

Crystallization-Study Outlines — Isaiah (2)

Message Five

The All-inclusive Christ in His Four Stages according to God's New Testament Economy

(1)

In the Stage of His Incarnation

Scripture Reading: Isa. 52:14—53:3; 1 Cor. 1:22-24; 2 Cor. 8:9; Mark 6:1-6

- Isa 52:14 Even as many were astonished at Him—His visage was marred more than that of any man, And His form more than that of the sons of men—
- Isa 52:15 So will He surprise many nations; Kings will shut their mouths because of Him; For what had not been recounted to them they will see, And what they had not heard of they will contemplate.
- Isa 53:1 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of Jehovah been revealed?
- Isa 53:2 For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. He has no attracting form nor majesty that we should look upon Him, Nor beautiful appearance that we should desire Him.
- Isa 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised; and we did not esteem Him.
- 1 Cor 1:22 For indeed Jews require signs and Greeks seek wisdom,
- 1 Cor 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness,
- 1 Cor 1:24 But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- 2 Cor 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, for your sakes He became poor in order that you, because of His poverty, might become rich.
- Mark 6:1 And He went out from there and came into His own country, and His disciples followed Him.
- Mark 6:2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue; and many hearing were astounded, saying, Where *did* this man *get* these things? And what is this wisdom given to this man, and *how is it that* such works of power take place through His hands?
- Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled in Him.
- Mark 6:4 And Jesus said to them, A prophet is not without honor except in his *own* country and among his *own* relatives and in his *own* house.
- Mark 6:5 And He could not do any work of power there, except to lay His hands upon a few *of the* sick and heal *them*.
- Mark 6:6 And He marveled because of their unbelief; and He went around the villages in a circuit, teaching.

I. The purpose of God's move in the stage of His incarnation is:

- A. To bring God into man—Matt. 1:20-21, 23; Isa. 7:14; 9:6.
- Matt 1:20 But while he pondered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife, for that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit.
- Matt 1:21 And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for *it is* He *who* will save His people from their sins.
- Matt 1:23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel" (which is translated, God with us).
- Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin will conceive and will bear a son, and she will call his name Immanuel.
- Isa 9:6 For a child is born to us, A son is given to us; And the government is upon His shoulder; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
- B. To make God man that man may become God in life and nature but not in the Godhead—John 1:1, 14; 12:24.
- John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the Only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
- John 12:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- C. To mingle God with man that God and man may be one—Lev. 2:4-5.
- Lev 2:4 And when you present an offering of a meal offering baked in the oven, it shall be of fine flour, unleavened cakes mingled with oil or unleavened wafers anointed with oil.

- Lev 2:5 And if your offering is a meal offering baked on a flat plate, it shall be of fine flour mingled with oil, unleavened.
- D. To accomplish God's redemption for man—Rom. 8:3; 1 Pet. 1:18-20; Heb. 9:26, 28, 12; 2:14.
- Rom 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,
- 1 Pet 1:18 Knowing that *it was* not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, *that* you were redeemed from your vain manner of life handed down from your fathers,
- 1 Pet 1:19 But with precious blood, as of a Lamb without blemish and without spot, *the blood* of Christ;
- 1 Pet 1:20 Who was foreknown before the foundation of the world but has been manifested in the last of times for your sake,
- Heb 9:26 Since then He would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world. But now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested for the putting away of sin through the sacrifice of Himself.
- Heb 9:28 So Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time to those who eagerly await Him, apart from sin, unto salvation.
- Heb 9:12 And not through the blood of goats and calves but through His own blood, entered once for all into the *Holy of Holies*, obtaining an eternal redemption.
- Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,
- E. To carry out God's salvation in man—1 Tim. 1:15.
- 1 Tim 1:15 Faithful is the word and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am foremost.
- F. To impart the divine life into man—1 John 4:9.
- 1 John 4:9 In this the love of God was manifested among us, that God sent His only begotten Son into the world that we might have life and live through Him.

