

Volume 4, Day 2: "... by His Stripes We Are Healed"

Does Isaiah's statement, "... by His stripes we are healed," mean that we obtain physical healing by Jesus' brutal beating and inhumane crucifixion? I implore you to consider this. What exactly did God have in mind when He designed the brutal, humiliating, massacre of His ONLY BEGOTTEN SON? Did God let Himself, in the person of His Son, be the most unfairly treated of all beings, human or divine, in order to heal our physical infirmities? Or did God create this heinous criminal act on the part of mankind in order to heal our 'selfish, corrupt, hurtful' souls?

If you claim to be a Christian, I would hope that you would exclaim that, "Jesus died to save the ungodly from eternal separation from God." Did Jesus live the perfect life, which we could not, only to die a criminal's death so that we could be more comfortable (prosperous), more highly respected (popular) or more worshipped by and in control of others (power)? Again, "NO!" That would be ridiculous. Yet, that is what we want and what we pray for.

Our anger with God and all others is sourced in our own childish self indulgence. We ask God to fix this or do that. We expect Him to take away all of our misery. We expect Him to define 'good' in the same manner as we define 'good.' But, scripture clearly declares that GOD defines 'good' as GOD HIMSELF. "GOD IS LOVE!" is a direct quote from His written Word. God's definition of 'good' is anything that fulfills His purposes. His purposes are always in the best interest of ridding His creation of evil and redeeming all who are willing to be in a perfect relationship with God.

Jesus, as the embodiment of God's love, humbled from the highest glory to the lowest human experience, did not "...lay down His life for His friends" in order to serve their selfishness. He died so that they too could (and would) die to selfish ambition and be redeemed forever.

My Confirming Scripture: My Aligning Experiences: