

To whom was the Arm of the Lord revealed

All Scripture is KJV: Isaiah 52:13-15 & Isaiah 53:1-12

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY

The extract of the title of the message this morning is taken from the book of Isaiah, in which the Lord is proclaimed in the OT as a servant that will one day suffer for the salvation of the world.

- ✓ This illustration of “the suffering servant” was put in place already 700 years before Jesus would actually come to suffer and die on the cross for the sin of all mankind.
- ✓ Isaiah was already preparing the way in which would redeem his people.
- ✓ But who was going to “listen” to Isaiah was the greatest question?

So this would be the answer to the question “to whom was the arm of the Lord revealed”

Isaiah 52:13-15 ¹³ Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, **he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high.**

1. This is a direct statement as to the position that this servant would hold.
2. This servant would be exalted and extolled, and **be very high.**
3. This is a servant that would be glorious and adorned and very high and lifted up. It is the same words Isaiah 6 used.

Isaiah 6:1 *In the year that king Uzziah died **I saw also the LORD sitting** upon a throne, **high and lifted up**, and his train filled the temple.*

¹⁴ As many were astonied at thee; **his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:**

1. The face (visage) of this person described here by Isaiah would be completely disfigured and battered, more so than any other person has ever been.
2. So bad was the disfigurement of his face and body that he would have been totally unrecognisable as a person.
3. His blood would have been spattered over all the unbelieving men beating on him. They would have been “covered” in his blood by the crime that they had just committed.
4. By every stroke of beating, and by every whip lashing his blood would have been sprinkled upon those unbelievers, “not knowing what they were doing”.
5. This is the statement Jesus made on the cross when he said “father forgive them for they know not what they do”.

6. Unknowingly Jesus had shed his own blood on them also.

7. The “arm of Jesus was revealed to them” and they did not even know it.

¹⁵ **So shall he sprinkle many nations;** the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.

Isaiah 53 King James Version (KJV)

1 Who hath believed our report? and to **whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?**

² For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

³ He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴ Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of 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 with his stripes we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

1. Remember when Jesus went on trial and when he was being questioned. Remember that he did not open his mouth in his defence.

2. So when they asked any questions he simply said to them “you said it”?

Matthew 27:11-14 King James Version (KJV)

¹¹ And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, Thou sayest. ¹² And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. ¹³ Then said Pilate unto him, Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee? ¹⁴ And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.

3. Isaiah already knew what the suffering servant was going to say. And that was nothing. He would keep silent in his affliction.

4. Just as sheep was “dumb before his shearer” so was Jesus dumb before his accusers. He did not say anything to his defence. Those accusers were going to “fleece” Jesus in the same way the shearer does to sheep in their pens.

To continue.....

⁸ He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

⁹ And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ **Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him;** he hath put him to grief: **when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin,** he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

1. Because God so loved the world, the people in it whom he hath created, God did not want them to perish because of sin.
2. But rather than that, he would send his only begotten Son from the “dead” to take on the sins of the whole world. That means every person who ever lived and lives in the future.
3. That meant that God would cause and use His Son as a punishment for that sin.
4. That meant that Jesus soul was made and “offering” for the sin of the whole world.
5. That could only be possible if Jesus was God. Because the soul of man is not sufficient as it is with sin. Jesus soul was without sin.

¹¹ **He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied;** by his knowledge shall **my righteous servant justify many;** for **he shall bear their iniquities.**

1. So the sin of man became the sin of the righteous servant.
2. The righteous servant would justify many.
3. The righteous servant shall bear their iniquities. Which he did on the cross.

¹² Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; **because he hath poured out his soul unto death:** and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and **made intercession for the transgressors.**

1. In the OT the righteous servant would lead captivity captive and give them gifts. This is the same what Jesus did in the NT as mentioned in Ephesians 3.

Psalm 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

- ✓ So in the same way we can see Ephesians 4:7-10.

