

G'Day Church family

There are **Bibles** in front of you - and an **outline** if you want to take **notes**

Let me **pray** before we begin...

Intro

So, throughout the month of January - we're doing a series on "**SHUN**" words in the Bible - that's words in the Bible that end in "TION" - SHUN

[PowerPoint 1-SHUN]

In **January 2019** - we looked at:

Revelation, Substitution, Salvation, Redemption

Now in **January 2020** we'll be looking at a few more **SHUN** words:

Propitiation (last week), Justification, Adoption and Resurrection

Our "SHUN" word this week - is Justification:

Before we look at Justification

I want us to look at a **problem we all have**

Problem (Romans 5:12-14)

[PowerPoint 2-Rom 5:12-14]

- Please **turn** to the book of **Romans 5:12-14** - written by Apostle Paul
- According to Apostle Paul - **Adam and Eve were real people**

- And their disobedience back in **Genesis 3** - when they disobeyed God and ate from the tree they were told not to eat from - **brought sin into the world**
- The **blame** lies fair and square **with Adam** - as Eve was deceived by Satan - but **Adam sinned with full knowledge of what he was doing** (1 Tim 2:14)
- And because of that **sin** - Paul says - **we all inherit sin** - see V12
- **And with sin** - still in v12 - **comes death**
- All **humans are mortal** - **subject to dying** - as soon as we are born
- Paul says we are **made sinners** by **Adam's sin**, before we even start committing our own sins - which of course we can't avoid
- And - **if we don't think** we are **born sinners** - think about how **selfish** and **naughty** a child can be - pretty early on their life - and think about how **we don't teach** our children to be bad - they **learn it all on their own**
- However - it **doesn't mean babies/toddlers go to hell** - **if they die early in life** - **1 Cor 7:14** - says children are **sanctified** (made holy) by the faith of their **believing parents** - and **remember also** - **God is a merciful God** (Gen 18:25)
- **Sin disrupts our relationship with God**
- Paul then goes on to **say v13** - that **sin and death were in the world** - way before the **commandments** were given to Moses
- **When the commandments came**, they showed the **extent that we disobey God** - before that **people would not necessarily know** what sins they had committed - because they didn't have all the rules
- V14 - And the punishment for sin - **death** - this **huge abyss separating us from God**, **dominated the landscape** from the time of Adam to Moses

- Even if people didn't sin exactly the same as Adam did, by disobeying a specific command of God - people **still experienced** this **termination of life** and this **separation** from God
- Paul says in v14 - that Adam - who **got us in** to this **mess**, also **points** to ahead to **One** who will **get us out** of this **mess**
- Which **brings us** to the **Promised Solution**

Promised Solution = Justification (Isaiah 52:13-53:12)

[PowerPoint 3-Promised Solution]

- Please turn to **Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12**
- More than 600 years before Jesus
- The **prophet Isaiah** talks of a **coming Suffering Servant** of the Lord
- There is **no doubt** as we read these verses - that **Isaiah** is referring to none other than **Jesus** - the **Messiah** - and **describes Jesus' suffering before and during** His **crucifixion** - and describes **what He will achieve in His suffering**
- **Verse after verse** - we can **see Jesus** - and it does beg the question - **how the Jews missed** this passage - as referring to **Jesus?**
- **Before Isaiah** mentions anything about the servant's **suffering**
- In V13 - He says **Jesus** - this **servant** will be **highly exalted** - and He will **triumph over His suffering**
- V14 - He says - **Jesus'** appearance is **disfigured** - and His **form marred** - remember how **Jesus** was **scourged** and **mocked** and **beaten** before being crucified (Luke 22:63-64)

- Then V15 - Jesus will **sprinkle many nations** - **sprinkling** is often **associated with cleansing of sin** (Ex 24:8; Lev 3:6; Num 19:21; Ezek 36:25)
- So, **Jesus will cleanse many nations of their sins** - not **just Jews**
- **Isaiah continues in v15** - **By the time everyone has heard about who this Jesus is** - and heard **what He has done** - He will cause kings to shut their mouths - because the good news of Jesus - that was so concealed in the OT - is now revealed in the NT - and revealed as we share the story and message of Jesus
- As we move in to **chapter 53:1** - **Isaiah asks who will believe our message** about this suffering servant, Jesus?
- **Isaiah anticipates how strange it will be that the suffering servant whose face is disfigured will be the same servant who cleanses nations from their sins** - it seems contradictory - that a dying servant can do this?
- But it's true!
- And so - **Isaiah anticipates some people will reject this Servant - Jesus**
- V2 - **Jesus does not have any distinctive physical attraction** to bring people to him
- V3 - He is **despised and rejected**
- V3 - He is a **man of suffering and familiar with pain**
- V3 - Because there **wasn't any outward distinctive beauty** about Jesus - **people are not drawn to Him** and so **reject Him** - this shows that **people often look at the outward appearance** - whereas **God looks at the heart**
- V4 - He **took our pain and bore our suffering** - He not only **died** on the cross for **our sins** - and **in our place** - He **understands our suffering** now

too - and we **can hand** our **sorrows** over to **Him** - **if** we care to **release** them

