

The Father glorifies Jesus as His Chosen Servant.

1) As the Chosen Servant Jesus embodies Israel in order to redeem humanity (9:35b; Isaiah 42:1).

- a) “Behold My Servant whom I uphold, My Chosen, in whom My soul delights; I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations.”
 - i) Israel was chosen as God’s servant to bring blessing to all nations (Isaiah 41:8-9): “But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham, My friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying, ‘You are My servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off.’”
 - (1) Offspring of Abraham recalls God’s covenant with Abraham in Genesis: “I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your seed as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And seed shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 22:17-18).
 - (2) Galatians 3:16 “Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his seed. It does not say, ‘And to seeds,’ referring to many, but referring to one, ‘And to your seed,’ who is Christ.”
 - (3) Israel as “Second Adam” or microcosm of humanity
 - ii) Israel, as a nation, failed and were expelled from the land, just as Adam was expelled from the Garden. Israel could not bring redemptive blessing to the nations because she needed redemption from the curse of her sins.
 - iii) The Servant (Christ) would embody the servant (Israel) in order to redeem her by His obedience and sacrifice and fulfill her mission to bless all the nations.
- b) Luke 3:22 “and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, ‘You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.’”
 - i) The Spirit and “well pleased/delight” identifies Jesus as the Chosen Servant of Isaiah 42:1
 - ii) combining Luke 9:35b “My Chosen One in whom I am well pleased/delighted”
- c) Luke 2:29-32 “Lord, now you are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel.”
 - i) Simeon quoted Isaiah 42:6 and 49:6 (Servant prophecies): “I will give You as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations”; “I will make you as a light for the nations”
 - ii) Isaiah 49:5-6 “And now the LORD says, He who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him; and that Israel might be gathered to Him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and My God has become My strength—He says, ‘It is too light a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make You as a light for the nations, that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.’”

2) As the Chosen Servant Jesus shows compassion to weary sinners (Isaiah 42:2-3; Luke 4:18; Isaiah 61:1).

- a) Isaiah 42:2-3 “He will not cry aloud or lift up His voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed He will not break, and a faintly burning wick He will not quench; He will faithfully bring forth justice.”
- b) Luke 4:18/Isaiah 61:1 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed.”

- 3) As the Chosen Servant Jesus restores sinners to the worship of God (Luke 19:45-46; Isaiah 56:7).**
- a) Luke 19:45-46 “And He entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold, saying to them, ‘It is written, *My house shall be a house of prayer*, but you have made it a den of robbers.’”
 - b) Isaiah 56:6-7 (context of Israel’s idolatry and injustice) “And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to Him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be His servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast My covenant—these will I bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”
- 4) As the Chosen Servant Jesus was numbered with the transgressors (Luke 22:37; Isaiah 53:12).**
- a) Luke 22:37 “For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in Me: ‘And He was numbered with the transgressors.’ For what is written about Me has its fulfillment.”
 - b) Isaiah 53:12 “Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.”
 - i) Servant-Christ’s embodiment of servant-Israel gave Him the representative capacity to restore God’s elect from Israel and from the nations.
 - ii) Vicarious Death—“He bore the sin of many”
 - iii) Defensive Prayers—“He makes intercession for the transgressors”
- 5) In the Chosen Servant Jesus the Church is called to bring His light to the nations (Acts 13:47; 8:32-33).**
- a) Paul explains His Apostolic mission in terms of the Isaianic Servant: “For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, ‘I have made You a light for the Gentiles, that You may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’” (Acts 13:47; Isa. 42:6; 49:6)
 - b) The Holy Spirit brought Philip to an Ethiopian eunuch who had been to Jerusalem to worship the God of Israel and was now returning home. He was reading of the Chosen Servant in Isaiah, specifically, Isaiah 53:7-8: “Like a sheep He was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He opens not His mouth. In His humiliation justice was denied Him. Who can describe His generation? For His life is taken away from the earth.”
 - i) The eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”
 - ii) “Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.”
 - c) “Beginning with this Scripture” implies that Philip brought in more texts to tell the good news. Only a few passages later (Isaiah 56:3-5) they would read, “Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to the LORD say, ‘The LORD will surely separate me from His people’; and let not the eunuch say, ‘Behold, I am a dry tree.’ For thus says the LORD: ‘To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, who choose the things that please Me and hold fast My covenant, I will give in My house and within My walls a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.’”
 - d) “Who can declare His generation (people who come from Him)?” Foreigners, eunuchs, transgressors, sheep who have gone astray, those who have turned away from God to go their own way, sinners all, but “accounted righteous” because the Chosen Servant “shall bear their iniquity” (Isa. 53:11)
 - e) The Father has proclaimed to us “This is My Son, My Chosen One.” We have the liberty to proclaim Him now to our neighbors and to all nations.
 - f) “A bruised reed He will not break, and a faintly burning wick He will not quench.”—Isa. 42:3