

**ANCIENT WHISPERS PART THREE**  
**SUFFERING SERVANT**  
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**ISAIAH 52:13-15; 53:12**  
**12/16/07**  
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SLIDE: Ancient Whispers. Turn in your Bible to Isaiah 53.

People are fascinated with the Beautiful people of Hollywood. Hang on every action and word. Who is at the Oscars? What did they wear? What did they say on the red carpet? And on and on and on. May be beautiful—but just because you are beautiful is no reason to believe your life is good or that you have much of value to say.

SLIDE: Paris Hilton when asked about German Chancellor, Angela Merrkel for the German edition of Vanity Fair magazine: “Her hair could use a few blonde highlights.

SLIDE: Heidi Montag on why she’s fed up with fiancé Spencer Pratt: “I feel like I am in a relationship with a 5-year-old.”

SLIDE: Brooke Shields during an interview to become spokeswoman for an anti-smoking campaign: “Smoking kills. If you’re killed you’ve lost a very important part of your life.”

SLIDE: Rod Stewart: “instead of getting married again, I am going to find some woman I really don’t like and give her a house.

The beautiful people!

Studies reveal that the handsome the man the more children he is likely to father, the more marriages he is likely to have, the worse dad he is likely to be.

Beauty can be measured—and remarkably, beauty is consistently the same from culture to culture.

Leonrdo da Vinci magic number: 1:1.7.

Fingers to hand; hand to forearm; forearm to entire arm

Face: chin to eyes to entire face; eyes 1.0 to nose to ear 1.7

Female waist to hips 1:1.7.

Women are attracted to the more handsome men. But they have to be careful with sex: have a baby with the wrong man can be devastating. That is why a woman tends to be much more careful in selecting her husband: She wants a dad, not a cad.

SLIDE: Matt Damon--dad

SLIDE: Ben Afflick--dad

SLIDE: Kevin Federline—Britney’s ex; partying--cad

SLIDE: Larry Berkhead—Father of Anna Nicole Smith’s daughter—cad

SLIDE: Jude Law--cad

Looking over this crowd. Many of you must be really good dads.

Jesus must be a great dad for all of his spiritual children.  
Jesus was not beautiful at all!

Read a prophetic whisper predicting what Jesus really looked like.

These verses show Christ at His first coming as He hung on the cross bearing the sins of all the people for all time.

The prophet is awestruck at the extreme disfiguring and bodily marring of the Lord Jesus.

SLIDE: ISAIAH 52:14: ... *there were many who were appalled at him — his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness —*

SLIDE: ISAIAH 53:2: *He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.*

SLIDE: ISAIAH 53:3: *He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.*

SLIDE: ISAIAH 53:4: *Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.*

SLIDE: No one ever imagined a crucified-suffering Messiah-Savior of the People!

Jews could not conceive of God suffering because the reason people suffered was because they sinned! Messiah could not suffer because He had no sin!

Peter's great confession: "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God!" "Well done!"  
Then Christ said, "I must suffer and die on a cross!"  
Peter: "No! we will never let that happen to you!"  
"Get behind me Satan!"

SLIDE: Suffering servant was a contradictory concept:

Ask Hebrews today, Who is this? Puzzling answers. Israel? They don't know.

The suffering servant is Jesus. This doesn't compute to most Of the Jewish race even today.

Jewish man had son who did not take Judaism seriously. Boy threatened to boycott His own bar mitzvah. Father threatened to send him to the Holy Land if he did not go. Son did not go so Dad sent him straight to the Holy Land to become a good Jew.

Six months later the boy returned and to his father's dismay, his son had become a Christian.

Father went to share his confusion with his friend. Friend, said, "Funny you should mention that. I, too, had trouble with my son so I sent to the Holy Land to become a good Jew. He came back a Christian."

What do we do? So they decided to seek counsel from their Rabbi. We both had the same problem. We sent our sons to the Holy Land to become good Jews, and they both came back Christians.

