

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

¹³ for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

¹⁶ The gift is not like *that which came* through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification.

¹⁷ For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

¹⁹ For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

²⁰ The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Romans 5:12-21)

Adam and Christ

Romans 5:12-21

Romans 5:12-21: Overview

1. What is the connection?

- “*because of this*” – the basis or reason for what has just been said about the certainty of hope
- Christ act of obedience ensures eternal life for all who are “in Christ”

Romans 5:12-21: Overview

2. What is the main point?

- the power of Christ's act of obedience to overcome Adam's act of disobedience
- the reign of death brought by Adam has been finally and completely overcome by the reign of grace and life brought by Christ

Romans 5:12-21: Overview

3. Why use this analogy?

- in order to highlight the universal scope of sin and its only and certain remedy in Christ
- sin/death is mankind's universal problem and Christ alone is the universal Savior

Romans 5:12-21: Overview

➤ *Implication*

- the gospel of Jesus Christ is applicable to and necessary for every descendant of Adam – all humanity!

Universality of Sin & Death

1. The entrance of sin and death

- “*sin*” is personified as an enslaving power that rebels and brings disaster
- “*death*” – physical death as the manifestation of separation from God

Universality of Sin & Death

2. The spread of death through sin

- no one escapes the reign of death because no one escapes the power of sin
- Adam's sin has affected all his offspring – we all are connected to Adam's sin

Universality of Sin & Death

➤ *Implications*

- mankind's most fundamental problem is our “fallenness” – our innate corruption and alienation from God
- the gospel of Jesus Christ is the final and only solution to this problem