

And a reference like that is simply confusing. It's a marvellous truth, the truth of the atonement. But if we are simply looking for that everywhere, we miss other truths He wants us to have. The truth here is that Jesus Christ in His earthly life performed great miracles. And it is a great truth for us that He can perform them for us.

Three-fourths of the ills that any of us have are caused by anxiety, are caused by emotional difficulties, are caused by the sin in our hearts and Jesus wants to take that away from us and will ~~that~~ take that away from us if we look to Him for it. He may take away any particular illness that we have. We can look to Him and know that it may be His will. But it may be His will to leave us (sick). But this verse tells us that on earth here, He did these wonderful miracles. Look at the word surely. What does surely get to do with it? You say are you going there? Why surely I am. It's sort of passed off as rather incidental isn't it.

I think a better translation in today's English might be, He did indeed bear our griefs and carry our sicknesses. He did indeed. Yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. What the verse means is a prediction of the fact that the disciples and others would see Jesus Christ performing these great miracles, and would hear Him saying, I am the Son of God come to take away the sin of the world, and then when they would see Him put on the cross they would say like the men on the road to Emmaus, Why we thought He was the one who would have redeemed Israel but he's been taken and killed. It is a picture of the failure of the disciples to hold on to the truth they had seen when things seemed to go ~~against~~ against them. It is a prediction of the fact that it would take God's Spirit to bring them to understanding.

Jesus said, If you won't believe my words, believe the works that I do. But they did not do it. It takes God's Spirit to bring anyone to salvation. You can't win anybody to the Lord. Only God's Spirit can win somebody to the Lord. But you may be the instrument He uses to bring before them the facts. You may be the means He will use. This verse you see has in it an introduction to the great truth of the atonement in the next verse. When we simply take the verse and see the atonement in it and nothing more, we're seeing the greatest truth that is given in all Scripture which is give over and over, but we are missing the particular truth of this verse. I believe this is very vital for us. The Christian church over and over repeats a few great truths. That's wonderful. But it neglects many many teachings of Scripture because people are satisfied with superficial interpretations.

God wants us to get into His word and get the truth that is there, because it is the only source of real permanent lasting truth. "Thy Word is truth." Sanctify them through thy truth, thy Word is Truth."

Now you notice the verse doesn't merely speak of the fact that God's Word is truth. It says, Sanctify them through thy truth. The truth is here for a purpose. Oh, it's grand to learn more truth.