



Isaiah 52:13-15
God's Design

The Fourth Servant Song

Servant Song #1	42:1-4	His Person
Servant Song #2	49:1-7	His Calling
Servant Song #3	50:4-9	His Determination
Servant Song #4	52:13-53:12	His Availability

- Chapter 52: The success of God's people (i.e., the church)
- Chapter 53: The reason for her success (Yahweh's servant)

Isaiah 52:13-15
God's Design

The Overall View (Isaiah 52:13-15)

The Path of God's Servant	
(1) ACCEPTS	1 His Accomplishments (Isaiah 52:13-15)
(2) ENDURES	2 His Following (Isaiah 53:1-3)
	3 His Sufferings (Isaiah 53:4-6)
(3) EMBRACES	4 His Innocence (Isaiah 53:7-9)
	5 His Purpose (Isaiah 53:10-12)

Isaiah 52:13-15
God's Design

Isaiah 52:13-15

¹³ Behold, my Servant will act wisely; He will rise up, be lifted up, he will be exalted on high. ¹⁴ Just as many were astonished at you,— so his appearance was disfigured so to lose resemblance with man, so his form was marred beyond recognition as a man. ¹⁵ Just so he will sprinkle many nations; and kings will shut their mouths because of him; for that which they were not told, they will see; and that which they have not heard, they will understand” (Isaiah 52:13-15 NASB).



The Making of a Godly Leader

Isaiah 52:13-15
God's Design

Isaiah 52:13-15's Outline

The Godly Leader Accepts God's Design for His Life

A. The Overview of Christ's Ministry (Isaiah 52:13-15)

1. The Success of the Servant (Isaiah 52:13)
2. The Suffering of the Servant (Isaiah 52:14)
3. The Purpose of the Servant's Suffering (Isaiah 52:15)



The Making of a Godly Leader

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1. The Success of the Servant (Isaiah 52:13)

“Behold, **my Servant** will act wisely; He will **rise** up, be **lifted up**, he will be **exalted on high**” (Isaiah 52:13).

“⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name” (Phil 2:8-9)

THREE STAGES OF SUCCESS

(3) “He will be exalted on high.” Points to our final hope.

(2) “He will be lifted up.” Depicts God's extra grace for the grave situation.

(1) “He will rise up.” Starts low but starts the upward path.

“Behold, my Servant will... He will rise up, be lifted up, he will be exalted on high” (Isa 52:13 NASB).



The Making of a Godly Leader

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(2) Successfully accomplish

Two parts to success!

(1) Acting wisely

“Behold, my Servant will act wisely; He will rise up, be lifted up, he will be exalted on high” (Isa 52:13 NASB).



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2. The Suffering of the Servant (Isaiah 52:14)

“¹³Behold, my Servant will act wisely; He will rise up, be lifted up, he will be exalted on high. ¹⁴**Just as** many were astonished at you, —so his appearance was disfigured so to lose resemblance with man, so his form was marred beyond recognition as a man” (52:13-14).

- A different person (13,14)?
- Success and horrific treatment don't go together.
- He didn't even look like a human!
- We are left with a puzzle.
- Until we think of the Righteous Jesus



Isaiah 52:13-15
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3. The Purpose of the Servant's Suffering (Isaiah 52:15)

“Just so he will **sprinkle** many nations; and kings will shut their mouths because of him; for that which they were not told, they will see; and that which they have not heard, they will understand” (Isaiah 52:15; cf. Rom 15:20-21).

- Sprinkle or startle?
- “So shall he startle many nations...” (JPS).
- “And thus you shall do to them, for their cleansing: sprinkle purifying water on them,... and they shall be clean” (Numbers 8:7).
- “Just as...” (52:14)



Isaiah 52:13-15
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The Path of God's Servant

1 His Accomplishments (Isaiah 52:13-15)

(1) Accepts God's Design for His Life

“**Just as** many were astonished (or shocked) at you... (14)
so he will sprinkle (or purify) the many nations. (15)”

“That you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood” (1 Peter 1:2).



Isaiah 52:13-15
God's Design

3. The Purpose of the Servant's Suffering (Isaiah 52:15)

“And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was already named, that I might not build upon another man's foundation; but as it is written, “THEY WHO HAD NO NEWS OF HIM SHALL SEE, AND THEY WHO HAVE NOT HEARD SHALL UNDERSTAND”” (Romans 15:20-21).”

- The Apostle Paul's ministry, an extension of the Servant's ministry

THREE CHARACTERISTICS OF A GODLY LEADER

A godly leader accepts God's design for one's life, requiring three pursuits seen in Christ's life (Isaiah 52:13-15).

(1) **Promise:** Seeks God's promises to energize and direct

(2) **Trial:** Allows testings and frustrations of our immediate goals

(3) **Blessing:** Finds final success in our identification with Jesus' purpose for our lives

Promise
52:13

Blessing
52:15



Isaiah 52:13-15
The “U” Pattern

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Isaiah 52:13-15

The Godly Leader Accepts God's Design for His Life

Summary

- **Success**
 - **Suffering**
 - **Sprinkling**
- “My Servant” —our example
 - Success life patterns (e.g., Joseph, Job, etc.)
 - Hope, stemming from our calling, empowers us for ministry.

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Discussion Questions

1. Why is calling and hope so important?
2. Explain the importance of “acting wisely”?
3. What importance did the “sprinkling” have (52:15)?



The Making of a Godly Leader

THE GODLY LEADER ACCEPTS GOD'S DESIGN FOR HIS LIFE

Isaiah 52:13-15

Part 2

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