II. The incarnated Savior is the arm of Jehovah; the arm of Jehovah is God Himself in His saving power—Isa. 53:1b:

- Isa 53:1b ... And to whom has the arm of Jehovah been revealed?
- A. When the Lord Jesus came out to preach the gospel, that was the unveiling of the arm of Jehovah—Luke 4:14, 18-19; Mark 1:14-15.
- Luke 4:14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee. And reports about Him went out through all the surrounding region.
- Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to announce the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to send away in release those who are oppressed,
- Luke 4:19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, *the year of jubilee.*"
- Mark 1:14 And after John was delivered up, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God,
- Mark 1:15 And saying, The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has drawn near. Repent and believe in the gospel.
- B. The Old Testament term is *the arm of Jehovah*; the New Testament term is *the power of God*—1 Cor. 1:24.
- 1 Cor 1:24 But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- C. Although Christ was unveiled as the arm of Jehovah, many did not see that He was Jehovah Himself coming in power to save them; they did not believe, because He grew up like a tender plant before Jehovah and like a root out of dry ground—Isa. 53:2a; John 1:46; Matt. 13:55.
- Isa 53:2a For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. ...
- John 1:46 And Nathanael said to him, Can anything good be from Nazareth? Philip said to him, Come and see.
- Matt 13:55 Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not His mother called Mary, and His brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?
- D. When the Lord Jesus comes back, the remnant of Israel will repent and wail and be saved (Zech. 12:10-14; Rom. 11:26-27); at that time they will confess the contents of Isaiah 53, and this chapter will be full of taste to them.
- Zech 12:10 And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and of supplications; and they will look upon Me, whom they have pierced; and they will wail over Him with wailing as for an only son and cry bitterly over Him with bitter crying as for a firstborn son.

- Zech 12:11 In that day there will be great wailing in Jerusalem, like the wailing of Hadad-rimmon in the valley of Megiddon.
- Zech 12:12 And the land will wail, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves;
- Zech 12:13 The family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself, and their wives by themselves;
- Zech 12:14 All the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves.
- Rom 11:26 And thus all Israel will be saved, as it is written, "The Deliverer will come out of Zion; He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob.
- Rom 11:27 And this is the covenant from Me with them, when I take away their sins."
- Isa 53:1 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of Jehovah been revealed?
- Isa 53:2 For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. He has no attracting form nor majesty that we should look upon Him, Nor beautiful appearance that we should desire Him.
- Isa 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised; and we did not esteem Him.
- Isa 53:4 Surely He has borne our sicknesses, And carried our sorrows; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God and afflicted.
- Isa 53:5 But He was wounded because of our transgressions; He was crushed because of our iniquities; The chastening for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we have been healed.
- Isa 53:6 We all like sheep have gone astray; Each of us has turned to his own way, And Jehovah has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.
- Isa 53:7 He was oppressed, and it was He who was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter And like a sheep that is dumb before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth.
- Isa 53:8 By oppression and by judgment He was taken away; And as for His generation, who among them had the thought That He was cut off out of the land of the living For the transgression of my people to whom the stroke was due?
- Isa 53:9 And they assigned His grave with the wicked, But with a rich man in His death, Although He had done no violence, Nor was there any deceit in His mouth.
- Isa 53:10 But Jehovah was pleased to crush Him, to afflict Him with grief. When He makes Himself an offering for sin, He will see a seed, He will extend His days, And the pleasure of Jehovah will prosper in His hand.
- Isa 53:11 He will see the fruit of the travail of His soul, And He will be satisfied; By the knowledge of Him, the righteous One, My Servant, will make the many righteous, And He will bear their iniquities.
- Isa 53:12 Therefore I will divide to Him a portion with the Great, And He will divide the spoil with the Strong; Because He poured out His life unto death And was numbered with the transgressors, Yet He alone bore the sin of many And interceded for the transgressors.

III. As the complete God, signified by the arm of Jehovah, the power of God, Christ became a perfect man, signified by a man of sorrows—vv. 1b, 3a; John 1:1, 14; 1 Tim. 2:5:

- Isa 53:1b ... And to whom has the arm of Jehovah been revealed?
- Isa 53:3a He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; ...
- John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
- 1 Tim 2:5 For there is one God and one Mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus,
- A. The arm of Jehovah is Jehovah in His power, and the man of sorrows is Jesus; when these two are added together, they equal incarnation.
- B. In 1 Corinthians 1:22-24 *Christ crucified* corresponds to the *man of sorrows* in Isaiah 53:3, and *the power of God* corresponds to the *arm of Jehovah* in verse 1.
- 1 Cor 1:22 For indeed Jews require signs and Greeks seek wisdom,
- 1 Cor 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness,
- 1 Cor 1:24 But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- Isa 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised; and we did not esteem Him.
- Isa 53:1 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of Jehovah been revealed?

