

WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

FOR STARTERS

1. In your own words, how would you define the purpose of Jesus' death?

Read Isaiah 52-13-53:12

Write out phrases from the passage that refer to suffering/death, but that also seem to give clues as to what could be the purpose of such suffering.

DIGGING DEEPER

2. In what ways does this passage, written long before the time of Jesus, line up with what you know of Jesus' experience of crucifixion?
3. How would you define the words "iniquity," "transgressions," and "sin?"
4. How do you feel about Christianity's core belief that an innocent person was punished in your place? (Do your feelings change in any way if you believe that the sin-bearer was God himself, in the person of Jesus? Explain.)
5. According to this passage what was accomplished by the suffering and death of the Lord's servant?

