

Ordinary 2A

This week was not a good one:

Van had a hole in the gas tank – couldn't fix it – buy a new tank

Washing machine died and had to buy a new one

News of more shootings at schools in US – plus our double murder on Andros

VAT – Bahamas is \$5B in debt

The world is so screwed up – and I prayed

I said LORD – WHY – Even I could build a better world than this one

“THAT IS WHAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO”

H O W ?

The answer is in today's readings - In today's 1st Reading from IS

“You are my servant Israel, through whom I show my glory ...

It is too little for you to be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and restore the survivors of Israel. I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

How has Israel become a light to the nations that salvation may reach to the ends of the earth?

J E S U S

So if I am going to make a better world I need Jesus

In today's Gospel John sees Jesus – just like last week in MT

But today we read JN – John adds two things that wasn't in last week's Gospel of MT

Today John the B sees Jesus and says ‘Behold the Lamb of God’

All of John's disciples look up – Behold the what?

Crowds look up – Jesus? We know Jesus, the carpenter's son, Why is He LOG?

Of all the things he could have said, why Lamb of God?

LOG has meaning for John!

First time in scripture is in IS53 – 600 years before Jesus.

NB It describes the feelings of God's people as they look on JC on the cross:

It was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured. While we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted, he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins, by his stripes we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; But the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; Like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth.

To atone for the sin of the people, In the Temple, the High Priest would sacrifice a lamb

Pure Unblemished Innocent - It paid the price for their sin

John calls JC the LAMB OF GOD because that is what He is about to become

JC is God's sacrificial lamb – sacrificed for us

Here's the 2nd thing that John adds, John the B says:

“The one who sent me to baptize with water told me ‘on whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, He is the one who will baptize with the HS. I testify that this is the Son of God’. John the B says he is God's eyewitness.

Just like a reporter standing on the street John testifies to what he sees and hears

How do we make this a better world? We can now do the same

We can be God's eyewitnesses – because we know the reality of Is 53 is true

We know Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

We know 1st reading is fulfilled in JESUS – Salvation has reached the ends of the earth.

We know that if we TESTIFY, like John, we can make a difference. Do we need VAT, or Jesus