

16. God Promised Good News

Introduction: In the previous story we heard about King David and some things he did that displeased God.

Following King David, Israel had many generations of kings. However, the people of Israel did not obey God, but worshipped false gods. Therefore, God allowed other nations to punish them by defeating them in battle, just as God had warned David many years before. The people of Israel were taken to different parts of the world. But God's love for them had not changed. God sent many of his messengers to persuade the people of Israel to return to Him, and He give people of Israel the hope of reconciliation with Him. One of the messengers was named Isaiah. God told him to tell people of Israel the good news that God will send a savior to the world as an exchange for man's sin. (2 Samuel 7:8–17; Jeremiah 35:15–16; Isaiah 53)

Isaiah told the people of Israel, "People of Israel, God's people! Hurry! Come and listen! Our God has given us good news. He says we are like sheep going on the wrong path, leaving Him and not following Him. But He promises us that in the future He will give us a savior. (Isaiah 53:6)

This savior will not be handsome; many people will look down on him and ignore him. We also will not honor him. (Isaiah 53:2–3)

In the future this savior will use his own body and he will be punished by people and be whipped by people, in order to be an exchange for our peace. He will be arrested, hurt, and judged. At last he will be killed, but He will never speak a word to defend himself. (Isaiah 53:5, 7–8)

He will have never cheated people, and He will never have sinned. But God will put all of our sins onto this savior, as a replacement for our punishment. But we will think that he was punished because of His own sin. (Isaiah 53:4, 9)

The death of this savior is for our sins. But after he dies, he will live again. He will be an exchange for our sins, so that we can be reconciled again in our relationship to God." (Isaiah 53:11)

Isaiah proclaimed this good news given by God to man. From then on, all the people of Israel waited expectantly for this savior to come.