

# The Servant's Glory—Veiled to be Revealed

Isaiah 53:1-3

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## **Introduction**

Last week, we came to this marvellous portion of Isaiah (from Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12) where the prophet presents our Lord Jesus Christ as the suffering servant.

- In this chapter we have what is perhaps the clearest revelation of Jesus' death as a substitutionary death in the place of guilty sinners, written seven centuries before He was even born.
  - I told you that we were going to slow down and spend some time here, looking upon our Lord as He is revealed to us.
  - The prophecy is nicely divided into five stanzas of three verses each, so my plan is to take these one at a time.
  
- Last week, we looked at His wisdom and prudence that is revealed in the portion of this prophecy that is found in chapter 52—Isa 52:13-15.
  - In this first stanza, the Father says that His servant will deal prudently...
    - And so He did.
    - You deal prudently when you not only know what must be done to obtain whatever it is that you want to obtain...
      - but when you also stick to the pathway of wisdom despite all opposition.
      - The prudent person goes on despite the problems he encounters along the way because he looks to the future—
        - at how everything will end up if he sticks to his course.
          - This applies to so many things—the foolish person gives us as soon as their some inconvenience or hardship along the path of wisdom...
          - But the prudent person sticks to the way until the end and obtains the fruits of His wisdom.
  
- What difficulties we told of that our Lord Jesus encountered on the pathway of wisdom!
  - Isaiah 52:14 tells us that people were astonished at Him.
    - They were astonished because He was mangled beyond recognition as a human being.
  - That is where the pathway of wisdom that He followed so carefully led Him.
    - He knew that it was going to lead Him through such difficulties.
    - He knew that He had come with the mission of redeeming a fallen sinful world, and that meant that He must bear the curse for us.
      - To obtain the goal of redemption, He must suffer!

- And in the introduction to this great chapter about the suffering servant,
  - We saw that He would deal prudently—He would stick to the path of wisdom...
    - And the marvellous result would be that He would at last be exalted, and extolled, and made very high!
    - Indeed, we are told that even by His very sufferings, He would sprinkle the nations!
      - He would sprinkle them by His atoning sacrifice so that they would obtain the forgiveness of sin!
        - He would bring to them reconciliation with His Father, the marvellous blessing of eternal life!
  - We saw that the kings of the nations who looked on would be stunned to silence when they came to understand what He had done!
    - His sufferings and life that had made not sense to them will suddenly be seen as the very height of wisdom and love!
      - They will shut their mouths in adoring admiration of Him!
      - How the Servant of the LORD dealt prudently!
        - What a Saviour He is!

And this week we come to look at another aspect of His character that is revealed to us in the second stanza of this great prophecy...

- verses 1-3 of Isaiah 53.
- Here we are have the revelation of His glory.
  - When you first look at these verses, it looks more like His glory was hidden rather than revealed—
    - and indeed it was hidden from many of the Jews just as it is hidden from many people today.
    - But we will see how the veiling of His glory was actually the unveiling of His glory in the very way that men need to see His glory most of all.
      - You might compare it to the way we look at the glory of the sun...
        - If we want to see anything other than its brightness, we have to turn down the brightness by looking at it through a filter.
        - The filter must hide one aspect of glory so that you can see other aspects of its glory.
  - In the incarnation...
    - in case you are unfamiliar with that word,
      - it is the word we use to speak of Jesus coming in human flesh—*caro* means *flesh*—and when Jesus was born, He who had no body before was invested with a human body.