IV. As a perfect man, the Lord Jesus lived a lowly and sorrowful human life—vv. 2-3:

- Isa 53:2 For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. He has no attracting form nor majesty that we should look upon Him, Nor beautiful appearance that we should desire Him.
- Isa 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised; and we did not esteem Him.
- A. He grew up like a tender plant before Jehovah and like a root out of dry ground—v. 2a:
 Isa 53:2a For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. ...
1. The plant here refers to a sprout, which is tender, small, and delicate; because He was such a small, delicate person, no one would pay attention to Him.
 2. He grew up like a root out of dry ground, which signifies a difficult environment; this means that He was born of a poor family—v. 2a; Luke 2:21-24; cf. Lev. 12:8; 2 Cor. 8:9.
 Isa 53:2a For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. ...
 Luke 2:21 And when eight days were fulfilled to circumcise Him, His name was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.
 Luke 2:22 And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were fulfilled, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present *Him* to the Lord
 Luke 2:23 (Even as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"),
 Luke 2:24 And to give a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord: A pair of turtledoves or two young doves.
 Lev 12:8 And if she cannot afford a lamb, then she shall take two turtledoves or two young pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering. And the priest shall make expiation for her, and she shall be clean.
 2 Cor 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, for your sakes He became poor in order that you, because of His poverty, might become rich.
 3. The Lord Jesus was raised in the home of a poor carpenter in the despised town of Nazareth and in the despised region, Galilee; this was the fulfillment of the dry ground in Isaiah 53:2a.
 Isa 53:2 For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. ...
 4. The Lord's environment being one of dry ground means that His environment did not render Him any help at all:
 - a. Everything that He had was from God; He did not receive or expect anything from His surroundings that would encourage, support, or comfort Him.
 - b. Our Lord had God's will as His satisfaction all His life; He was satisfied only with God—John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38.
 John 4:34 Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.
 John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
 John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
 - c. Our Lord was never discouraged (Isa. 42:4; 49:4); He had no hope toward the world and did not expect to receive anything from it; His only hope was in God, and His only satisfaction was in God.
 Isa 42:4 He will not faint, nor will He be discouraged, Until He has established justice in the earth; And the coastlands will wait for His instruction.
 Isa 49:4 But I said, I have labored in vain; I have used up my strength for nothing and vanity; Yet surely the justice due to me is with Jehovah, And my recompense with my God.
 - d. Those who take their satisfaction in God will never be disappointed—John 4:13-14.
 John 4:13 Jesus answered and said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water shall thirst again,
 John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.
- B. He had no attracting form nor majesty that men should look upon Him—Isa. 53:2b:
 Isa 53:2b ... He has no attracting form nor majesty that we should look upon Him, Nor beautiful appearance that we should desire Him.

1. Jesus had neither an attracting form, nor did He have a beautiful appearance; He did not have any form or comeliness that would cause others to appreciate Him.
 2. Instead of majesty, Jesus had poverty (Matt. 8:20), and instead of an attractive form and a beautiful appearance, He had a visage and form that were marred (Isa. 52:14).
 Matt 8:20 And Jesus said to him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of heaven *have* roosts, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.
 Isa 52:14 Even as many were astonished at Him—His visage was marred more than that of any man, And His form more than that of the sons of men—
 3. *Visage* denotes the appearance and also refers to the face or facial expression; Christ's face and His form were marred (disfigured) in order that He might save us; this is astonishing, different from what people expected Christ as a servant of God to be—v. 15.
 Isa 52:15 So will He surprise many nations; Kings will shut their mouths because of Him; For what had not been recounted to them they will see, And what they had not heard of they will contemplate.
- C. Christ was despised and forsaken of men, like one from whom men hide their faces and whom men do not esteem—53:3.
 Isa 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised; and we did not esteem Him.
- D. The Lord Jesus lived as a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; this was a part of Christ's qualifications for accomplishing redemption—v. 3a.
 Isa 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; ...
- E. He was a “man whose chief distinction was, that His life was one of constant painful endurance” (Keil and Delitzsch).
- F. Christ's being such a man and His living such a lowly and sorrowful human life fully qualified Him to be the Redeemer and the Savior to save us from Satan, sin, death, and self—Heb. 2:14-18; Matt. 1:21; Rom. 8:3; 2 Tim. 1:10; Matt. 16:24-25.
 Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,
 Heb 2:15 And might release those who because of the fear of death through all their life were held in slavery.
 Heb 2:16 For assuredly *it is* not to angels *that* He gives help, but He gives help to the seed of Abraham.
 Heb 2:17 Hence He should have been made like His brothers in all things that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in the things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
 Heb 2:18 For being tempted in that which He Himself has suffered, He is able to help those who are being tempted.
 Matt 1:21 And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for *it is* He *who* will save His people from their sins.
 Rom 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,
 2 Tim 1:10 But now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who nullified death and brought life and incorruption to light through the gospel,
 Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
 Matt 16:25 For whoever wants to save his soul-life shall lose it; but whoever loses his soul-life for My sake shall find it.

