

The Mystery of the Ages...the rejection of The Christ Isaiah 53:3
by Pastor Roy Hogan

The statement in our text was penned down thousands of years ago. It was true then, it was true when Jesus walked on the earth, and it is true now.

He came to:

give life to the dead, heal the sick, cause the blind to see, still the storm of the embattled, feed the hungry, befriend sinful men, cast devils from the maniac. The end- REJECTION.

Cases of rejection

- Stephen: Acts 7:52 *Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which showed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:*

Imagine killing a preacher for preaching that Messiah would come forth to render help to humanity.

- No room in the Inn, rejected before he was born
- Herod the baby killer sought Jesus's life after baby born
- Rejected by hundreds of eye witnesses who saw the result of a maniac relieved of his wild nature Mark 5
- Mark 6 He went into the synagogue in his own country teach and result "they were offended at him" Mark 6:3
- Pilate "I find not fault in him, however..."
- Such was his rejection that his forerunner John the Baptist was beheaded for his association with Jesus Christ
- Paul preached of him after his ascension and was persecuted for mentioning his name
- Peter James and John were beaten for mentioning his name

Today:

I am a Christian and Christianity is under attack.

Ok to curse, no mention Jesus.

He wrote the greatest book of all time and this book is prohibited in public school.

No one rejected Dr. Salk for discovering the polio vaccination.
Benjamin Franklin was never harassed for inventing bi-focals.

Cause of His Rejection

* Popularity- following Jesus is not the “in-thing.” Sports is where it’s at.

* He sets standards

No one wants to be told that what they are doing is “wrong.”

No one wants to be told “they can’t dress like they wish.”

No one wants to be told “you can’t say that.”

No one wants to be told “you can’t go there.”

No one “you can’t drink that.”

* He makes demands

Demands some of your *time*.

Demands some of your *income* be given to the church, the storehouse.

You are required to *read* the book he wrote. Not suggested- but mandatory.

You are required to *share* what you have with poor people.

You are asked to *tell* others about him.

If you don’t want to be called upon by the Lord, corrected for your wrong, chastised for your missteps, given assignments, don’t get involved with Jesus.

Consequences of rejection

God has blessed this nation, and he has blessed you and me.

He has been merciful to all of us.

He has rained grace on the multitudes.

He gave us a cure for polio.

He brought our men and women home from WWII.

He has given us so much opportunity to earn that green stuff we worship, we can’t find time to come to church.

His Son did not *die* a useless death

He did not saturate the planet earth with the *Scripture* in vain.

He did not make *hell* for no reason.

You can shake your fist in the face of God. You can defy him to order you around. You can dare him to interrupt your life-long party. You can challenge him to dare get you up from life's chair of ease.

Go ahead, live as you wish, do as you please, but there are consequences.

Unless you turn, you will burn. There is one alternative to hell- the rejected Jesus Christ.

He WILL have the last word- depart from me, ye that work iniquity, I never knew you.