- In the incarnation, certain aspects of His glory were definitely hidden, but it was in order that the elect might see His glory in ways that they and all the world had been completely blind to before.
  - In other words, believers see the glory of God in ways that we could never have seen it if Jesus had not come in the flesh and dwelt among us.
  - That is not the only reason He was incarnate of course—
    - He came as a man in order that He might represent man by dying in the place of sinful man.
      - But it was also a way of revealing the glory of God to us in ways that we had not seen it before.
- This is what John writes about in chapter 1—What we read in our first scripture reading a few minutes ago.
  - He calls Jesus the Word of God, and He tells us that He dwelt in glory with the Father and that all things were made by Him...
    - In other words, He was fully God.
    - And then in verse 14 He tells us that
      - John 1:14: “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father!”
    - It sounds like a paradox—He set aside His glory to come in the flesh, yet it is by His coming in the flesh that we are enabled to see His glory!
      - But it is not a paradox.
        - By hiding His glory in one way, His glory is revealed in another!
          - Again, it is like looking at the sun through a filter.
      - In verse 18, John says,
        - John 1:18: “No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him!”
          - He revealed God’s glory by laying aside His glory and coming in human flesh so that we could see Him!
      - Is this not also what Jesus said in John 12, our second scripture reading this morning? In John 12:45-46 He said:
        - John 12:45-46: “And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. I have come *as* a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.”
  - He laid aside His glory in order that He might reveal His glory to His elect.
    - That is what John is telling us.
    - That is what Jesus did.
    - That is what Isaiah is talking about in the first three verses of chapter 53.
      - Let’s look at this more closely that we might behold His glory!

**I. See first of all how His glory was, in a very obvious way, veiled!**

A. Isaiah points out in verse 1 that most of the covenant people did not see any glory in Jesus Christ when He came.

- In other words, the veiling of His glory left them with no glory to see—
  - at least, with none that they could appreciate or understand!

1. Isaiah uses a question to show how they did not see His glory:

- Isa 53:1: “Who has believed our report and to whom had the arm of the LORD been revealed?”
  - a. He has just shown in Isa 52:15 that the kings of the nations would marvel when they saw what Christ had done to redeem the world!
    - They would see that the Servant of the LORD is the Arm of the LORD that redeems...
      - that mighty arm that reaches out to them to save them!
      - They would see that in His sufferings, He redeems the world...
        - To use the language of the Lord’s Supper, they would see that:
          - “His body was broken and His blood was shed for the remission of our sins.”

TRANS> Isaiah is setting up a contrast here between these kings of the nations who see and the Jews who do not see...

b. He looks at them and he says, “Who has believed our report?”

- He looks at them he sees that most of them do not receive the report about Christ...
  - They do not believe that He has dealt prudently...
  - They do not believe that by His suffering He sprinkles the nations...
  - They do not believe that He is Arm of the LORD that Isaiah has been talking about...
    - The LORD Himself who was going to come to save them.
      - He is very saddened to see this.
- John speaks of the same thing in John 1 when he said of Jesus:
  - “He came to His own and His own received Him not!”

2. There is no question that this is what Isaiah had in mind when he said, “Who has believed our report.”

- There is no question about it because this verse from Isaiah is quoted and explained by John in John 12 and again by Paul in Romans 10.

a. In John 12:37, John says:

- John 12:37: “But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: "Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?"
  - John goes on to explain that they could not see because the LORD had judicially blinded them.
    - John 12:39-40: Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again: "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with *their* eyes, Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn, So that I should heal them."”
  - For so long, He had sent prophets to them, pleading with them not to receive the grace of God in vain, but they continued to refuse...
    - and so it was that when Jesus came, the majority of them were blinded and could not see His glory—
      - They could not see that He was God come to save them.
- b. In Romans 10, Paul quotes this verse to explain why so many of the Jews did not believe when the gospel was preached to them...
- He has just been saying that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God preached...
    - And that preachers have gone out with the gospel into all the world now that Jesus has been crucified and raised again,
      - But then in verse 16—Romans 10:16—he speaks of Israel and he says:
        - Rom 10:16: “But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?"”
    - So you see that by prophecy, Isaiah sees that the Gentiles are going to believe but that his own people Israel will not believe!
      - What a terrible thing!
        - Those who had been given the promises and the ordinances and the service of God did not see God’s glory in Jesus!
3. And you need to see that this is still true today!
- a. The covenant people in our day—the church people—are often the hardest ones of all.
- They are the ones who are filled with unbelief, but peoples who have never heard are coming joyfully to Christ.
    - Is this not so?
    - Is it not the case that you can look out at the church at large across our land—the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican Church, the United Church, the Lutheran Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Baptist Church,

