

Our God reigns

How lovely on the mountains are the feet
of him,

Who brings good news, good news;

Announcing peace, proclaiming news of
happiness:

Our God reigns, our God reigns!

Isaiah 52

Why does Isaiah say this?

Besieged by the Assyrians

Worse is to come:

144 years: Babylonians

70 years: hostages

It's your own fault!



A rebellious people

- Judah is a nation that is blind and deaf to the Lord (6:9-10; 42:7)
- a vineyard that will be trampled (5:3-7)
- a people devoid of justice or righteousness (5:7; 10:1-2)

Amos, Hosea, Micah

Oppressive nations were God's judgement against a rebellious people

People had lost heart

- About to be destroyed as a nation
- It was their own fault



And yet... God has compassion (14:1-2) and will rescue them

52:1-2 Have courage!

- **Awake**
- **Shake of your dust**
- **Free yourself from your chains on your neck**
- **Put on your garments of splendour**

WHY?!

7: How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news

What good news do the messengers bring?

- proclaim peace
- bring good tidings
- proclaim salvation
- say to Zion, **‘Your God reigns!’**

The good news that 'Your God reigns' helps people in two ways

1. Speaks about the world

Hebrews

10: The Lord will lay bare
his holy arm

HOPE

Us



Victor Bezrukov, Wikipedia

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Our God reigns
He is in control even when things
seem at their darkest



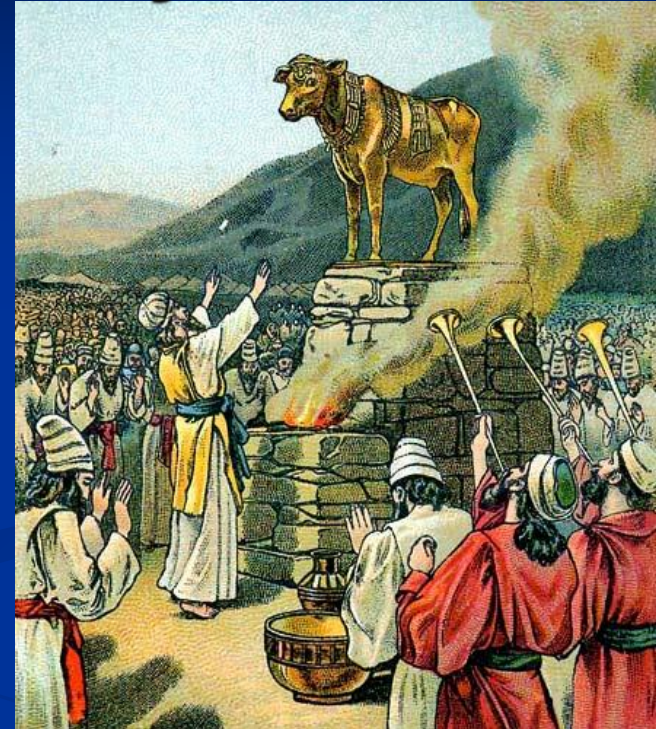
The good news that 'Your God reigns' helps people in two ways

