

# Painful Omniscience

*Isaiah 53*

We are often grateful that our loving God did not previously reveal to us a devastating event in our lives. God mercifully keeps from us the occurrences of the next hour, day, month, and year. If we knew of a tragic end for a precious baby, a loved one, or even for ourselves, each day could be overshadowed with despair. Even a possible terminal diagnosis can bring intense distress.

Just as a wise parent may not tell his child about an upcoming difficulty—perhaps a doctor’s visit or financial concern—God at times spares us from what would be overwhelming to us. He wants us to simply trust and enjoy Him.

How poignant to think of our Lord Jesus and His omniscience. Certainly, one of the most humanly agonizing aspects of His earthly life was “knowing.” He understood the Old Testament Scriptures which applied to His sufferings and death. He “knew what was in man” (*John 2:25; 6:64*). He painfully perceived Judas’ approaching betrayal (*Luke 22:21,22*), Peter’s coming denials (*Luke 22:34*), the disciples’ abandonment (*Matt. 26:31*), the inevitable disgrace and excruciating agony of the cross (*Matt. 16:21*). He experienced living among the terrible sins He would bear upon the cross.



Peter denies his Lord

How our hearts faint as we try to comprehend what our Lord Jesus suffered because of His love for us and because of His devotion to His Father’s will. He knew what was before Him and could say, “for the things concerning Me have an end” (*Luke 22:37*). He endured the cross and, realizing the joy set before Him, He disregarded the shame (*Hebrews 12:2*).

May we follow in His steps as we trust our Father’s will and sufficiency for us. May we, in our light affliction (*2 Cor. 4:17*), bow in humble worship before our Saviour, knowing that His chosen path for us is perfect (*Psalms 18:30*).

~George Zeller: [www.middletonbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletonbiblechurch.org)



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