- and you can say, “Who has believed our report and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”
  - Who among all these has truly believed that Christ is God’s salvation?
    - They call Him Saviour in their traditions and they speak of Him,
      - but when you talk to them,
        - you find that they are trusting in their traditions, in their own good deeds, or in the general mercy of God.
    - They do not believe the report of a Saviour who came and suffered the curse to atone for their sin...
      - They do not believe they need an atonement like that!
        - They need some help to get on in life, but they do not need a Saviour who bears God’s wrath and curse for them.
- b. Things have not changed much, have they?
- And be warned!
    - We are not immune to such unbelief in this congregation.
      - This unbelief will settle in upon our church if we become proud and ungrateful.
      - Our children will be cut off from the Saviour!
      - They will be blinded and hardened the same way that Israel was.
  - My brothers and sisters, see that there is not in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God!
    - You covenant children, I beg you—look upon your Saviour!
      - Do not despise the salvation that He came to give you from sin.
        - Look at Him and believe!

TRANS> But why did the covenant people not receive Him?

- We have seen that God blinded them...
  - But I want to look a little more at how He went about blinding them...
    - We can’t understand the whole of God’s working in this, but we are given revelation here about what they saw when they saw Christ...
      - or perhaps I should say, what they did not see...

B. They looked at Christ when He came and they did not see any glory in Him.

1. What they saw is presented to us in verses 2-3...

a. First you see that they were not impressed with His origins.

1) It says, “He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant...”

- They expected the Messiah to be like a mighty cedar tree, but Jesus was like a little suckling—that’s literally what the word *tender* means...
- He was a little plant that was snuffed out before he reached 35 years of age!
- He was not a man of power who conquered, but a man who was overcome by His opponents.

2) “He was a root out of dry ground...”

- This speaks of Him as having no pedigree—
  - He was from Nazareth—of all the backwater despised places!
  - His father was but a poor carpenter and who could only afford to bring the offering of the poor at his son’s purification.
  - This was no son of a king!

TRANS> Isaiah’s words in verse 1 come back, “Who has believed our report? Who would believe this to be the arm of the Lord?”

- Verse two goes on to show that not only did He lack a pedigree, but further that:

b. He did not have a regal aspect—anything to suggest that He was a king.

1) It says, “He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him.”

- He did not have men running before Him and waiting upon Him.
- He did not have musicians and entertainers.
- He did not have royal clothing.
- He did not have horses and chariots.
- He did not have palace—not even a place to lay His head.

2) The Jews expected the Messiah to have form and beauty—

- but Jesus came riding on a donkey with little more than the simple tunic that He wore.

TRANS> Isaiah’s words in verse 1 come back again, “Who has believed our report? Who would believe this to be the arm of the Lord?”

c. Thirdly, they observed that He was not accepted by their rulers...

1) Verse 3 says, “He was despised and rejected by men.”

- The word *men* is *isheem*—
  - This word is used to refer to the better class of men—the important people who are the pace setters...
  - They did not receive Him—they despised Him.

- The word *despised* is a strong one—
    - It is the word that is used of David when he was despised by Goliath—looked at as unworthy to come onto the battle field against him.
    - David was also said to be *despised* by Michael when she was embarrassed that he had made himself an equal to commoners.
- 2) This rejection of Jesus by the important people caused many in Israel to stumble...
- He was rejected by them and even delivered over to be crucified!
  - How could He be the Christ when none of the rulers and important teachers had believed on Him?

TRANS> Isaiah's words in verse 1 come back yet again, "Who has believed our report? Who would believe this to be the arm of the Lord?"

- What glory was to be seen in this man?
- d. But most of all, they looked upon Him and saw that He was (v. 3)
- "a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief."
  - More literally, these words may be translated, "a man of pains and sickness."
    - How could He save others when He Himself came to such a dreadful end?
      - There He was, lacerated by the whip, beaten so as to hardly look like a man, and then crucified!
      - And that on a Roman cross!
    - Hardly the one who had come to deliver His people from such things!
      - He could not even deliver Himself!

