

Proof of God

- How might you prove that someone is God (or not)?

The Sublime

Mark 15:16-47

Brown (English) Bible: Page _

White (Spanish) Bible: Page 1291

Red (Chinese) Bible: Page 1651

The Prophet Isaiah: The Marks of God

See, my servant will act wisely;
 he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. **52:13**
 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. **53:3**
 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. **53:5**

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. **53:7**
 Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer,
 and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin,
 he will see his offspring and prolong his days,
 and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. **53:10**
 ...because he poured out his life unto death,
 and was numbered with the transgressors.
 For he bore the sin of many,
 and made intercession for the transgressors. **53:12**

The Prophet Isaiah: The Marks of God

Despised & rejected
 Suffers for other people's wrongdoing and shame
 No attempt to explain, self-justify, self-defend
 Takes onto Himself the sin and shame of others

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The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. And they began to call out to him, "Hail, king of the Jews!" Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. *Mark 15:17-20*

The Prophet Isaiah: The Marks of God

Despised & rejected

Suffers for other people's wrongdoing and shame

No attempt to explain, self-justify, self-defend

Takes onto Himself the sin and shame of others

The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” *Mark 10:45*

The Prophet Isaiah: The Marks of God

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The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

So again Pilate asked him, “Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of.”

But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.

Mark 15:4-5

The Prophet Isaiah: The Marks of God

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Takes onto Himself the sin and shame of others

The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

"He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself!"

Mark 15:31

The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

Mark 15:38

By not saving Himself, He saved others.

The Prophet Isaiah: The Marks of God

Despised & rejected

Suffers for other people's wrongdoing and shame

No attempt to explain, self-justify, self-defend

Takes onto Himself the sin and shame of others

**And when the centurion, who stood there
in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said,
"Surely this man was the Son of God!"**


Mark 15:39

Merriam-Webster SINCE 1828

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sublime

DICTIONARY THESAURUS

² sublime 

adjective | sub·lime | \sə-'blīm\

Definition of SUBLIME

sublimar; sublimest

1 a : lofty, grand, or **exalted** in thought, expression, or manner
b : of outstanding spiritual, intellectual, or moral worth
 c : tending to inspire awe usually because of elevated quality (as of beauty, nobility, or grandeur) or **transcendent** excellence

The Big Idea

**The fingerprint of God
 is His
 willing, loving, excruciating
 self-sacrifice
 to rescue others
 who don't deserve it**

According to Mark

- Commander overseeing Jesus' death
 - “Surely this man was the Son of God!”
- Common human assumption: self-preservation
 - If you have the power to save yourself, you will
 - Those who are unjustly treated retaliate if they can
 - God would not suffer
 - And certainly not for those who don't deserve help
 - God would not let himself be treated poorly or mocked
 - God would gladly do miracles to make people believe in him

According to Mark

- Commander overseeing Jesus' death
 - “Surely this man was the Son of God!”
- Common human assumption: self-preservation
- God's sublime action in Jesus Christ

Self-sacrifice without justification, complaining, defense to rescue even those who were mocking and killing Him who will humbly accept His sacrifice for themselves

The Big Idea

**The fingerprint of God
is His
willing, loving, excruciating
self-sacrifice
to rescue those who don't deserve it**

Implications

Worship God

This is the essence of being a Christian:

- recognize the sublime glory of Jesus as a mark of being God
- bow to worship Him in praise and thanksgiving

**And when the centurion, who stood there
in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said,
“Surely this man was the Son of God!”**

Mark 15:39