**A Man of Sorrows**

*Isaiah 53:3*

**Introduction**

1. The Son of God ***“made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:7).***
2. This came with an abundance of sorrow – **cf. Isaiah 53:3** – described prophetically.
3. While this facet of discussion concerning our Savior is gloomy, it is necessary, because sorrow is a reality of life under the sun, and He experienced it and can help us through our own.
4. ***“Sorrow is better than laughter, for by a sad countenance the heart is made better” (Ecclesiastes 7:3).*** Because in recognition of the sorrows of this life, we can know there are better things in a better place – ***“As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing” (2 Corinthians 6:10).***
5. The Man of Sorrows can be of great assistance in our sorrows.
6. A Man of Sorrows
7. Affliction of Humanity
   1. **1 John 3:2** – Children of God long to be like Jesus in His glorious state.
      1. With such in mind, consider how He left that glorious state and came to earth for us.
      2. **Jesus entered a body prepared for sacrifice, but until that suffering of sacrifice, He suffered the normal afflictions of human existence.**
   2. When Jesus came to Samaria and spoke to the woman at the well – **John 4:6-7** – Wearied, and needed a drink.
      1. **This shows that Jesus was human, and His body subject to everything ours is subject to.**
      2. Hanging on the cross He would say, ***“I thirst!” (John 19:28).***
   3. **From the very small matters, to the greatest matters, JESUS MADE HIMSELF SUBJECT TO THE AFFLICTIONS OF THIS LIFE.**
8. Sorrow Over Loss
   1. **Physical loss – Lazarus:**
      1. **John 11:1-3** – Jesus loved Lazarus.
         1. Delayed to go to him – let him die so He could raise him from the dead **(vv. 14-15** – that they may believe).
         2. (**vv. 32-36)** – Jesus was immersed with sorrow, for Lazarus whom He loved, and his sisters who were mourning.
   2. **Jesus developed relationships, and sorrowed in loss.**
9. Struggle with Temptation
   1. Jesus ***“was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15).***
   2. **Was this a challenge for Him? Was this simply smooth sailing, i.e. did it not affect Him?**
      1. ***“as we are”*** – indicates there is not difference except that He did not succumb to temptation.
      2. **Jesus’ temptation, if anything, WAS GREATER THAN OUR OWN, for He never tried to relieve Himself with giving over to sin.**
   3. **Matthew 4:11** – After being tempted by the devil.
      1. How the angels ministered to Him is not disclosed.
      2. **However, we know these temptations must have affected Him greatly if God saw it fit to send the angels to Him.**
   4. Every day, Jesus had to deal with the devil’s attempts to cause Him to fall – ***“Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time” (Luke 4:13).***
10. Sorrow Over Rebellious Creation
    1. **John 1:4, 10-11** – Jesus came to bring life to the world, and the world rejected Him, even His own people (Israel).
    2. **Matthew 23:37-39** – Rejected by His own – before predicting the destruction of Jerusalem (fulfilled in A.D. 70).
       1. They rejected Him, and sinned against Him and God the Father.
       2. **He was sorrowful about this, and even expressed His love by dying for them so they could be forgiven 🡪**
    3. **Isaiah 53:3-9** – He came to give life, and the people rejected such, and instead took HIS LIFE.
11. A Man of Comfort
12. Needed, and Sought Comfort
    1. **Matthew 4:1-2** – Before being tempted in the wilderness.
       1. Prayer is linked with fasting – Jesus was receiving strength from God.
       2. He did this often.
    2. ***“He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed” (Luke 5:16).***
13. Received Comfort, and Offers Comfort
    1. **Matthew 7:7-11** – Jesus spoke from experience in this place – He sought comfort and strength, and expected to receive it.
    2. He always was given the comfort and strength He needed – **Luke 22:39-46** – Jesus received strength and comfort in the garden before the horror commenced.
       1. **NOTE**: **(v. 45)** found disciples sleeping from sorrow; **(v. 46)** told them to pray.
       2. **Jesus was in sorrow, and made sure to pray, seeking comfort from above – THAT IS WHAT THE DISCIPLES NEEDED TO DO!**
    3. **2 Corinthians 1:3-7** – Christ was comforted, and offers comfort to us. This comfort we receive can also be given to others. GOD IS ALWAYS THERE TO COMFORT AND STRENGTHEN US 🡪
14. An Aiding High Priest
15. **Jesus, our aiding High Priest – cf. Hebrews 4:14-16 –** In temptation, suffering, sorrow, weakness, in anything we require aid!
16. In Sorrow Over Loss
    1. **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** – Those who sleep in Jesus are in comfort, and will be raised to be with the Lord.
       1. **(v. 13)** – We have hope, as do they!
       2. **(v. 18)** – Comfort comes with this truth!
    2. ***“So it was that the beggar [Lazarus] died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom” (Luke 16:22). “he is comforted” (v. 25).***
    3. This comfort and hope is offered in Jesus.
    4. He can sympathize with our bereavement ***– “Jesus wept” (John 11:35).***
    5. Remember, because of Jesus – ***“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints” (Psalm 116:15).***
17. In Sorrow Over Sin
    1. ***“For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted” (2 Corinthians 7:10).***
    2. Sin should cause sorrow! This is God’s intention with the gospel, but it also comes with the relief for the sorrow!
    3. **Matthew 11:28-30** – Jesus will give your soul rest from the burden of sin!
18. As an Example of Relief from Sorrow
    1. **Hebrews 12:1-2** – Jesus is an example we look to in order to receive strength.
       1. ***“joy that was set before Him”*** – purpose of the cross, the salvation of souls.
       2. However, also SITTING DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.
       3. **In other words – Jesus endured suffering and sorrow, and becomes the example of total relief from such.**
    2. ***“There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. Fore he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His” (Hebrews 4:9-10).***
    3. **Revelation 7:13-17; 21:1-5** – Those who are washed in the blood of the Lamb will be given entrance into the new land where there is no sorrow!

**Conclusion**

1. Jesus was described as ***“a Man of sorrows” (Isaiah 53:3)***.
2. He can relate to our sorrows, and help us in them.
3. **Because He became a Man of sorrows, we can be relieved of all sorrow!**