2. Speaks about us

Hebrews

5: For my people have been taken away for nothing

Us

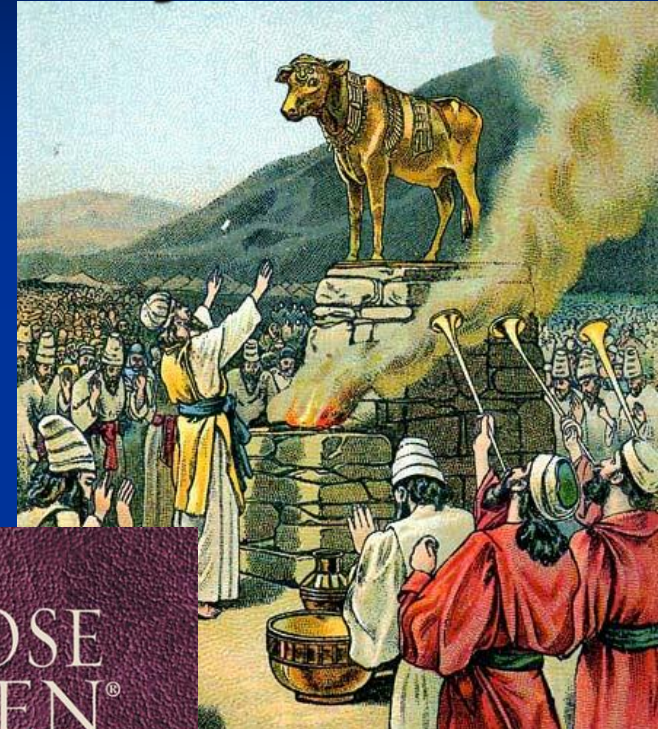


The good news that 'Your God reigns' helps people in two ways

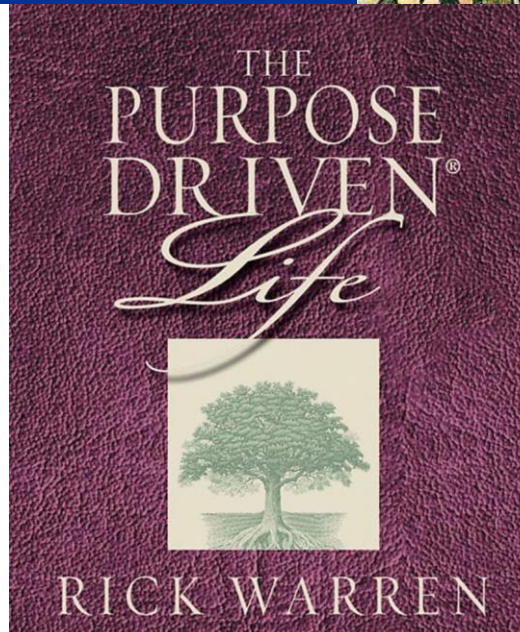
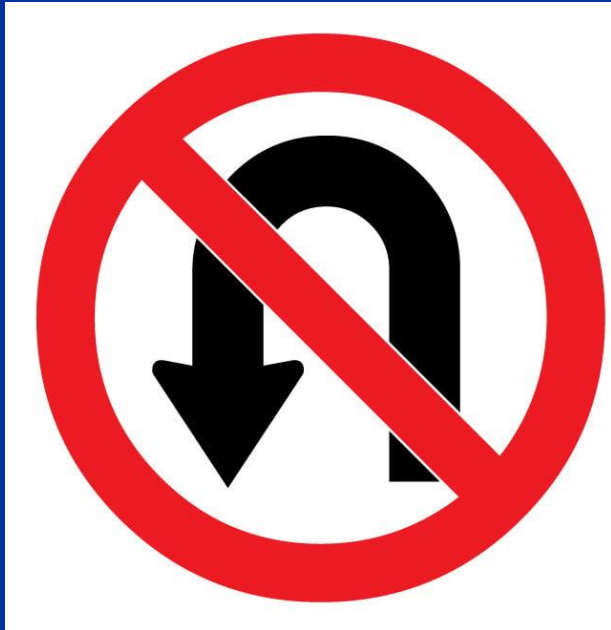
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The good news that 'Your God reigns' helps people in two ways

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Hebrews

5: For my people
taken away

Us

How can we possibly escape sin
and live better?
Our God reigns



Why is there hope?