- Still in v4 - when Jesus was crucified **people thought** He was being **punished by God** for something He'd done wrong (apparently blaspheming and saying He is God) - whereas He was innocent and He was punished as **part of God's plan to save people** from the punishment they deserved
- V5 - He is **pierced** for our **sins** - **crushed** for our iniquities - all pointing to the cross
- V5 - **He brought peace between God and humankind** - by Him being wounded
- V6 - Why? Because **people are like lost sheep** - gone astray - doing their own thing - **away from God** - and lost people - like lost sheep - need a shepherd - Jesus - the *Good Shepherd*
- V7 - He will be **oppressed and afflicted** - but **He won't open his mouth** to defend himself (Mark 15:2-5) - and that's what He did at His trial and at the cross - He **never** spoke to **defend Himself** - **only to glorify God**
- V7 - He was led like **a lamb to the slaughter** - pointing to Jesus being like the **lamb sacrifice** for sin in the temple - and to the fact that Jesus is the **Lamb of God** - the **Passover Lamb** - that **takes away** the **sin** of the world
- V8 - by **Oppression and judgement of the Romans & Jewish Leaders**- Jesus is taken away - and **none** of His generation **protested** - because **no one** really **understood** what was going on - his **followers fled** - and **those** who wanted **Him killed** **didn't realize** what they were really **doing** - and who Jesus really was

- V9 - He was **assigned a grave with the wicked** and with the rich in death - points to the fact that Jesus died in the company of the wicked - **thieves on the cross** on either side of Him (Luke 23:32-33) - and His **grave** - was a **tomb** owned by the rich man called **Joseph of Arimathea** (Luke 23:50-56 and Matt 27:57-60)
- V10 - It was all the **Lord's will** - it was **God's plan** for Jesus to suffer - and for Jesus to be an offering for sin
- V10 still - but **Jesus' death and burial are not the end** - **He lives on!** He **lives to see His offspring** - His **spiritual offspring** - those who **believe** in Him
- V11 - and when **He has done all this** - He will live a **glorious** life in Heaven and be **satisfied with His work** of saving people from their sins
- **Verse after verse** - we see this **Suffering Servant** that Isaiah promises - is so clearly **Jesus!**
- And the result of all this work is - at the end of V11 - by His **knowledge** my righteous **servant** will **justify many**,
- It is in us **knowing the Messiah - Jesus** - in knowing - both **who He is** and **what He has done**, that makes us **justified** before God.
- Which finally brings us to our **SHUN** word

Justification -

So, we'd better **define** what **Justification** is:

[PowerPoint 4-Defintion]

Justification is: *The action of showing something or someone is right*

In Bible terms justification is: *The act of declaring an ungodly person is right before God*

So, for an **ungodly** person to **be right before God**

And remember **we all sin** - so **we're all ungodly**

There has to be a **solution** that **makes us right with God**

Which is where the rest of our Romans 5 passage comes in

If you'd like to turn back to **Romans 5** - from **verse 15**

Solution (Romans 5:15-21)

You see the **solution to sin** and **death** is a **gift from God**

- Paul says - the solution is not the same as how we got the problem from Adam - see V15
- The **gift** - is a gift of **grace from God**
- **Grace** - a **free gift** - a gift **not deserved** and **not earned**

[PowerPoint 5-Diagram]

- Paul's explanation of how we are justified - in Romans 5:15-21 can be **explained by this diagram**
- **Adam's sin** - brought **sin** and **death** to us
- Then we ourselves sin also
- So, we're guilty of our sins - which separates us from God - and deserves death
- But justification means - the guilt of our sin - is put on or credited to Jesus (the 2nd Adam)

- Jesus' - the 2nd Adam - then dies on the cross to take away the punishment of our sin
- And makes us right with God - by transferring His righteousness - His right standing with God - onto us - **IF** we believe in Jesus'
- So - Paul says just as one person [Adam] did wrong and got us in all this trouble with sin and death, another person [Jesus] did right and got us out of it. But more than just getting us out of trouble, He got us into life! One man said **no** to God and put many people in the wrong; one man said **yes** to God and put many in the right.
- Paul goes onto say - in v20-21 that all that God's Law did against sin was produce more people who break God's Law - like us. But sin didn't, and doesn't, have a chance in competition with the aggressive forgiveness we call **grace**. When it's **sin versus God's grace, grace wins hands down**. All sin can do is threaten us with death, and that's the end of it. **Grace**, because God is putting everything back together again through Jesus, **invites us into life**—a life that goes on and on and on, **beyond this world into eternity**.

Applications

So, let me leave us with **3 applications**:

Because of Jesus - justifying us:

[PowerPoint 6-Application 1]

1. 1st -we can **embrace assurance** - Romans 8:1 - **Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus**, = no one can point

finger at us about what we have done in the past - if we now believe in Jesus - all our sins are forgiven. And when God looks at us - He doesn't see us in our sinful nature - what God sees is Jesus standing in our place.

Let's see how that plays out:

[PowerPoint 7-Good-O-Meter]

[PowerPoint 8a-Application 1/2]

2. **2nd Application - a warning** - from Heb 10:26-27 - If **we deliberately keep on sinning** after we have received the knowledge of the truth, **no sacrifice for sins is left**, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of **raging fire** that will consume the enemies of God.

[PowerPoint 8a-Application 3]

3. **3rd an Action** - from 2 Cor 5:17 & 20 - Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a **new creation**; and we are **ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were pleading through us

It's my prayer - we can go out and **be ambassadors for Jesus** - because God sees us - **just as if we never sinned**.

What a **gracious loving God** - we have.

Let's pray...