

Friday, March 15, 2024 - Day 27 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 53:1-6 (NIV)

Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely, he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Answer the following questions:

1. If you were to judge Jesus' success by the standards of the world, how would you rate him? Would he be a success or a failure? Why?
2. How about judging his appearance? Would he compare in any way to those who are successful today? Why? Or Why not?
3. When the last verse tells us we are "all like sheep", what does the author mean?
4. How would you write the contrasting statement below in your own words:
"Though he was rich, yet for our sake became poor, so that we, by his poverty, might become rich."

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.