

## God's Righteous Servant, Our Savior

*Isa 53:11 He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities.*

This morning we shall be considering the second half of this verse, "My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities". Last Sunday we consider the phrase "By His knowledge" and we noted in that message the importance of sound Biblical doctrine wherein we considered why true faith requires that we know who Jesus is and what He did for us.

When we began this series on God's Servant-Savior we began with Isaiah 52:13 where we read, "*Behold, My Servant*". Now as we have come to chapter 53 verse 11 we seen an adjective added to the title Servant for here He is called a "*righteous*" Servant. How important is that addition for our salvation? I believe the importance is found in these words, "*He shall justify many*", for we shall see that His righteousness is the ground on which He justifies others.

We will consider this under these headings, 1. Who is this "righteous Servant"; 2. The necessity of the righteous Servant, and 3. The work accomplished, and then in Conclusion How is this accomplished?

### A. Who is this "righteous Servant".

1. We know Him as the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - a. As that baby born in Bethlehem
  - b. As the one who worked miracles and taught the people
  - c. As the one who was crucified
  - d. And as the one who rose from the dead
2. In eternity past He was the one Isaiah saw high and lifted up.

*Isa 6:3 Cried one to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"*

- a. Jesus Christ then is that thrice holy God who is the Lord of hosts.
- b. We know this from the witness that John gives us in His gospel

*John 12:41 These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.*

- c. The marvel of it all then is that the very Lord of honor power and glory will become the Servant of God the Father.

*Phil 2:5-8 ". . . Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*

- d. This "righteous Servant" then is the most Holy God who took upon Himself our flesh that He might redeem us from the curse of the Law.
- e. It is most important to understand that although He humbled Himself by taking upon Himself in the form of a servant coming in the likeness of men He retained that holiness for He was not conceived by natural means but was conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the virgin.

*Luke 1:34-36 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.*

3. Not only holy from all eternity but perfectly obedient as the man Christ Jesus.
  - a. He was perfectly obedient in all things as Jesus Himself declared it to be so.

*John 17:4 I have glorified You on the earth. **I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.***

*John 15:10 ". . . **I have kept My Father's commandments.***

*John 8:29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, **for I always do those things that please Him.**"*

b. Declared to be so by the Apostles.

*Heb 1:7-9 And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire." But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions."*

*Heb 4:15 ' . . . was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.*

*Heb 7:26 For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners*

*1 Peter 2:22 "Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth";*

1 *John 3:5 and in Him there is no sin.*

c. This is a title that belongs only to our Lord Jesus Christ.

B. The necessity of the righteous Servant - *My righteous Servant shall justify many*

1. The need is real for Isaiah has already pointed out that all we like sheep have gone astray.
2. God's word makes it clear we must be holy if we would see God.

*Heb 12:14 " . . . **without holiness no one will see the Lord:***

*Rev 21:27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles.*

3. Our only hope of heaven is a perfect righteousness for the law demands a perfect obedience and the justice of God requires it.

*James 2:10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.*

4. Therefore we stand in need of two things, 1) a covering for our sin and 2) a lasting true righteousness.
5. Christ alone provides both.

a. For He justifies us in that He is God, and provided for us that sacrificial Lamb without spot and without blemish.

b. but also as He is man, for it was necessary that He become flesh and live in perfect obedience in order that He might procure our righteousness.

*Rom 8:3-4 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us*

- a. That is He performed in our place that obedience by which we are acquitted before God.
- b. And He offered Himself up as a sacrifice to provide a covering for our sin.

C. The work accomplished was our justification before God- *He shall justify many*

1. The Hebrew word translated "shall justify many" is in the Hiphil, or causative case and therefore means that this righteous Servant will make one or "cause one to be" righteous in the eyes of the law.
2. Therefore it is a righteousness in the forensic sense, that is, not referring to inherent moral improvement, but an imputed righteousness.
3. That is He will not make us righteous in the sense that we will never sin again for the Bible is clear, "if we say we have no sin the truth is not in us" (1 Jn 1:9)
4. Rather, He will make many to be accounted as if righteous on the ground of His meritorious suffering and righteousness, not our righteousness.

CONCLUSION: How is this accomplished? - *for He shall bear their iniquities*

Jesus did this by bearing our iniquities

*1 Peter 2:24-25 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — by whose stripes you were healed.*

*1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God,*

Christ then is that "righteous Servant".

Such a servant was necessary in our place for we have all as sheep gone astray.

Christ did what we could not do - causing us to be accounted as righteous on the basis of His meritorious suffering and His righteousness

He did this by bearing our iniquities in His own body upon the tree

Thus we can say this morning: *He has seen the labor of His soul, and is satisfied. And now - by these great truths We may know God's righteous Servant Has justified us for He has our iniquities.*