

Isaiah 53:7b-8,10.

He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth.

How many times I have not open my mouth not because I am bravely enduring oppression and affliction as the Servant of God did but because I am part of the generation that is not protesting?

Deep inside of me are my beliefs, my prayers, and my views. I do know what is right and what is wrong and still choose to remain silent. I prefer to be comfortably sitting in my corner, enjoying the warmth of my comfort zone far away from those who are suffering from all types of oppressions and afflictions.

In 2021 and always being with the afflicted is messy; being with the protestors is risky.

Certainly, these years we have seen many protests erupting around us. However, many oppressions remain uncovered often in plain sight and close to us.

Yet, who wants to bring division to our dining table or to our group of friends? How many of us have family or friends in both political parties and find it difficult to publish our own views in social media?

Depending on whom you are with, it looks like it is okay to speak up in favor of certain groups of people, but if you move to a different circle of people then their sufferings and afflictions seem not to matter.

This is a time for us to find our place in the midst of a generation that is at the same time loudly protesting evil and silently witnessing oppression and affliction. In doing so we may be crushed and suffer. Our beliefs may be shaken, our prayers may seem unheard, and our views may seem biased. Many around us will watch in silence then we may become oppressed and afflicted as well, in what looks like a vicious, non-sensical cycle of suffering.

It was the will of the Lord to crush his Servant and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord made His life an offering for sin, He is alive seeing us, his mystical body, making the world a better place to be.

Are we willing to make our life an offering of love?