

AN UNLIKELY SAVIOR

Isaiah 53:3 ... "...He has no comeliness; and when we see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him."

We live in the age of celebrities, beauty, and sex-appeal. A few generations ago, you would have married a man or woman because he or she came highly recommended, not because of their appearance. Parents and elders selected their children's spouses because they had the wisdom to value character, integrity and godliness. Christian young people cared more about God's opinion of their potential spouses, than their own limited knowledge. Divorces and annulments were uncommon just 70 years ago. Today, more marriages fail than succeed. Why? Because we have lost our way and we ignore the valued wisdom of God and our elders in selecting a spouse. Instead, we pursue beauty and ignore the warning signs of a bad relationship.

Our verse today is the prophecy of Isaiah about the coming Messiah, Jesus. It predicted that Christ would not be attractive or handsome, nor would there be anything in his appearance that would compel people to follow him, listen to him, or trust him. If you saw him in a crowd, he would look like any other common man. He did not walk around wearing a halo, or glowing like some painters depict him. He walked from town to town with his disciples on dusty roads that got his feet dirty, soiled his clothes, and perhaps caused him to look like a homeless man. He slept on rocky ground, under trees, or in fishing boats. He had no money or possessions; he lived on what generous people gave him.

If you were a father with a daughter of marriageable age, you likely would have advised her to stay away from Jesus. Or, she herself would have avoided him. He did not look the part of a handsome, loving and wealthy husband that either you or your daughter would want to be a part of your family. There is no reason to think that Jesus was ugly, but he clearly did not stand out in a crowd. Just another face of an average looking man.

Our heavenly Father was wise to send Jesus to earth in the body of a common-looking man. If he had been handsome or cute, people might have treated him like a celebrity and followed him because of that. Instead, people followed Jesus because of what he said and did. He taught that we must obey the Father, and then he demonstrated that in his own life. He taught that we should love one another, then he demonstrated that himself. He taught us to make sacrifices for the good of others, then he paid the ultimate sacrifice by dying a horrible death on our behalf.

If you are a born again believer in Jesus, you did not make that decision because of what Jesus looks like. You will be wise not to make friends or marry someone simply because he or she is attractive; they need to have godly character.

Copyright © 2018 Datu Wali Mission Foundation