

The faithful servant was unjustly treated

⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸ By oppression^[a] and judgment he was taken away.
Yet who of his generation protested?
For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was punished.^[b]

⁹ He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Today let us thank God for how he has woven such detailed fulfilment of prophecy in the life of Jesus in order to build our faith, our trust in Christ. Let us dwell on how Jesus went to his death willingly, silently, though he was unjustly treated, and he did this for you and me in fulfilment of God's eternal plan of salvation. See how much Christ loves you!

Let me show you how astonishing the detail is by setting just three parts of Matthew's gospel account of Jesus' death alongside Isaiah's words:

Jesus on trial:

Matthew 26v59-63 ⁵⁹The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward ⁶¹and declared, 'This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days."' ⁶²Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, 'Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?' ⁶³But Jesus remained silent.

'He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth'

Jesus crucified:

Matthew 27v38 ³⁸Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

'He was assigned a grave with the wicked'

Jesus buried:

Matthew 27v57-60 ⁵⁷ As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. ⁵⁹ Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰ and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock.

'and with the rich in his death'