

I watched a Facebook reel this week in which a relatively good looking healthy young man approached a young woman and started talking to her. Before he had ever said ten words to her, she lashed out at him and hit him in the face, saying, “How dare you ugly \$%&^@*\$ person every think that you could come stand next to me?” She continued, “I am a “10” and you are a nothing.” His response to her, “I never asked!!”

Got me thinking?

WHAT DO I USE TO CHOOSE WITH WHOM I WILL ASSOCIATE?

IF JESUS WERE LIVING TODAY WOULD PEOPLE CONSIDER JESUS AS ATTRACTIVE?

v1 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? v2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. v3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. v4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. v5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. v6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. v7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. v8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. v9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. v10 Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. v11 After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. v12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Isaiah 53:1-12

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE:

1. Because HE WAS ONLY A LOCAL BOY.

v2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him

A PROPHET is seldom welcome in his own home town.

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE:

2. Because HE HAD NO ROYAL CONNECTIONS.

v2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him

DRY ROOT - Jesus came from ordinary people.

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE:

3. Because HE WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS A "10".

v2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him

Jesus would have been considered as "average Joe" "the man on the street" or "the rank and file" while more collective or historical terms include "commoners" "the masses" or "the public".

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE:

4. Because HE WAS CONSIDERED AS SOMEONE OF NO VALUE.

v3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

When Goliath first saw David, the same word that is used here was used of what Goliath thought of David.

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE:

5. Because HE GREW UP FACING HARD TIMES.

v3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

His parents had not money. He was Working Class. His father died early. His own family thought he was mad.

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE:

6. Because HE FACED APPARENT REJECTION FROM GOD.

v4 we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted

Three different Hebrew words are used to describe how beaten down Jesus appeared by God. Even Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me.

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE:

7. Because HE NEVER LEFT ANY DESCENDENTS.

*v8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. **And who can speak of his descendants?** For he was cut off from the land of the living;*

In Hebrew culture, like many cultures, to not have any descendants was considered to be a curse from God. Think of Abraham and Sarah.

JESUS WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTIVE TO WORDLY PEOPLE:

8. Because HE DIED A PAUPER.

v9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death

He was given allocated a paupers grave, until he became a charity case.

HOWEVER

JESUS IS ATTRACTIVE TO GODLY PEOPLE

JESUS IS ATTRACTIVE TO GODLY PEOPLE:

1. Because HE SHARED OUR BURDEN.

v4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows,

A burden SHARED is a burden HALVED

JESUS IS ATTRACTIVE TO GODLY PEOPLE:

2. Because HE STOOD IN OUR PLACE WHEN JUSTICE WAS FULFILLED.

v5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,

Have you ever had someone take the blame for something you did.

JESUS IS ATTRACTIVE TO GODLY PEOPLE:

3. Because HE HEALED OUR GREATEST WOUND.

v5 ... and by his wounds we are healed.

Jesus restored the relationship between God and Humanity

JESUS IS ATTRACTIVE TO GODLY PEOPLE:

4. Because HE GIVES OUR LIVES MEANING.

v6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Jesus gives us purpose and meaning

JESUS IS ATTRACTIVE TO GODLY PEOPLE:

5. Because HE WILL RESTORE THE PURPOSES OF GOD TO HIS PEOPLE.

v10 Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

THE WILL OF THE LORD WILL PROSPER

JESUS IS ATTRACTIVE TO GODLY PEOPLE:

6. Because HE PRAYS FOR US.

For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

What Great Joy to know someone is praying for you.

JESUS IS LORD