TRANS> Isaiah's words in verse 1 come back a fourth time, "Who has believed our report? Who would believe this to be the arm of the Lord?"

2. And the answer it given in verse 3...that His own people did not believe the report—the gospel that told them that He was the Son of God
- It says—from the middle of verse 3:
    - Isa 53:3: And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him."
    - They saw nothing to esteem in Him.
- a. They rejected Him because they saw no glory in Him...



- None of the things that you ordinarily look for in a great deliverer were to found in Him!
  - No pedigree, no regal aspect, no acceptance among the nobility, and a man plunged into His own sorrows and grief...
    - hardly anyone's expectation of a Messiah!
    - How could they be expected to esteem such a man who had nothing about Him to esteem?
  
- b. Are these not the things we look for today?
  - Is there a noble pedigree? Is there wealth? Is there influence and respect? It there success?
  - This is what the church wrongly tries to present to the world to attract them to Christ...
    - We talk of our heritage... we build our fine buildings and adorn them with gold and silver, we bring in celebrities to bolster up our reputation, and we present to the world our happiness.
      - This is glory as we understand it!
      - This is the glory that the people of our world understand!
  
- 3. But my brothers and sisters,
  - This glory that we so readily understand and seek is the very glory that Christ laid aside when He came to this world to save us!
    - Philippians 2 puts it quite well when it describes Him as,
      - Phil 2:5-7: 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.
  - The kind of glory that the whole world understands is His and it is His in abundance!
    - He robs nothing from God in claiming to be equal with God!
      - Talk about a pedigree—His origins are from everlasting—He is has no beginning and no ending!
      - Talk about a regal aspect—He is enthroned in glory with angels waiting on Him night and day!
      - Talk about respectability among the nobility—He is the Son in whom the Father delights, the One who is eternally loved by the Holy Spirit!
      - Talk about happiness and success—He is filled with blessedness and in His divinity knows no sorrow or pain—no failure or grief!
  - His divine glory is such that the angels cover their faces when they come before Him...
    - They have been with Him for centuries—from the foundation of the world—and they have still not gotten used to Him!

- Moses and Isaiah and Daniel and John all trembled when they saw His glory...
  - and be it known to you all that the glory they saw was by no means His full glory, for they could not have borne up under it!
  - It was veiled glory that they saw (not veiled as it was in the incarnation—it was the glory the world understands—but it was turned down in intensity) and it made them like dead men!
- It is not that the world’s idea of glory is entirely mistaken.
  - We all know what glory is and it is true that in Jesus Christ, all of this sort of glory *was* laid aside.
    - It was not to be seen in Him when He came in the flesh.
    - What an amazing condescension on His part that He should even have come in the flesh at all!
      - Do you see?
      - Do you see what He laid aside in coming to live in our flesh in this fallen world of sin?
      - He laid aside His glory—His reputation—and came in the likeness of sinful men!
        - We do not grasp His majesty and glory, so it is impossible for us to even begin to grasp what He laid aside in coming here for us!
          - But He did it!
          - He laid it aside and came in lowliness, even among men.
  - That is why He is despised and rejected, even by His own people.
    - There is no beauty that we should desire Him.

TRANS> So this brings us to a great question...

## **II. What is that glory that was revealed when He came into this world in our flesh?**

- How can Isaiah and John complain that they did not see His glory when His glory was laid aside?
  - How can John say that “We beheld His glory” when He came and dwelt among us if His glory was laid aside?
  - How can Jesus say to His disciples, “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father”?
  - There must be some sort of glory that is revealed—
    - It is not the things that are usually associated with glory,
      - So what is it?

