

Unit 9 - Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ

Romans 5:12-21

Text

¹²Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned--¹³For before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

¹⁵But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned

through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. ¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

²⁰The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Open

- How far back can you trace your family tree? Any famous (or infamous) "branches"?

Discover

1. This passage consist mainly of a series of comparisons between Adam's sin and Christ's obedience. In the space below, identify these comparisons.

Adam's sin	Christ's obedience
(v. 15)	
(v. 16)	
(v. 17)	
(v. 18)	
(v. 19)	

2. What is the "one trespass" referred to in verse 18? (see Genesis 3:1-19)

What is the "one act of righteousness" referred to in verse 18? (see Romans 4:25 and Philippians 2:8)

3. Paul uses the term "one man" nine times in this passage--six times to describe Adam and three times to describe Christ. Locate all the occurrences of this term in the text and circle them. What do you think Paul is emphasizing through the repeated use of this term?

4. Who are the "many" who are made sinners by Adam's disobedience? (v. 19; see v. 12)

Who are the "many" who are made righteous by Christ's obedience? (v. 19; see v. 17)

5. If death is the result of sin, and if sin is not taken into account when there is no law, then why did people die before the law was given to Moses? (vv. 12-14)

6. What does Paul mean by the phrase "all sinned," when he states that "death came to all men, because all sinned" (v. 12; see vv. 15 and 19)

7. What phrases does Paul use to indicate that Christ's act of obedience is more than adequate to overcome the effects of Adam's sin?

v. 15

v. 17

v. 20

Close

- How do you feel about Adam's sin being credited to you? How about Christ's righteousness being credited to you?
- Can you think of any everyday examples in which one person is held legally responsible

- for the actions of another, or suffers the consequences of actions taken by someone representing them?
- Why do you think Paul spends so much time contrasting Adam and Christ?