WEEK TWO

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 and 1 Peter 2:18-25

“What does forgiveness look like?”

“The heart of salvation is the Cross of Christ. The reason salvation is so easy to obtain is that it cost God so much. The Cross was the place where God and sinful man merged with a tremendous collision and where the way to life was opened. But all the cost and pain of the collision was absorbed by the heart of God.”

Oswald Chambers

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**Read Isaiah 52:13-53:3**

Who is Isaiah speaking about here? (See Acts 8:29-35; Matthew 8:16-17)

What is this “report” that Isaiah speaks of in Isaiah 53:1? (See John 12:37-41; Romans 10:16; Mark 15:31-32)

Using your resources, when was this passage written by Isaiah?

What does this fact tell you about Jesus, His coming, and His crucifixion?

Was it a horrible accident or an event planned before the foundation of the world?

What does it tell you about God’s sovereignty?

What is it about verse 14 that causes you to love Him all the more? Does this verse break your heart? If so, in what way?

Have there been times in your life when you despised and rejected Jesus? Explain.

Have you ever hid from Him? What did that look like?

**Read Isaiah 53:4-12**

As you meditate on these verses, be thinking about how you would answer the question: What did it cost Jesus to forgive us?

Did He pay this cost willingly? (See John 10:11-18; Luke 22:41-43; Luke 23:33-34; Philippians 2:5-11)

Why do you think “He opened **not** his mouth”?

When you are falsely accused do you immediately try to defend yourself? Why do

you feel that you need to do that? How is your motivation different from Jesus?

(See Romans 12:14-21)

“Why do we lash out when we’re mistreated? Why are we so quick to defend ourselves or to seek revenge? Is it not that we place too much value on our own comfort and rights?

“If so, we must pray, echoing the words of Augustine, “Heal me of this lust of mine to always

vindicate myself.” [David H. Roper](https://odb.org/author/davidhroper/)

Are there situations in your life right now where you could follow Jesus’ example?

“Jesus was innocent. He was without spot or blemish. He was tried, convicted, sentenced and put to death. All the charges were subjective or illegal. There was not one charge His accusers could make stick in a legal court. Jesus, however, never defended Himself, never justified Himself. He was never resentful and He never held grudges against His persecutors. He never said, “You will get yours, buddy, when I return in the Second Advent!” No, He said nothing and was like a lamb led to the slaughter. Christ is our example in how to handle unjust

treatment of any kind.” Dr. Jack L. Arnold

What conclusions about God could you come to in verse 10? Does it seem He is being cruel to treat Jesus this way? Why do you know that is not true?

Why did it please Him to bruise Jesus and put Him to grief? (See 1 John 4:9-11; John 3:16; Hebrews 9:22; Hebrews 10:8-14)

Do you believe God loves **you** this much?

Do you accept and receive all of the love God has for you? Why or why not?

Did we deserve His love and forgiveness? (See Romans 3:9-26; Romans 5:6-8)

Do you consider this when you are wondering whether someone you know

deserves to be forgiven—maybe even someone who is a repeat offender?

**Read 1 Peter 2:18-25**

As you meditate on these verses be thinking about the question: “What does forgiveness look like?

Who is our example?

“It is part of a true Christian’s calling to bear what is put upon him wrongfully. Whenever you think of the glory of your risen Lord, remember what your redemption cost him, and quit all dead works, lay aside the grave-clothes of care and anxiety, and live in newness of life as those

who have been redeemed by the risen Savior.” C.H.Spurgeon

What is the correlation between the forgiveness shown by the master in the parable of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18:21-35 and that shown by Jesus in 1 Peter 2:18-25 and Isaiah 52:13-53:12?

How is Jesus the ultimate example of how you are to forgive others?

Are you willing to die to self, to put aside your pride, your feelings, to suffer mortal wounds, and to pay whatever price is required to forgive another? Are you willing to follow Jesus’ example?

“And so, we flow through the seven last sayings of Christ. The first of His sayings is recorded in Luke 23 and verse 34. You don’t need to look it up; it’s familiar to you. The first thing He said from the cross was this, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And in so saying, He revealed His character.

“The principle is this: He died forgiving those who sinned against Him. He died forgiving those who sinned against Him. That, dear friends, is a principle for living. Jesus, in His dying, revealed a forgiving heart, even against those who took His life…And as He hangs on the cross, the victim, as it were, from the human perspective of the hatred, animosity, bitterness, vengeance, and vile wickedness of the world of men and a host of demons, what is His response? What is His reply? We would have expected, as human beings, that He might have cried out to God for pity, that He might have shaken His fist in the face of God as one unworthy of such an execution. We might have assumed that He would cry, “Malediction,” or, “Vengeance,” upon His killers. But He does none of that. The first thing He says [is] a prayer. The first prayer He prays is a prayer of forgiveness for the very people who have taken His life.” John MacArthur