- A. The glory of God that Jesus reveals is the glory of God’s righteousness.
1. Isaiah has been telling us for some time that righteousness is what we are lacking.
    - And He has been telling us that the Messiah, Jesus, the Servant of the LORD will bring righteousness to us when He comes.
    - The glory that Jesus reveals is the glory of God’s righteousness.
  - a. Remember in Isaiah 40 where He promised that the LORD Himself would come with His strong arm to save us?
    - The LORD told Isaiah to comfort us because we would receive double payment for all our sins when He came.
    - He told us that our iniquity would be pardoned!
    - In other words, He would make us righteous.
  - b. And then in chapter 42 when the Servant of the LORD is first introduced, He is introduced as the one that the Father delights in.
    - He comes to do the will of God...
      - He obeys—He pleases the Father by doing justly when all others fail.
      - In Isaiah 42:1, Isaiah promises that He will:
        - Isa 42:1 “bring forth justice (or righteousness) to the Gentiles.”
        - In verse 4, it says that
          - Isa 42:4: “He will not fail nor be discouraged till He has established justice in the earth.”
            - He is bringing righteousness or justice to a world that is fallen into sin.
            - He came to establish a kingdom of righteousness in this sinful world, made up of redeemed sinners made righteous.

TRANS> There are so many places we could turn in Isaiah to support this claim that the salvation God sends is righteousness...

- c. But chapter 46 really stands out in great clarity on this point...
  - The people thought their main problem was the oppression of Babylon,
    - but the LORD reminds them that their main problem is a lack of righteousness and He promises that that is what He is going to bring to them...
  - In Isaiah 46:12-13, he says
    - Isa 46:12-13: “Listen to Me, you stubborn-hearted, Who *are* far from righteousness: [That is their problem, they are *far from righteousness*, but look at what He is going to do!] I bring My righteousness near, it shall not be far off; My salvation shall not linger. And I will place salvation in Zion, For Israel My glory.”

- He is going to bring them the righteousness that they need!
    - The Messiah is going to come and establish a kingdom of righteousness in all the earth!
      - There will be pardon of sin and eternal life for all the elect across the world.
      - So you see that the glory that Jesus is to bring is the glory of God's righteousness.
- d. And perhaps you remember that in chapter 51, the people the LORD promises to bless are those who are seeking righteousness and understand it...
- It is those who realise that their problem is not just that they are oppressed and that they suffer and die in this world...
    - Their problem is that they are a sinful people who need pardon and new life that only the LORD can give to them.
    - They seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.
      - The other things that everyone wants will be added to them soon enough, but righteousness is their great interest!
      - Is it yours?
2. So what happens when Jesus comes?
- a. We are told in Isaiah 52:13-53:12.
- He comes to sprinkle the nations—to cleanse them from their sins.
    - He does it by bearing their iniquities in such a way that God's justice is fully satisfied!
    - In other words, He makes them righteous before God!
- b. In the gospels, Jesus comes declaring that He has come to establish His kingdom of righteousness in the earth...
- That is His main message.
  - And then He goes to the cross to give His life as a ransom, just as Isaiah describes it in chapter 53...
    - As Peter puts it in 1 Peter 2:24...
      - 1 Peter 2:24: "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."
      - The whole focus of His work is on establishing righteousness.
- c. In Romans, Paul speaks about how God's righteousness is revealed by Jesus Christ.
- In Romans 3:9-20 he tells us that the law charges us all with sin—it exposes us so that:

- Rom 3:19: “every mouth may be stopped and all the world may become guilty before God.”
  - In other words, the law shows us that we have not lived up to the glory that God requires!
    - We have not loved as we ought to love.
    - We have broken God’s commandments.
    - We tell lies, we covet, we steal, we hate, we commit adultery, we dishonour our parents—we do not honour God as we should.
      - The law exposes us and leaves us without hope!
  
- But in Romans 3:21, Paul tells us that Jesus reveals a new way of righteousness—quite distinct from keeping God’s law...
  - He says (Romans 3:21)
    - Rom 3:21: “But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”
  
  - Do you see what Paul means when he says that God’s righteousness is demonstrated now that Jesus is set forth as a propitiation?
    - A propitiation is that which turns away or appeases God’s wrath...
      - It quells his anger—just as you would quell the anger of creditor by paying off your debt.
  
  - And through the revelation of Jesus Christ crucified,
    - we see that God is so righteous that the only way His wrath could be turned away was by the suffering of Jesus on the cross!
      - Jesus had to shed His blood to atone for our sins!
        - This is the only basis by which God had even accepted the people who trusted in His promise before Jesus came.
  
