

Section 5: The Recognition

As the veil of unbelief is removed a numbed silence may follow. This, in turn, may give way to convulsive weeping or prostration before the Lord. There may be a recapitulation of Paul's experience upon the Damascus Road, or of King Josiah's upon hearing the reading of the Law in 2 Kings 22:11 & 2 Chronicles 34:19. In some cases the following dialogue may take place.¹

1) Q: *"Who are you Lord?"* (Acts 9:5a)

2) M: *"I am Yeshua whom you persecute: it is hard to kick against the pricks"*² (Acts 9:5b)

3) Q: *"What are these wounds in your hands?"* (Zechariah 13:6a)

4) M: *"These I received in the house of my friends"* (Zechariah 13:6b)

Pause to allow time for the shock of these words to be absorbed. Further convulsive weeping may well take place

5) M: *"Now, do not be grieved or angry with yourselves that you sold me beforehand. For G-d sent me before you to preserve life, to preserve your posterity [you and your descendants] in the earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance,"* (Genesis 45:7 & 9)

Begin eighth reading

Isaiah 52:13-53:1f

13. *Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.*

14. *As many were astonished [because] his visage was so marred more than any man and his form more than the sons of men:*

15. *So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.*

1. *Who has believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?*

2. *For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant and as a root out of a dry ground: he has neither form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him there is no beauty that we should desire him.*

3. *He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised and we esteemed him not.*

4. *Surely he has borne our grief and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted.*

5. *But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

6. *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

¹ The writer was much stirred in his heart when he finally word-processed this short dialogue (on Monday, 27th July 1998). He felt as if he were launching upon something holy and profound. This feeling again manifested itself on Thursday, 29th November 2007 as he was correcting a final draft of this work. He sensed that he was *'onto something big.'*

² *'Pricks'* or *'goads'* were long stick with a pointed end which was used to guide livestock in a direction desired by the farmer. They often served as *'cattle prods.'* They were most often used when oxen were pulling a plough or a cart.

7. *He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth.*

8. *He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? For he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.*

9. *And he made his grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.*

10. *Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he has put him to grief: when you shall make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.*

11. *He shall see of the travail of his soul and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.*

13. *Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he has poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bears the sin of many and makes intercession for the transgressors.*