**The Servant Songs of Isaiah**

**THE SUCCESSFUL SERVANT**

Text: Isaiah 52:13–53:12

Introduction

* The 1st  Song revealed to us a Servant of the LORD, who would come and establish world order.
* The 2nd  Song gave us the hope that indeed God re-gather His people and save them.
* The 3rd Servant Song we saw that this Servant would prove to be truly obedient – yet we were surprised that He would suffer for His obedience.

The *main idea* running through this 4th Song in? It is this:

**THE SUFFERING SERVANT WILL SUCCEED!**

 “*My servant shall prosper, be exalted and raised to great heights*” (Isaiah 52:13, Tanakh). “. . . *the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand*” (Isaiah 53:10, ESV).

1. **EXPLANATION OF THE PASSAGE**

I - GOD'S TESTIMONY (Isaiah 52:13–15 (ESV)):

II – HUMAN/BELIEVING TESTIMONY (Isaiah 53:1–10 (ESV)):

1. They point out the absolute astonishment of the Servant's work.
2. They cover, in broad strokes, the birth and life of the Servant and with his trial, death and burial.
3. Thirdly, when they report on the work of Christ they emphasize that Jesus was a Substitute.

III - GOD'S TESTIMONY (Isaiah 53:11–12 (ESV)):

1. **GOD'S TESTIMONY ABOUT HIS SERVANT – OUR SAVIOR**
* From a suffering that marred and disfigured Him, He would be successful and glorious. From the torment of his soul, He will become fully pleased.
* The success of God's Servant is found in the reality that He dealt with the sins of those who believe in Him; and by His work accounted many as righteous.

What is the Servant's reward? The reward of Christ is that the whole company of the Redeemed belong to Christ. Plus He is given supremacy and rule over all and Christ shares the spoils of war with this same group "the many" all the spoils of war.

"[Luther] once wrote to a friend: 'Learn to know Christ and him crucified. Learn to sing to him, and say, ‘Lord Jesus, you are my righteousness, I am your sin. You have taken upon yourself what is mine and given me what is yours. You became what you were not, so that I might become what I was not.’"