

He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
Like one from whom people hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.
Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.

But 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.

ISAIAH 53:3-6

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

Invalid Guilt

The blame and shame guilt inflicted upon us by other people.

Valid Guilt

There to remind us of things we need to put right.

We are all responsible for our own debts.
If the debt is in our name, we are responsible for it.
Guilt caused by debt is a valid form of guilt.

Exodus 12:2-6 This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight.

Why Spotless? 1. A careful, not a casual, offering.

Why Spotless? 2. The offering cost.

Why Spotless? 3. Nothing warranted its death.

Why Spotless? 4. The lamb's perfection highlighted the horror of what was happening.

Exodus 12:12-13 On the same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn—both men and animals—and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and I when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

Exodus 12:14 This is a day you are to commemorate.

John 1:29 (NKJV) Behold! The Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world!

Luke 22:19 And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it,
and gave it to them saying. "This is my body given for you;
do this in remembrance of me."

Ephesians 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with
the riches of God's grace that he lavished upon us.