    - The glory of God is revealed by Jesus!
      - The glory of His righteousness is seen!

TRANS> I mentioned to you before that in many ways we understand what glory is...

- We are right that kings have glory—their pedigree, their wealth, their respect, and their happiness...

- This is a reflection of the glory of God.
- We recognise glory in these things...

B. But ever since the fall, we do not recognise the glory of God's righteousness.

1. This is the one aspect of God's glory that we all, in our fallen sinful nature, do not regard!

- Satan blinded us to this aspect of God's glory in the original temptation.
- He came to Eve and he told her to go ahead and disobey God and then she would be like God!
  - Like God in all the ways that we want to be like Him...
    - wealth and respect and prosperity!
    - He suggested that we could better obtain these things without obedience.
      - That obedience to God stood in the way of our blessing!

2. But we only find blessing as creatures through submission to the LORD as our God and maker.

- That is what Satan was attacking!
  - He promised us glory without submission to God—as if we ourselves were God and not God's creatures!
  - And that is what we have struggled with ever since...
    - We want glory but we do not want to obey God and do His will.
    - We don't believe there is any glory in that—in doing the Father's will!

3. And you see, that is what Jesus was all about.

- He came to do the will of God.
  - He came as the eternal Son who has always done the Father's will,
    - and He obeyed His will even when that meant taking on human flesh and going to the cross to bear the curse for sinners!
    - Even the Son of God has His glory in obedience to the Father!
    - And it is by that obedience that He obtained glory for all who believe!
- There was this beautiful righteousness in everything about Him...
  - He came with righteousness that obeys the Father to the most extreme length of going to the cross.
  - He came with righteous love that was so great that He was willing to do this for us who were his brothers and sisters.
  - He came, doing what had to be done to satisfy the justice of God in atoning for our sins...
    - Everything about Him demonstrates God's righteousness...

- His example and His work display the righteousness of God.
- His coming was not the display of the glory of God's pedigree or wealth or respect or happiness...
  - It was the display of God's righteousness.
    - And it was a beautiful, glorious display!
      - Truly the arm of the LORD was revealed through Him!
- But fallen man does not see the glory in this!
  - That is why they despised Him and rejected Him—they saw no beauty in Him.

C. There is only one way that you can see this beauty.

1. Isaiah gives us a clue as to what that way is right in verse 1—

- “Who has believed our report and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”
- a. The arm of the Lord must be revealed to you!
  - You must come to see that arm that God uses to save us is Jesus Christ,
    - this one who is a root out of dry ground,
      - who has no form or comeliness,
        - no beauty that we should desire Him.
    - this one who was despised and rejected by men—
      - a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief!
    - This is where you find the glory of God revealed!
      - This is where you find the one who is righteous!
        - This is where the glory of God's righteousness is revealed that was lost in the fall!
          - This is where righteousness is restored—in Him and in His humiliation and work of suffering.
- b. You can have no appreciation for the arm of the LORD unless you believe the gospel that Jesus came to make us righteous.
  - God has to reveal to you that righteousness is what you really need.
    - He has to show you the beauty of righteousness so that you will hate your unrighteousness and glory in Jesus as the restorer of righteousness—the justifier of those who believe.

TRANS> Have you had your eyes opened to see this?

2. Do you see the marvellous plan of God in all this?

- He stripped Jesus of the glory that we understand and left Him with nothing but the glory that we do not understand

- Those whose eyes are not opened have no use for the Jesus that is revealed in the Bible.
- They make up their own Jesus, but they have not use for the Jesus who was stripped of all but the glory of righteousness.
  - They look at that Jesus and they see nothing worthwhile.
- You who believe look at Him and you see the glory of God!
  - Again, I direct you to John 1 where it says
    - John 1:10-14: He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became 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.
  - Have you believed the report?
    - Has the arm of the Lord been revealed to you?
      - If it has, then rejoice, for yours is the kingdom of heaven!
      - The righteousness you yearn for is yours through faith in Jesus.