

ISAIAH 53 OLD RUGGED CROSSING

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LYRICS

www.DiDoReflections.com CCLI pending

dedicated to Jesus 14 July 2012

Album: Amazing LORD 'n' Life

Original music and lyrics based on George Bennard's

"The Old Rugged Cross" (Public Domain, CCLI # 19722)

"...now, once for all time, [Christ] has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice." -- Hebrews 9: 16-18, 26b New Living Translation

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all." -- *Isaiah 53: 5-6 prophecy of Jesus.... of Hebrews 9: 16 and on to come.*

Then Jesus said to His disciples, *"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."* -- Matt.16: 24-25

1 (Traditional melody)

On a Hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the
emblem of suffering and shame.

I shall love that old Cross, where the dearest and best, for a
world of lost sinners was slain.

2

Jesus, I cherish ---- God's only Son.

Jesus, I cherish --- for what He has done.

Jesus, I cherish --- for amazing love. His

Old Rugged Cross reminds me

to cherish Jesus for John 3: 16 love. Yet

cherishing is more than just words or songs. I'll

cherish Jesus with my obedience to >> CHORUS

CHORUS

... cross into life with Jesus...

... obey taking up my own cross....

... deny myself, take up my cross..... Matthew 16: 24

3

Though I went astray, like a dumb sheep,

Jesus chose to come to die and show me

HOW, now I CAN be saved from my sins! by
asking forgiveness through Him.

Isaiah 53 tells how His stripes me. My

death sins He heals when I choose to let Him be

LORD of my life, Who I obey in love..... and

>> CHORUS

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CHORUS

... cross into live with Jesus...
... obey taking up my own cross....
... deny myself, take up my cross..... Matthew 16: 24

4

We each are crossing one day into Death
If we are stubborn..... and will not accept that
NO ONE is without sins that send to HELL
unless we pray John 10 Verse 9 (and mean it).
Isaiah 53 --- We've all strayed from God. Yet
We're saved by Jesus Who took on our sins, but
ONLY if He's our LORD. Romans 10. And we >> CHORUS

CHORUS

... cross into live with Jesus...
... obey taking up my own cross....
... deny myself, take up my cross..... Matthew 16: 24

Song Story. I confess: Although I like the hymn I heard every couple of weeks in church as a child, I never really thought about the words except to think of cross jewelry which is anything but rugged and splintered and stained with Jesus's blood. One day as I was playing around with weird chord progressions on my guitar outdoors,

it suddenly dawned on me ----

Why do we sing about cherishing the CROSS?

Shouldn't we be cherishing JESUS instead?

Well, God led me to two answers:

(1) One is that yes, we cherish the cross because it reminds us of Jesus's love that FREES us from all sin we confess AND from the power of temptation (1 Corinthians 10:13); that answer led to another song three months before this one: "Old Rugged Cross Reminder" written in 20 minutes on April 11.

(2) **And also yes, we should be focusing more in JESUS than on the Cross.... but Jesus called us to CROSS INTO A LIFE that takes up our OWN cross and follows Him -- no matter the cost.**

MUSIC: Weird notes in interludes: Once you make a mistake -- if you *like* the weirdness-- just **REPEAT** it, so people will know it was deliberately kept. I tried to keep the music as simple as the message --- Cherish Jesus. Accept His sacrifice that God prophesied 100s of years earlier in Isaiah 53. Accept Jesus as LORD whom you obey... and obey His commands to take up your own cross.