Ephesians 4:7-10 King James Version (KJV)

⁷ But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

⁸ **Wherefore he saith,** When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

⁹ (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

¹⁰ He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, **that he might fill all things.**)

1. The all things mentioned in Ephesians 4:10 are the things Isaiah 53 spoke about the suffering servant.
2. The servant would fulfill all things by his death burial and resurrection as Isaiah spoke of.

So the question can be asked again at this stage.....

- ✓ To whom was the arm of the Lord revealed.
 - ✓ "To whom was Jesus Christ revealed.
1. Most people even though they are Christians don't know the full extent of the saving grace of God.
 2. Therefore most people don't even know the full power of God in Christ Jesus?
 3. How many people are even aware or know that Jesus is God?
 4. Or how many people even know that it was Jesus who created the world and everything that is in it?
- I guess essentially for a lot of people they would be ignorant of these facts and lack wisdom, and so you might find that their Christianity is shallow, or even watered down to a mere religion.
 - The prosperity theology of today can be attributed as the breeding ground of the lack of wisdom (theology) of Christ.
- ✚ But there is much more to Jesus than just the NT as I have preached before about Jesus in the OT.
- ❖ But this morning I want to just give us all a short reminder of who Jesus is; and the revelation that he has already accomplished.

✓ This is by no means an exhaustive study, but it is meant to shake our conscience to awaken it to a wonderful Savior in His love for all mankind.

1. I will start this message by reminding us about the time way back in the OT where God met with Abraham in Genesis 12 and made a promise to him.
2. It was a time before the law was given.
3. Then again in Genesis 18 God meets with Abraham with more promises to him. This was also at a time when great and open sin by many people was being carried out and affecting many nations.
4. Sin was abounding in many cities, and God was not pleased.
5. So as we pick up the story in Genesis 18, we find that God is about to judge Sodom and Gomorrah because the city was wicked and full of sodomy.
6. But yet it is also about God meeting with Abraham, to make a promise with him.

The question that we can all ask is this “to whom was the arm of the Lord revealed”.

Let's see what the bible has to say about that.....

- ❖ Now as we look at Genesis 18 for another example of the arm of the Lord being revealed in the OT. This is a strong passage of scripture teaching that the arm of the Lord was revealed to those also in the OT.

Read Genesis 18.

Genesis 18 King James Version (KJV)

¹ **And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre:** and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; ² **And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him:** and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

³ **And said, My LORD,** if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

⁴ Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree: ⁵ And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth. ⁷ And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

⁸ And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, **and they did eat.**

⁹ And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.

¹⁰ **And he said**, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. ¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

¹² Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, **my lord** being old also?

✓ (lord here refers to her husband Abraham – this is what is mentioned in 1 Peter 3:6)

¹³ **And the LORD said unto Abraham**, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?

¹⁴ **Is any thing too hard for the LORD?** At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

¹⁵ Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh. ¹⁶ And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

¹⁷ **And the LORD said**, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; ¹⁸ Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

¹⁹ For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

²⁰ **And the LORD said**, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; ²¹ I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

²² **And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.**

²³ And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

²⁴ Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

²⁵ That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: **Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?**

²⁶ **And the LORD said**, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

²⁷ And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, **I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD**, which am but dust and ashes:

²⁸ Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it. ²⁹ And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

³⁰ And he said unto him, **Oh let not the LORD be angry**, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there. ³¹ And he said, Behold now, **I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD:** Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

³² And he said, **Oh let not the LORD be angry**, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

