

**Communion Meditation – The Suffering Servant**  
*Isaiah 53.5      Pierced      September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011*

**v5ab ~ “But He was wounded for our transgressions” & “bruised for our iniquities”**

- “But” emphasizes a new thought that differs from the prior one (read v4)
  - Last week we assumed Jesus deserved His punishment
  - Last week we learned He’d borne our griefs and sorrows
- Now we learn it was more than grief and sorrow
  - Now Isaiah tells us He was wounded and bruised
  - “Wounded” can actually mean painful piercing or torment
  - And note also – it was for “our transgressions” and “our iniquities”

**v5cd ~ “chastisement for our peace was upon Him” & “by His stripes we are healed”**

- This is an odd phrase, “chastisement for our peace”
- This refers directly to “*penal substitutionary atonement*”
- “stripes . . .” quoted in **1 Peter 2.24** ~ “who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.”

**Grace and Repentance**

- III: “Mere Christianity” and “Blue Like Jazz” and “Rumours”
  - “*Why can’t God just forgive?*” “*Why can’t He just let it go?*”
- “Christianity has at its core a most unnatural concept called grace, which means that we can do nothing to counterbalance our sins. God has already paid the penalty, and we need merely accept it, by trusting him for the remedy. Grace is God’s free gift, with repentance the way to accept it.” - *Rumours excerpt*
- “Something in us resists repentance at all costs. We would rather deny, lie, blame, rationalize – anything but repent. Yet the first words of Jesus, in the earliest Gospel, include the straightforward command, ‘*Repent!*’ Repentance emerges as his consistent theme, repeated to a variety of audiences that include rich and poor, powerful and weak, religious and irreligious alike.” - *Rumours excerpt*

**The only proper response to the guilt of sin is repentance . . . (true for everyone)**  
**Coming to the Lord’s Table means repentance – but it also means joy**