

The Despised and Rejected Lamb

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Text: Isaiah 53:3-5; John 1:10-13

Introduction: Jesus was perfect, loving, and had come to Earth on a rescue mission to save every one of us. So why was He so thoroughly rejected and abused?

Sometimes people reject Jesus because He gets in the way of their pursuit of:

- **Personal** _____, by calling them to _____ and _____.
- _____ and _____, by calling them to _____ and _____.
- **Destructive** _____, by calling them to loving _____ --Bertrand Russell said the West embraced evolution because they wanted to be sexually immoral.

Sometimes people reject Jesus because He's just so _____ from us!

Jesus could only save us by being different from us, but we prefer leaders who reflect what we believe about ourselves—"If you don't reflect, we must reject."

Mostly, people reject what they think they know about Jesus, rather than Jesus Himself! Some people are actually rejecting:

- _____, who claim to speak for Him, but don't.
- _____, who claim to act like Him, but don't.

Some people are rejecting caricatures of a Jesus who doesn't truly exist. Some reject:

- A joyless, humorless _____ who imposes all sorts of unnecessary rules and regulations on the citizens of His Kingdom.
- A weak-kneed, ineffectual _____, with good intentions, who is too naïve to function effectively in the real world.

When we reject Jesus, we're also rejecting the:

- _____ we need.
- True _____ we crave.
- The eternal _____ and _____ His joint-heirs will _____.
- Perfect _____, _____, and _____ that only He can bring us.

Conclusion: The rejection of Jesus that cost Him horrible suffering and three days in the tomb of death can cost us everything forever!
