat in the Most Holy Place.<sup>11</sup> In that act He became the Christ/God’s Messiah and could then descend back to earth for forty days to confirm to His disciples His Messiahship and charge them with the Great Commission before again ascending back to heaven to sit down at the right hand of God.

All of the blessings prophesied by Isaiah in these two verses of scripture were purchased for us [made available] through the cross. The Church for years has preached salvation by faith in Christ. This is the most important part of the Gospel message as confirmed by Jesus<sup>12</sup> but it neglects healing and deliverance, two other important parts. This negligence is an open door to Satan to come and steal, kill and destroy you and me. And he has done that in the lives of Christians, big time, for centuries! He does it with every malady that affects and afflicts mankind adversely, including, but certainly not limited to, for example, heart attacks, asthma, allergies, emphysema, diabetes, chronic fatigue syndrome, cancer and early death, to name a few.

Here is an example of the subtle work of the enemy among conscientious, well-meaning, born-again, dedicated believers today who are uninformed on the truth revealed in the word of God. Several years ago Dale and I ministered<sup>13</sup> to a woman who had been unable to work for two years because of chronic asthma. She was being treated by a physician and was taking medication he prescribed for her condition. During the ministry session, we discovered that her mother and sister had asthma and her father had died of emphysema. There were also other related facts which pointed to a “generational problem.” Through our training, knowledge of the word of God and experience, we knew to break generational curses including allergies, bronchial problems, emphysema, sinus problems and asthma, for example. We then cast out the demon causing the asthma (we also cast out others). When we finished our ministry session the woman said, “I can

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<sup>11</sup>See Hebrews 9:12.

<sup>12</sup>Read Luke 10:17-20.

<sup>13</sup>Dale and I are involved in the Healing and Deliverance Ministry in our Church. We minister to Christians who are in bondage to their past and have recurring problems in their lives over which they seem to have no control, which includes a wide range of both physical and emotional problems subtly inflicted upon them by the enemy.

breathe deeply for the first time in years.” A year later the woman came to Dale and said, “I have been working for a year. I don’t have asthma and I am taking no medication.”

The medication prescribed by a well-meaning physician treated the *symptoms*. In ministering to this woman, we identified the root cause (spiritual or demonic), eliminated that (cast it out) and she was healed. Of course, then the symptoms disappeared.<sup>14</sup> The physician who was treating her was trained to treat the *physical symptoms* with medication (drugs). The Great Physician, through His word, has taught Dale and me to *treat the root cause*, not the effect or the symptoms. The symptoms often tell us where to go to attack the root cause of the “problem.” Do you now see how Satan works his dirty tricks? As a specialist, he comes to steal, kill and destroy<sup>15</sup> you and me and he is good at his specialties.

Here is a good example of a similar occurrence where Jesus did the same thing Dale and I did to get someone healed. Matthew, Mark and Luke all record this incident that occurred early in the ministry of Jesus.

Peter, Andrew, James, John and Jesus left the synagogue [presumably on the Sabbath] and went to Peter’s home. There they found Peter’s mother-in-law in bed with a high fever. Matthew wrote “So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them.”<sup>16</sup> Mark records, “So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them.”<sup>17</sup> But now look at Dr. Luke’s record: “So He stood over her and *rebuked* the fever, and it left her. And immediately she arose and served them.”<sup>18</sup> You see Dr. Luke had some training Matthew and Mark did not have and therefore was more observant. I have the idea that Dr. Luke’s bedside manner in treating a patient with a high fever may have changed after this incident. It is interesting and revealing to note that when Jesus *rebuked* the high fever in Peter’s mother-in-law, the word He used in the Greek was *epitimab*, (Strong’s #2008), meaning *to censure, admonish, charge or rebuke*.

Now look at another supernatural incident Jesus was involved with. On one occasion He got into a boat followed by his disciples and launched out into the sea of Galilee. According to the record, suddenly a storm arose and waves covered the ship while Jesus slept. The disciples immediately woke him up and cried out for help. He then said to them, “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith? He then arose and *rebuked* the winds and the sea and there was a great calm.”<sup>19</sup> Here the word *rebuke* is the same word used when He *rebuked* the high fever in Peter’s mother-in-law. (Strong’s #2008). That means He spoke to the fever (the demon causing the fever), cast it out and she was healed. He likewise spoke to the wind and sea (the demonic forces causing the wind and rough sea) and there was a great calm. Note the wide range of Satan’s subtle activity in these two accounts: high fever, rough seas and high winds, all caused by demonic activities. Are you now beginning to see the authority given to Christians who will believe (trust) and act on the word of God?

In one case Jesus healed Peter’s mother-in-law by casting out the demon causing the high fever. In the other case, Dale and I followed the exact instructions given by Jesus and saw a woman healed when we cast out the demon causing her chronic asthma. Now let’s compare costs of treatment. Add the sum of money the woman with asthma had spent on physician’s fees, tests and medication for most of her life (up to the time she came to us for ministry) to the wages or salary lost by being off of the job for two years. A conservative estimate might be a mid to high medium five-figure amount. This is not to be construed as criticism of a competent physician or any other competent professional.

It is a blessing to be used by our Lord in ways most of the Church is still unaware of. Perhaps you can now begin to understand that when we minister to people, we see miracles happen in front of our eyes. All praise, glory and honor to our King, the Lord Jesus. What an awesome God we serve. What a privilege it is to serve Him.

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<sup>14</sup>This is not to be considered as an absolute. Generally speaking, however, when a generational curse is broken and the demon causing the “illness” is cast out the symptoms will disappear. When this is rarely not the case, we “zero in” on any remaining symptom.

<sup>15</sup>See John 10:10.

<sup>16</sup>Matthew 8:15.

<sup>17</sup>Mark 29:31.

<sup>18</sup>Luke 4:39.

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<sup>19</sup>See Luke 8:24. On a number of other occasions, Jesus healed someone by *rebuking* (Strong’s #2008) or casting out the demon causing the illness, for example, Mark 1:25; 9:25 and Luke 9:42.