

Thursday, March 14, 2024 - Day 26 of Lent

Open in Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we are amazed and awed that you reign not by a demonstration of power, but through service. You reign not through exaltation, but humility. You reign not through power, but through sacrifice. Help us to reflect your image through service, humility, and sacrifice.

Read Isaiah 50:4-9 (NIV)

The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed. The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious; I have not turned away. I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up.

Answer the following questions:

1. How would you contrast what this passage says about the Obedient Servant and those who persecute him?
2. Is the suffering of the Obedient Servant in vain? Why or Why not?
3. Read Mark 15:19-20. Now compare that to the passage above.
4. What does Hebrews 12:2 tell us about why Jesus endures such treatment – the treatment described and foretold by Isaiah?
5. Take a few moments and reflect on the power of the Biblical truth which tells us that in Christ, we will not be put to shame. Why might that encourage you to take up your cross and follow the Obedient Servant?

Close in Prayer

God of strength and grace, teach us to number our days, that we might present to you a heart of wisdom. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.