The Rabbi was incredulous. "Funny you should mention. I too have trouble with my son. I too sent him to the Holy Land to become a good Jew. He came back a Christian."

What do we Do? After discussing it for a while they decided to pray. They prayed, God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, we three have the same problem. We all three had trouble with our sons. We all three sent them off to the Holy Land to become good Jews. And all three sons came back as Christians. What should we do?

Lightning flashed, thunder clapped and booming voice said from Heaven----“Funny you should mention that.”

Jesus knew He was the suffering servant.

Jesus know the plan: God’s will to crush him; after 3 days  
Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up again.  
46 years we worked on this Temple and you can tear it down and rebuild it in 3 days!

750 years before Christ, Isaiah even predicted a RESURRECTION.

SLIDE: ISAIAH 53:10-11a: *Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, ... 11 After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light [of life] and be satisfied;*

If not yet a Christian I hope you see a prophecy fulfilled and believe.

If all ready a Christian I hope your faith will be increased and your understanding of the experience of Christ will penetrate more deeply into your heart.

SLIDE: ISAIAH 53:4-5: *Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

SLIDE: It is like we are damaged goods.  
(infirmities, sorrows, transgressions, iniquities, punishment, wounds)

### SWITCH TO ROGER’S COMPUTER

We are all born into sin and failure.

C.S. Lewis: Space Trilogy: bent, oyarsas

Sin nature vs. sins

### SWITCH BACK TO TECH COMPUTER

SLIDE: 2 Corinthians 5:14-15: For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, (Adam) and therefore all died. 15 And he (Jesus) died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

Sin nature sins: Adam sinned for all of us.

Football team offside, whole team is penalized

SLIDE: ISAIAH 53:6: *We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

Why? Like lost sheep, everyone is going his or her own way.  
Sheep are dumb—get lost—can't find their way home.

“All have gone astray”: Universal truth.  
Gone astray because of: Our sin.

### SWITCH TO ROGER'S COMPUTER

“Every one to His own way:” every one has their own particular sins and pathways away from God.

Draw of plans A, B, C, D, etc.

WRITE: *and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

Moral Dilemma.  
Trolley Dilemma

You're standing by trolley tracks. Trolley coming and 5 unsuspecting workers are in the way. You can throw the switch and divert the trolley to a siding and save the 5 workers.

How many throw switch?

No brainer. MRI brain scans go to the logical decision making part of the brain for easy, rational decision.

You're standing by trolley tracks. Trolley coming and 5 unsuspecting workers are in danger on the tracks. You get ready to divert the trolley onto the siding. But just then a worker begins working on the siding. You can throw the switch and divert the trolley to a siding and save the 5 workers. But the one on the siding will die.

How many throw switch?

MRI brain scans reveal logical areas involved but now new areas of emotions and value judgments.

Now you are standing on an over pass over the tracks with another person. Five workers on main line. One on the siding. If you push the other person off the over pass and in front of the oncoming trolley the trolley will quickly break to a halt and save the five on the main line and the one on the siding. Better one die than seven.

How many throw switch?

MRI brain scans reveal logical areas involved but now new areas of emotions and value judgments in absolute confusion.

Seldom ask the question: Will you jump off the overpass in front of the moving train and save all 6?  
How many of you would jump?

What if your children were on the tracks below? You'd jump in an instant.

This is the story of Jesus. We are his children. We are his creation. Trolley of sin is bearing down on us.

Hanging on the cross was a leap of salvation for a world on the tracks below.

Easier to make decisions regarding people far away who you don't know than people up close that you do.

Our sin separates us far from Christ. He hardly knows some of us. He jumps for us anyway.

### SWITCH BACK TO TECH COMPUTER

*SLIDE: ISAIAH 53:10: Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a quilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days.*

Last Supper: "This is my blood shed for you.

STORY: Mr. Dickens blood in me.

Three hours into the experience on the cross, He cried,

"My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?"

Sky went dark (recorded in all Mediterranean world). Next three hours in darkness until, "It is finished." Not an eclipse – they don't last three hours.

