

Wounded for Me

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 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. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. 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.—Isaiah 53:4-7

This passage in Isaiah should move the believer to tears. How could our Savior love us so? Look at each phrase and think about what Christ did for you.

He was wounded for your sin. The word wounded in the Hebrew means tormented. He was tormented for your sin. Can you think of times that you chose to do things your way rather than God's way? Sin is any word, thought, or action that is not done in accordance with God's direction. The things we say that we should not say or the things we don't say that we should say. The things we think that we should not think. The things we do that we should not do or the things that we don't do that we should do. All of these sound familiar to us.

It is for all our wrong choices, choices that fell short of God's standard, that Jesus had to be bruised and beaten, humiliated, burdened beyond measure and afflicted. When they spit on Him and plucked out His beard, when they pressed the crown of thorns in His brow, when they shredded His back until it was raw, He did not open His mouth. He knew He was innocent of any wrong but He was being tormented for your sin and for mine. Out of pure and complete love for us, He said not a word but took the punishment we deserve.