

Communion Meditation – The Suffering Servant
Isaiah 53.7 Silent September 25th, 2011

v7a ~ “He was oppressed and He was afflicted,”

- III: “It” ~ David Peltzer – child abuse victim in early-70s California
- Oppressed ~ responsibilities to make life miserable
 - chores, POW position, time limits, not a son, no gifts or birthdays
- Afflicted ~ constantly humiliated and taunted
 - starved, debased, tormented with cold, tortured with solitary
- Jesus suffered similarly ~ but submitted willingly to it

v7b ~ “yet He opened not His mouth”

- David learned not to complain ~ Pleading didn’t help him
 - But at times bitterness and pure hatred filled his heart
- The silence of Jesus is different ~ His was not for self-preservation

v7c ~ “He was led as a lamb to the slaughter”

- Being led means you are not in control ~ you are like an animal
- David used to dream of his father as Superman (*saving him*)
 - When his father moved out, David lost hope ~ He felt he’d be killed
 - He longed for death, but she never killed him ~ She liked hurting him too much
- Jesus was led to the slaughter ~ But He could have broken free
 - Jesus could have saved Himself at any moment ~ What a temptation!

v7de ~ “And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth”

- Again Isaiah emphasizes Christ’s silence
- III: “You have the right to remain silent” ~ Part of the Miranda warning
 - 5th Amendment ~ protects US citizens from self-incrimination
- The silence of Jesus is exactly the opposite
- He rejected all forms of self-defense ~ He gave up His “rights” as it were

**Jesus was willingly shorn for our sakes ~ He was shorn of righteousness
God crafted His righteousness (His fleece) into garments of righteousness for us
The Table draws our attention to this fleece that alone clothes us for God’s presence**