All the sin of all the world was placed on his back.

Fall in the Garden to Hiroshima

Crusades to Viet Nam

From Prehistory to Today's history

Your sins were there: Lies, bitterness, jealousy, selfish ambition; disobedience, selfishness, cheating, gossip, drug abuse, lust, rage—all of it.

- SLIDE #: John 15:13: Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

Make the prophecy personal. Change all the pronouns in this passage to the first person singular.

"USE IT!"

- SLIDE #: THE BACK OF THE LINE

Romans 3:23: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

A heavily booked commercial flight out of Denver was canceled, and a single agent was rebooking a long line of inconvenienced travelers.

Suddenly an angry passenger pushed his way to the front and slapped his ticket down on the counter. "I have to be on this flight and it has to be first class?" he insisted.

"I'm sorry, sir," the agent replied. "I'll be happy to help you, but I have to take care of these folks first."

He refused and kept badgering her to do him first.

Finally the irate man shouted in a demanding voice loud enough for the passengers behind him to hear: "Do you have any idea who I am?"

Without missing a beat, the gate agent smiled and picked up her public-address microphone. "May I have your attention, Please?" she broadcasted throughout the terminal. "We have a passenger here at the gate who does not know who he is. If anyone can help him find his

identity, please come to the gate.” As the man retreated, the people in the terminal burst into applause.

No one has special standing with God. We are all in the same line.

●SLIDE #: THE SALARY OF DEATH

Romans 6:23: “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ His Son.”

Edgar Allan Poe: *The Pit and the Pendulum*

During the RCC Spanish Inquisition man accused of heresy and sentenced to die—not by physical torture but by psychological torture.

Thrown into damp, blackened cell. Darkness could be felt. Stumbling around trying to find the outline of the room—slipped on wet, slimy floor and hand felt edge of deep, dark pit filled with water and rats. Just deep enough to stand up in. Fell asleep.

Awakened to find himself strapped to a table—could move only his left hand. A little light now entered the room. He saw a plate of spicy meat near his left hand.

He noticed a large pendulum—sharpened like a razor— swinging in a large arc above him. With each pass it lowered slowly, a fraction of an inch with each swing. Minute by minute, hour after hour he watched it getting closer and closer to slice him open end to end. Every time the steel passed he felt the rush of wind sending shudders of fear with each pass.

The pendulum was beginning to slice through the threads of his shirt when he remembered the spicy meat and the rats. He rubbed the meat into the ropes that bound him to the table and laid deathly still. Soon the rats crawled all over him—ate through the ropes—and at just the right moment he rolled away from the passing blade.

Immediately, the pendulum was pulled up into the ceiling by some unseen, watching executioner.

He then noticed that the walls were beginning to grow red hot. The walls began to close in forcing him into the pit. He pushed unsuccessfully against the walls. Recoiled from the walls.

Finally, gave up exhausted by the edge of the pit—finally to die—he gave out a giant scream of despair.

Shouts from above. Walls ground to a halt. Loud blast of trumpet. General LaSalle and his men have entered Toledo, Spain and rescued the prisoners of the Inquisition.

Jesus Rescue.

●SLIDE #: NIFTY THINKING

*John 1:29: “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”*

*Do you believe in the Bible? No?*

*Have you read it? Sure.*

*What do you think is the main theme of the Bible? Be good and go to heaven.*

*Sorry. That is not the message of the Bible at all. Let me tell you because you don’t want to reject a book you have not read.*

Change your thinking. Man is lost in sin. No one is good enough to go to Heaven. Jesus is God. He is the only one who could die for our sins. Believe in Christ and receive a free gift of salvation.

● SLIDE #: ETERNAL GIFTINGS

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

● SLIDE #: John 1:12-13: Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Closing: Les Anderson: "I will take the bullet for you."

Like he watched the movie Dave.

Tried to deflect. I wouldn't want him to die for me.

"No, I will take the bullet."

I surrendered. "OK."

Jesus will take the bullet.

PRAY TO RECEIVE CHRIST.