³³ And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

1. Therefore according to Genesis 18, Abraham was speaking to the LORD (Jehovah) which is Jesus here.
 2. All through this passage Abraham is calling him LORD.
 3. All through this passage we see that Abraham could see and talk to the LORD and even that the LORD ate the food that Abraham prepared for them.
- ✓ In verse 13, we see that the scripture said..... ¹³ **And the LORD said unto Abraham**, Wherefore did Sarah laugh.....
 - ✓ This shows that it was the LORD speaking here, which is the name used in place of the Tetragrammaton which is simply the Hebrew equivalent of YHWH which is a word used to show that it is God speaking. Which in this case in Genesis 18 is Jesus who is also God.
 - ✓ Also here we see in Genesis 18:16 that the LORD stays with Abraham whilst the other two men go into Sodom as we continue to read in Genesis 19. These were the two angels that showed up in Sodom at Lots house, and they appeared to the sodomites there as two men.
 - ✓ But let me show you also that the LORD here could not have been God the Father and therefore must have been God the Son Jesus.
 - ✓ Let me show you why?

Turn to John 1 to prove it.....

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² The same was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Verse 14: ¹⁴ And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (**and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,**) full of grace and truth.

- ✓ Here we see the members of the trinity again.

But look at verse 18 which is the key to it **not** being the Father in Genesis 18.

18 No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

1. You see no man could have seen the Father in Genesis 18 and lived.
2. So it had to be the Son who was the one who revealed himself to Abraham.
3. In verse 18 here it is speaking about God the Son.
4. So what this verse is teaching is that it is only the Son who could have been seen by Abraham and not the Father.
5. So could this statement have been made if it was God the Farther who walked up to Abraham?
6. No it would not make any sense according to the scriptures, because no man can see the face of God the Father and still live.

1. Therefore Genesis 18:18 is correct in what it also said that no man has seen God (referring to the Father) at any time. Unlike in John 1:14 which said they could see Jesus' glory. "beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father".

➤ **Therefore in Genesis 18 we see the theophany of Jesus and not the Father.**

1. Therefore to say that Jesus only appears in the NT is wrong. And to say that only the red letters in your bible refer to Jesus is wrong. Because that's what the Catholics will have you say. When you show them what Romans says, they will tell you they don't care what Paul wrote, but that it's only about what Jesus said.
2. But.... the whole bible from Genesis to Revelation is Jesus.
3. The events in Exodus 33 and Exodus 34, are the theophany's of Jesus. Because Jesus tells us that no man has seen God or heard his voice in John.

John 1:18 **No man hath seen God at any time**, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

John 5:37 And **the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.**

- Therefore the LORD in Exodus 33 and Exodus 34 account cannot be the Father. The shape of the LORD seen in Exodus 33, could not have been the Father because John 5:37 says so in the scripture. Therefore it was the theophany of Jesus, presenting then with all His Glory.
 - If it was the Father, then Moses would not have been able to hear his voice, nor see his shape.
4. It should be that all the letters from Genesis to Revelation should be in Red writing not just the NT. Because the whole bible speaks of Jesus.
- ✚ Anything in the OT is also the mind of Christ, not just the New Testament gospels.

- ❖ So when you see Sodom and Gomorrah going to be destroyed that was Jesus in Genesis 18. It was Jesus in the OT who was and still is against sodomy.
- ✚ So now if you understand that Jesus is the God of the OT (part of the triune Godhead), you also can now understand that Jesus is still the God of the NT. It is the same God.
- ✚ Then the whole bible becomes your authority, not just the NT.

The arm of the Lord was revealed to all men from Genesis to Revelation.

- Isaiah just made it so plain for everyone to see.

Romans 10: ²⁰ But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me.

Hebrews 12: ²⁴ And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

John 12: ³⁸ That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? ³⁹ Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, ⁴⁰ He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them. ⁴¹ These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and spake of him.

1 Peter 1: ² Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Acts 8: ²⁷ And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, ²⁸ Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. ³⁰ And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

³¹ And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. ³² The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

³³ In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. ³⁴ And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. ³⁶ And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

³⁷ And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.** ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

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- The arm of the LORD was revealed to every person of every age that has ever lived.
- The arm of the LORD is the OT and the NT.

Don't lose sight of the Godhead.

PRAYER.....CLOSE