V. Mark 6:1-6 may be regarded as a fulfillment of the prophecy in Isaiah 53:2-3:

- Mark 6:1 And He went out from there and came into His own country, and His disciples followed Him.
 Mark 6:2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue; and many hearing were astounded, saying, Where *did* this man *get* these things? And what is this wisdom given to this man, and *how is it that* such works of power take place through His hands?
 Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled in Him.
 Mark 6:4 And Jesus said to them, A prophet is not without honor except in his *own* country and among his *own* relatives and in his *own* house.

- Mark 6:5 And He could not do any work of power there, except to lay His hands upon a few *of the* sick and heal *them*.
- Mark 6:6 And He marveled because of their unbelief; and He went around the villages in a circuit, teaching.
- Isa 53:2 For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. He has no attracting form nor majesty that we should look upon Him, Nor beautiful appearance that we should desire Him.
- Isa 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised; and we did not esteem Him.
- A. The Nazarenes, blinded by their natural knowledge, knew the Lord Jesus according to the flesh, not according to the Spirit—Mark 6:2-3; 2 Cor. 5:16.
- Mark 6:2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue; and many hearing were astounded, saying, Where *did* this man *get* these things? And what is this wisdom given to this man, and *how is it that* such works of power take place through His hands?
- Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled in Him.
- 2 Cor 5:16 So then we, from now on, know no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him so* no longer.
- B. Only in the Gospel of Mark is the Lord Jesus called a carpenter—6:3:
- Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled in Him.
1. Carpentry is not a magnificent work, but it requires much fineness and patience; in such a work the Lord Jesus was found in fashion as a man (Phil. 2:8), not in loftiness but in lowliness, fineness, and patience.

Phil 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and *that* the death of a cross.
 2. In Mark 6:3 the word *carpenter* is used in a despising manner:

Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled in Him.

 - a. The Nazarenes were astounded by the Lord's teaching, by His wisdom, and by His works of power, but they regarded Him as a person of low status—vv. 2-3.

Mark 6:2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue; and many hearing were astounded, saying, Where *did* this man *get* these things? And what is this wisdom given to this man, and *how is it that* such works of power take place through His hands?

Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled in Him.
 - b. They were stumbled in Him because, although they heard wonderful words out of His mouth and saw some of His marvelous deeds, they considered that He did not have a high status or degree.
 - c. They saw the Lord Jesus as one who was merely a carpenter; therefore, they were stumbled in Him, and they despised Him.
- C. The record in Mark 6:1-6 should cause us to ask ourselves what we want and what we value.
- Mark 6:1 And He went out from there and came into His own country, and His disciples followed Him.
- Mark 6:2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue; and many hearing were astounded, saying, Where *did* this man *get* these things? And what is this wisdom given to this man, and *how is it that* such works of power take place through His hands?
- Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled in Him.
- Mark 6:4 And Jesus said to them, A prophet is not without honor except in his *own* country and among his *own* relatives and in his *own* house.
- Mark 6:5 And He could not do any work of power there, except to lay His hands upon a few *of the* sick and heal *them*.
- Mark 6:6 And He marveled because of their unbelief; and He went around the villages in a circuit, teaching.