

letter to elect exiles **FIRST PETER**

#43

ENTRUSTING ALL TO THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE

ISA.52:13, 53:3-12/1PET.2:18-25

Isa.53:5ff ...with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray.... He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter... so he opened not his mouth.... By oppression and judgment he was taken away... although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.... he bore the sin of many...

1) THE SINLESSNESS OF CHRIST, GOD'S SUFFERING SERVANT

A. Christ's Sinlessness, and Our Faith in It, Necessary to Salvation

1 John 3:5 You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

John 8:45-46 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me?

John 9:24 [the Pharisees trying to convict Jesus, to the healed blind man] "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner."

Luke 23:40-43 [the criminal on the cross] But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." [See also Luk.1:35, Jhn.7:18, 2Cor.5:21, Heb.4:15, etc.]

B. Christ's Sinlessness in Its Verbal Aspect

Jam.3:2,8-10 For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.... but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

2) THE CERTAINTY OF CHRIST IN GOD'S JUST JUDGMENT

A. The Anchor of Christ's Soul in All His Suffering

B. The Liberty of Surrendering Vengeance to God

Rom.12:19-21 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Mat.5:44 "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..."

2 Tim. 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.