

Isaiah 53:1-12 "SPIRITUAL ENMITY"

- The ministry of Christ was overshadowed by the spiritual enmity of mankind against Him. V7-9.
- It all climaxed with the crucifixion.

Note The Enmity:

- At His birth- Matthew 2
- At His first sermon preached: Luke 4:28-30
- His Divine person & power was met with enmity: John 11:47,48,53
- His teachings were contradicted by enmity: John 8:5,6
Matthew 22:15,35
- This enmity corrupted justice: Matthew 26:59
John 19:4,7,12

What Can Be Said About The Enmity of Men Against Christ?

- Was it all just about a generation of especially wicked people?
- Or is it about human nature, the enmity of sin that lies deep within all of us? Isaiah 53:3,5,6
- God appropriates the enmity of sin, that caused the sufferings and death of Christ, to all of us.

There Has Never Been A Time Since The Fall of Man That Enmity Between Sinful Man & God Did Not Exist.

- Isaiah 53:1 the condition of enmity is unbelief
- The bad responses are the fruits of unbelief John 1:1-5,10,11
- Where does mankind stand on creation?
- Where did the religious community stand on Christ? (it was unbelief that led to envy, hatred, malice, etc.)

The Situation God's Word Calls Upon All Of Us To Recognize Personally: Romans 3:10-12

- v10. We will be in unbelief of this, until we accept the conviction of sin at the hands of the Holy Spirit.
- V11. This is the foundation for man's religious interpretations, beliefs & practices (from what people develop their beliefs about God)
- See v23. The highest level of man's spiritual perceptions; what man's feelings & opinions are all tied to.
- This 'unbelief' is the cause for man's negative reaction to the truth of Christ: John 15:22-25 (there is no cause for people to get upset when they hear the truth, but it occurs due to the unbelief that exists in human nature- "none that understandeth")

There Are None That Have A Good Enough Understanding & Sufficient Belief of Spiritual Truth, That They Do Not Need To Repent, In Order To Get Right With God.

- Acts 17:30 the need is universal
- Isaiah 55:6-9 it's either this, or be controlled by what unbelief brings to bear in one's heart & mind

Understanding Salvation Is Only Possible Through Understanding The Need For Salvation ("they that be whole need not a physician")

Romans 5:8-10

v8. "sinners" to the degree that our sinfulness demands our death, which is why Christ died for us.

-2 Corinthians 5:14

-Romans 6:23

-Ezekiel 18:20

-Had He not died for us, we would perish. Christ is all that stands between us & the wrath of God
*But man's unbelief says that he is basically good & that eternal life is in prospect of his own goodness.
Romans 5:9 the only possible way to be saved from the wrath of God, is to be justified from our sins through the perfect shed blood of Christ.

-Leviticus 17:11

-Hebrews 9:22, 12

*"Nothing but the blood; not our good outweighing our bad, self-redemption, etc.

The Condemnation Of Sin Passed Upon Us Before We Were Born: Romans 5:18

-There is no future evaluation to decide whether or not we're under condemnation (that idea stems from Romans 3:11)

-We are born under the condemnation of sin because we are born with the sinful, adamic nature, Ro.5:19

-The only deliverance there is from this, is through "the one"= the substitutionary offering of Christ.

+Salvation is not derived in any part from our goodness, works, merits, etc.

RATHER: v18b,19b. Only from the "one" (Christ)

-Galatians 2:16 Christ's obedience (works + faith) is all that God accepts for a sinners salvation & this is what our faith is in for our salvation!

-Romans 4:4-8 Every believer's soul has exactly the same account, all sins atoned for by Christ's blood, & the righteousness of Christ imputed to it.

-Thus the believer stands before God justified by faith in Christ, apart from any works of our own.

-Justified from all sin- all forgiven, all covered, and no more will ever be imputed to our souls.

Once Saved, Always Saved: John 5:24

Romans 5:10 The believer's standing before God is forever changed from being the enemy of God as a sinner, unto having been reconciled to God in Christ.
-This same offering of Christ, that reconciled our souls without our works, is the same offering by which our reconciliation continues to stand without our works.

Ephesians 2:8,9

Galatians 3:3 *"Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?"*

Thus Eternal Life Is God's Gift To The Believer:

John 3:16

"Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift"

2 Timothy 1:12 *"..for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."*

-Have you believed on Christ for this gift of eternal life, that stands on what He offered to God alone?