

## **The Despised and Rejected Lamb**

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

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**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?

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**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!**

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*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."*

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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.

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

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