

## The Wisdom of God in the Futility of the Servant's Ministry

**Isaiah 49:4** "Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: Yet surely my judgment is with the LORD, and my work with my God"

**Romans 8:3b** "...God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh"

### **Labored in Teaching & Preaching:**

- "I must preach the kingdom of God"  
Lk 4:43
- "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom"  
Mt 4:23

### **Labored in Healing:**

- "And the whole multitude ought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all" Lk 6:19

### **Labored in Prayer:**

- "he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God"  
Lk 6:12
- "in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death" Heb 5:7

### **Spent Strength in bearing Rejection:**

- "consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself" Heb 12:3
- "I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting" Is 50:6



### **Labored in building His Church:**

- "he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach" Mk 3:14
- "upon this rock I will build my church"  
Mt 16:18

### **Labored in Compassion:**

- "he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered..." Mt 9:36
- "Jesus wept" Jn 11:35

### **Labored in Temptation:**

- "He had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered" Mt 4:2
- "for we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" Heb 4:15

### **Strength in Submission amid Suffering:**

- "the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it" Jn 18:11
- "being in agony he prayed more earnestly" Lk 22:44

## Christ Spent Himself for Undeserving Sinners

**Romans 5:8** “But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us”

**Matthew 27:46** “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

**John 19:30** “He said, *it is finished*...and gave up the ghost.”

### Israel’s Sin:

- “they have rebelled” Is 1:2
- “laden with iniquity” Is 1:4
- “sins be as scarlet” Is 1:18
- “from the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it: but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores” Is 1:6

### Idolatry:

- “their land also is full of idols” Is 2:8
- “he falleth down unto it, and worshippeth it...Deliver me; for thou art my god” Is 44:17
- “seek unto them that have familiar spirits” Is 8:19
- “woe to them that go down to Egypt for help” Is 31:1

### Covenant Treachery:

- “the faithful city become an harlot” Is 1:21
- “they have forsaken the LORD” Is 1:4
- “thou hast made Me to serve with thy sin” Is 43:24
- “thou has not called upon me, O Jacob” Is 43:22

### Continuous Rejection:

- “I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled” Is 1:2-4
- “they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel” Is 5:24
- “this is the rest...yet they would not hear” Is 28:12
- “thou wouldest not hear” Is 48:8



### Sin against the righteous and poor:

- “the spoil of the poor is in your houses” Is 3:14
- “the righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart” Is 57:1
- “they justify the wicked for reward” Is 5:23
- “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil” Is 5:20
- “the lofty looks of man...the haughtiness of men” Is 2:11

### Empty Worship:

- “I am full of the burn offerings...your appointed feasts my soul hateth” Is 1:11ff
- “this people draw near me with their mouth...but have removed their heart far from me” Is 29:13
- “Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things” Is 30:9-11

### Self-Righteousness:

- “woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight” Is 5:21
- “which say, stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou”
- “wherefore have we fasted, and thou seest not” Is 58:2

### Complaints against God:

- “my way is hid from the LORD” Is 40:27
- “woe unto him that striveth with his maker” Is 45:9-10

### Trust themselves:

- “we have made lies our refuge” Is 28 15
- “thou hast trusted in thy wickedness” Is 47:10
- “woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD” Is 29:15-16
- “he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog’s neck...they have chosen their own ways” Is 66:3