

***Behold My Servant***  
***Isaiah 52:13 – Isaiah 53:12***

**I. The Servant of Yahweh: Israel, Israel’s Redeemer.**

- A. Israel’s vocation in the world as a priestly people to teach the nations
- B. Jesus fulfilling the Servant Calling: Matthew 12:15-21

**II. “Behold!” – Isaiah 42:42:1; Isaiah 52:13**

This is the fourth “Servant Song”:

- 1. Isaiah 42:1-4
- 2. Isaiah 49:1-7
- 3. Isaiah 50:4-11
- 4. Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

The first and last begin with the charge to “Behold” – God is revealing his saving purposes.

**III. The Structure of the Fourth Song**

- Exaltation of the Servant – 52:13
- Rejection of the Servant – 52:14- 53:3
- Substitutionary Offering of the Servant – 53:4-6
- Death of the Servant – 53:7-9
- Soul-Offering of the Servant – 53:10
- Acceptance of Sinners because of the Servant – 53:11
- Exaltation of the Servant – 53:12
- ? The Result: Sing! – Isaiah 54:1

**IV. The Servant’s Substitutionary Ministry – A Revelation Dependent Message!**

- ? Note Isaiah 52:10 on “the arm of the Lord”
- A. The Servant Marred
  - 1. Sprinkles Many Nations – 1 Peter 1:2; Hebrews 8-10
  - 2. The Gospel is brought to the Nations – see Romans 15
- B. The Servant Despised
  - 1. A root out of dry ground
  - 2. No beauty
  - 3. Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief
  - 4. Rejected: note John 1:1-12

C. The Servant as Substitute

1. Bearing and Carrying – This is Levitical Language, meaning to “carry away,” and used of the “scape-goat” offering: both have sins “transmitted” (imputed) to them by the laying on of hands, one “bearing them away” while the other is put to death. Both signify the way God deals with sins: they are transferred to another who dies for them so that they are removed far from us. - Leviticus 16
2. Bears Punishment for sin that leads to peace for the transgressors, and “healing”  
– Note: Matthew 8 and 1 Peter 2:23-24 (Peter, like Paul, is heavily dependent on Isaiah  
– Note: 1:23 ff; 2:4-8; 2:24, etc.)
3. We are like wandering sheep, that go astray. In his mercy, the Shepherd gives his life for the “sheep” – see John 10:15

D. Death of the Servant – while death is implied in the aforementioned texts, it becomes explicit here.

1. Lamb led to slaughter – 1 Peter 1:19; 2:24-25
2. Cut off out of the land of the living
3. In the grave though he had “done no violence.” - 2 Corinthians 5:21

E. Sinners Reconciled to God

1. “Sin-bearing” by the “Righteous One, My Servant” (vs. 11) leads to accounting righteous of the “many.”
2. Because his soul is a “sin offering” – *asham*: used throughout Leviticus. Here the Servant does not “bring” the offering; on the contrary he *is* the offering.
3. This self-offering is God’s will – the Lord’s “pleasure.”

F. The Servant Exalted

1. The Servants Reward
  - a. “I will allocate to him the many...” – his inheritance is those for whom he has interceded.  
\* Intercessor – to go between, not as barrier but as bridge: “to cause to reach.”
  - b. “The strong he will make his spoil” – perhaps overcoming the powers, but certainly bringing to naught the “kings” mentioned at the outset of the song.

The Servant’s Resurrection

“He shall divide...” He can’t do it if he is still dead!