

Isaiah 53:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

Analysis

'Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?' The chapter opens with prophetic lamentation over widespread unbelief. The Hebrew 'shemu'ah' (report/message) is literally 'what we have heard.' The 'arm of the LORD' - divine power in salvation - remains hidden to most. John 12:38 and Romans 10:16 cite this to explain Jewish rejection of Jesus.

Historical Context

This verse introduces the fourth Servant Song (52:13-53:12). Paul uses it to explain why not all Israel believed the gospel - faith is a gift, and the 'arm' is revealed to whom God chooses.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. Why does saving truth remain unbelieved by many?
2. How is God's arm revealed to you in the gospel?

Interlinear Text

מִי	הָאֵם יֵן	לְשִׁמְעָתָנוּ	וְזֶרַע	יְהוָה	עַל
H4310	Who hath believed	our report	and to whom is the arm	of the LORD	H5921
	H539	H8052	H2220	H3068	
מִי	נִגְלָתָהּ:				
H4310	revealed				
	H1540				

Additional Cross-References

John 12:38 (Faith): That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?

1 Corinthians 1:18 (Parallel theme): For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Matthew 16:17 (Parallel theme): And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

John 1:12 (Faith): But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Matthew 11:25 (References Lord): At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

1 Corinthians 1:24 (Parallel theme): But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

Isaiah 40:5 (References Lord): And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Isaiah 51:9 (References Lord): Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon?

John 1:7 (Faith): The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.

Isaiah 62:8 (References Lord): The LORD hath sworn by his right hand, and by the arm of his strength, Surely I will no more give thy corn to be meat for thine enemies; and the sons of the stranger shall not drink thy wine, for the which thou hast laboured:

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