

Romans 5:12-21, Daily Devotions

☐ Monday - The Biblical Principle of Headship.

Romans 5:12-21

From the beginning, God set forth the principle that one man could act on behalf of an entire company of people. And in accordance with this principle, the first man, Adam, was appointed as the representative of all of his descendents. His actions would not only affect him, but the whole human race. And so, when Adam sinned we were all condemned (Rom. 5:16, 18), which at first glance may seem unfair. But consider if God had not established this principle. In the course of time, as Adam and Eve, and Cain and Abel, and you and I gave in to temptation, then there would be nothing for us but the wages of sin ... which is death: physical, spiritual and eternal. The fact is that if Adam could not represent us in the Garden, then Christ could not represent you and I on the cross. And so, far from being unfair, this principle demonstrates the wisdom and providence of God who, from the very beginning of time, set forth a principle that would result in our salvation.

Read Romans 11:33

☐ Tuesday - In Adam / In Christ.

Romans 5:12-21

The effect of Adam's disobedience upon all of those "in Adam" (i.e. the entire human race) is that all "were made sinners" (Rom. 5:12, 19), resulting in judgment (Rom. 5:16), condemnation (Rom. 5:16, 18), and death (Rom. 5:12), so that "in Adam all die" (1 Cor. 15:22). Conversely, Christ was obedient even to the point of death on the cross (Phil. 2:8), and the effect of His obedience for all of those "in Christ" is grace (Rom. 5:15), justification (Rom. 5:16, 18), righteousness (Rom. 5:17, 19) and eternal life (Rom. 5:21). "For as *in Adam* all die, so also *in Christ* all will be made alive" (1 Cor. 15:22). One is "in Adam" by physical birth, but only "in Christ" by spiritual rebirth. This then is the Christian message: You must be born again! Read John 3:3

☐ Wednesday - Paradise Lost, Soon Restored.

Romans 5:12

When God created the earth it was "very good" (Gen. 1:31). He planted a garden and called it Eden, which translated means "delight" (Gen. 2:8). There was no death, no suffering, and no pain. It was paradise on earth. But through our first parent's rebellion, "sin entered into the world, and death through sin" (Rom. 5:12). But when Christ returns He will restore paradise (Rev. 2:7), and forever abolish death (1 Cor. 15:26). Then will come about the saying, "Death is swallowed up in victory" (1 Cor. 15:54). Therefore, "everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure" (1 John 3:3).

Read 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:4

☐ Thursday - The Many Sides of the Gift of Grace.

Romans 5:15-16

Here in Romans, chapter 5, the apostle Paul refers to the "free gift" of God (Rom. 5:15, 5:16, cf. 6:23). In general, God's free gift is His grace (Eph. 3:7, 4:7), but it is a "manifold grace" (1 Pet. 4:10). Manifold means many-sided. Here are the many sides of God's grace: [1] faith (Eph. 2:8); [2] justification (Rom. 3:24, 5:16); [3] imputed righteousness (Rom. 5:17); [4] eternal life (Rom. 6:23); and [5] the indwelling Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38, 10:45). All of these are called "gifts" of God in the Bible, and they are "irrevocable" (Rom. 11:29). Pause and give thanks to the Lord, dear Christian, for the indescribable gift of His manifold grace! (2 Cor. 9:15).

Read James 1:17

☐ Friday - Imputation of Sin & Righteousness.

Romans 5:19

"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" (Rom. 5:19). Adam's sin is imputed to every person at the moment of their physical generation (conception), and Christ's righteousness is imputed to every believer at the moment of their spiritual regeneration; that is to say, when one is born-again. Christian, you now stand before God in all of the righteousness of Jesus Christ! Now, walk in a manner worthy of your calling! (Eph. 4:1).

Read Leviticus 20:7; Ephesians 1:4