9: Burst into songs of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem

Redeem: release slaves from bondage by a payment

The Lord frees his people from slavery to sin when they can't save themselves

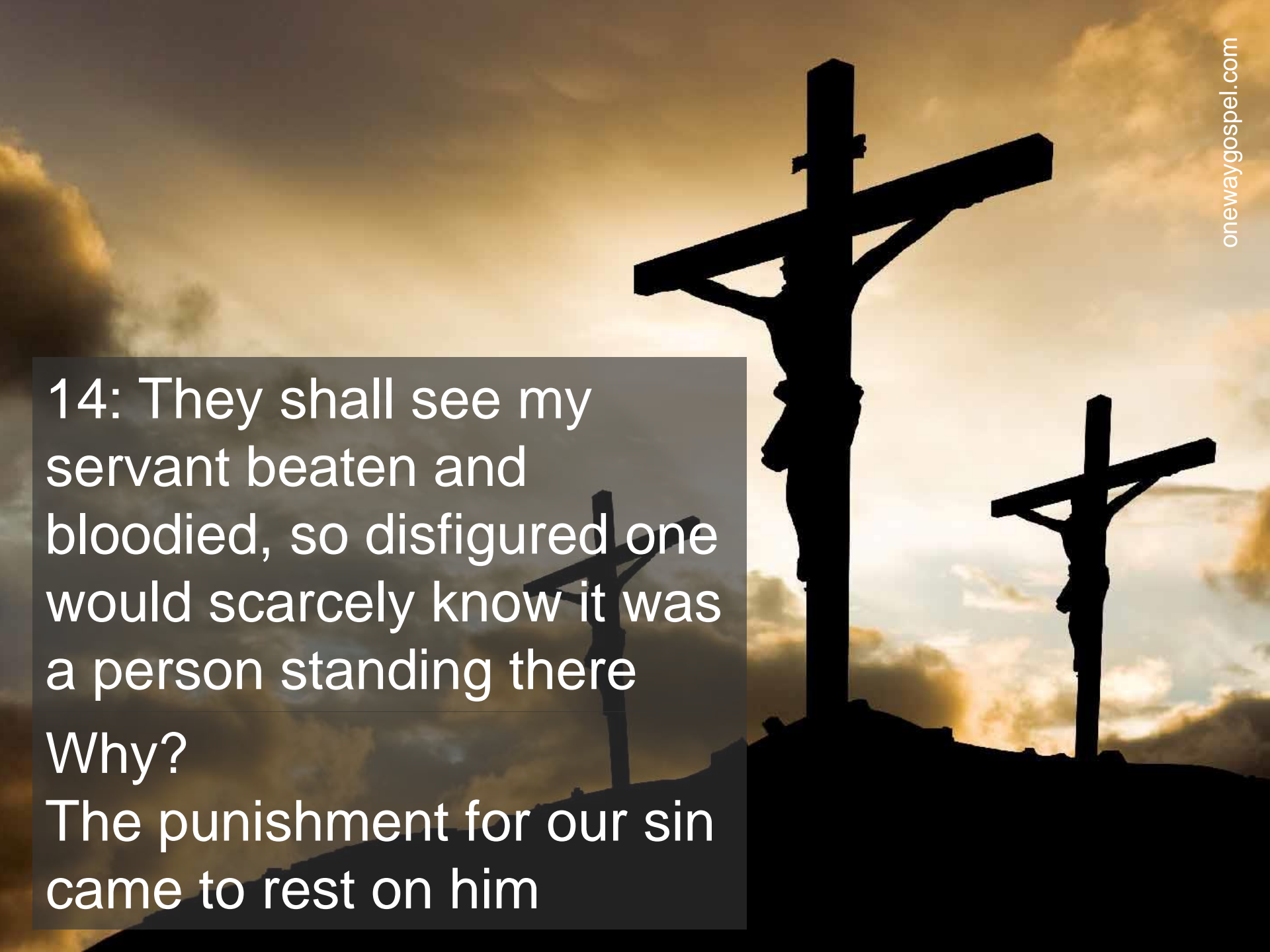
A free gift – to us

...But paid for by a terrible price by God

v13-15: ...my servant

Jesus – good news!

Luke 2:10-11: 'I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord'

The image features three silhouetted crosses on a dark hill against a dramatic, cloudy sky at sunset or sunrise. The central cross is the largest and most prominent, with a figure on it. Two smaller crosses are positioned to the left and right. The sky is filled with soft, golden light filtering through the clouds.

14: They shall see my
servant beaten and
bloodied, so disfigured one
would scarcely know it was
a person standing there

Why?

The punishment for our sin
came to rest on him

Isaiah 53:5-6 ...He was pierced for our transgressions,

he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,

and by his wounds we are healed.
We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all

Despair for the world

Despair for our own sins

Our God reigns – nothing is too big for him

**Proof: God paid the ultimate price by
sacrificing his son for us**

He was pierced for our transgressions

Isaiah: this is really good news!