

silence of the Lamb.

One of the Sherlock Holmes stories, *Silver Blaze*, hinges on the clue of silence. A prized, extremely valuable racehorse was stolen in the night. The thief was successful because the well-trained watchdog guarding the stall did not bark. The significance of the dog's silence became clear late in the story, when Holmes identified the thief as a friend of the family. The dog did not consider him to be an intruder, so he remained silent during the break-in.

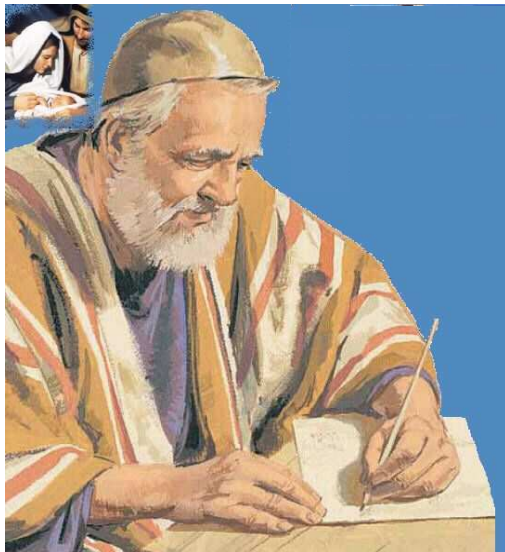
Writing 700 years before the coming of the Messiah, the prophet Isaiah said silence would be a clue to His identity. "As a sheep before her shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth" (Isaiah 53:7). This vital piece of information remained obscure until the trial of Jesus. When He was taken before the Sanhedrin and falsely accused, Jesus "remained silent and gave no answer" (Mark 14:61).

The clue of silence fits. And when you add to it many other Old Testament clues--His birth in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), His lineage from David (Isaiah 11:10; Luke 3:31), His virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23), the casting of lots for His clothes (Psalm 22:18; John 19:23-24), and hundreds of other clues, the mystery of Jesus' identity is solved. He is exactly who He claimed to be: The Messiah of Israel, prophesied so many centuries before, who came to be the Savior of the world.

And because He is all He claimed to be, He is worthy of our trust and our praise. --DE

## REFLECTION

- How could I become more familiar with the reasons we have for believing that Jesus is the Son of God?
- How could I use this information to witness to inquiring friends? To unsaved Jewish people?

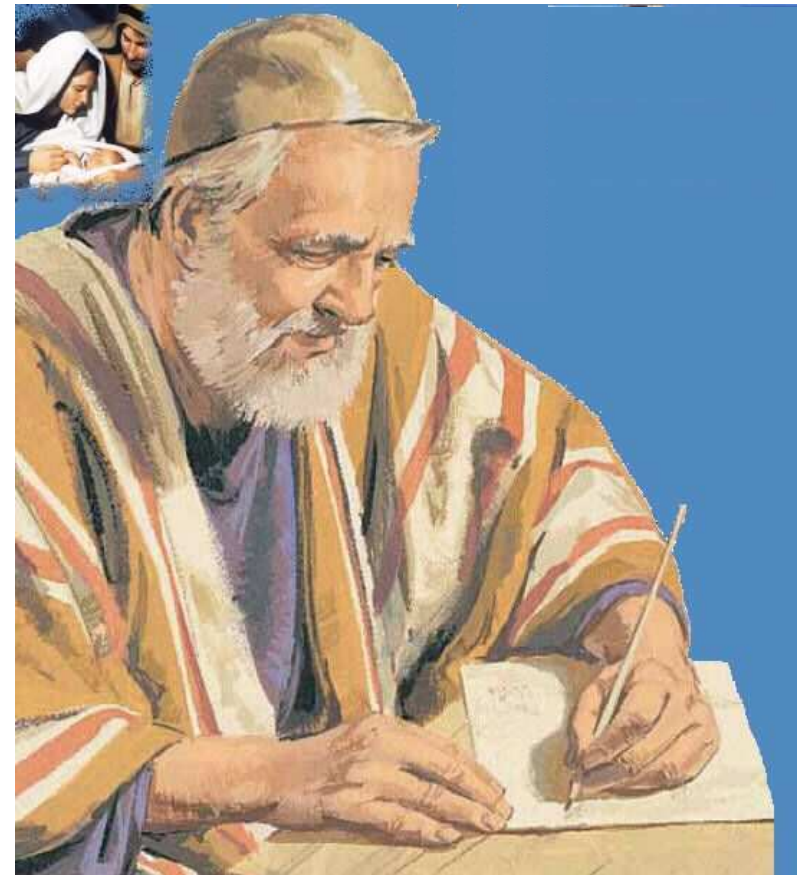


# Central Mountains Baptist Church

## DECEMBER 5, 2021

### The Clue of Silence

Clues to the identity of Jesus Christ are scattered throughout the Bible. The truly inquiring mind will track them down and be satisfied that He is who the Bible says He is: The Messiah of Israel, the Son of God, the Saviour of the world. One significant clue is the





## ISAIAH'S INSIGHTS FROM FEAR TO PEACE

In Isaiah 7 we find that there are two right 'emotions' that we need to find rest.

**1. The right \_\_\_\_\_**, verses 1:1, 6:1, 1-9, 17-25

**Matthew 10:28** *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

**Matthew 10:29-30** *Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. 30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*

**Isaiah 26:3** *You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.*



Jennifer Oshman

**2. The right \_\_\_\_\_**, verses 10-16, 8:3-4

**Matthew 1:18-25**— 18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of

the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." 22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

**Hebrews 13:5** ... For He Himself



has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

**Habakkuk 3:17-19** *Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls— 18 Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. 19 The Lord God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills. (To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments).*

