

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

"Adam and Christ"

Romans 5:12-21

Feb 9, 1986

INTRODUCTION

1. To be justified before God is to be declared righteous in God's sight. This is done through the work of Christ at Calvary. Thank God, we can settle this issue outside of court--now! Have you done it?

2. The section (5:12-21) gives organic life to the entire Epistle. For a true spiritual experience, it is essential to grasp the meaning of this portion of the Word.

3. In essence, this section focuses on the word "one," but it also concerns "two." Take an overview with this in mind:-

1. "ONE"

Twelve times this word occurs:

- a. One man vv. 12, 15, 19.
- b. The one vv. 15, 17, 19
- c. One trespass/righteous act vv. 16, 18
- d. Through one trespass/disobedience vv. 15, 17, 18, 19

2. TWO

a. Two men

Adam)
Christ) v. 14

b. Two Acts

Adam--one trespass vv. 12, 15, 17, 18, 19
Christ--one righteous act v. 18

c. Two results

Adam--condemnation, guilt, death vv. 15, 16, 18, 19
Christ--justification, life, kingship vv. 17, 18, 19

d. Two differences

In degree: God's grace by Christ abounds beyond the sin of Adam v. 15

In kind: One sin by Adam--condemnation and reign of death. Many sins on Christ--justification and reigning in life for those accepting God's grace by Him.

e. Two kings

Sin--reigning through death v. 17
Grace--reigning through righteousness v. 21

f. Two abundances

Grace
Gift of righteousness v. 17

g. Two Contrasts

Condemned men: slaves of death by Adam.

Justified men: reigning in life by Christ.

3. THREE

While not counting "3" the next truth is what Adam's act and Christ's act did. They are federal (one for all) heads in these items:-

a. Adam

- 1) Sin entered the world v. 12
- 2) Death upon all men v. 12
- 3) Many died v. 15
- 4) Condemnation vv. 16, 18
- 5) Death reigned-as-king v. 17
- 6) Many became sinners v. 19

b. Christ

- 1) Second Adam v. 14
- 2) God's grace abounds beyond evil results of Adam's sin v. 15
- 3) Free gift to justification v. 18
- 4) Many who receive gift righteous before God v. 19
- 5) Believers reign-as-kings in Christ beyond death's reigning through Adam v. 17

CONCLUSION

It is true that all are born with a sin nature (Ps. 51:5). We are by birth children of wrath (Eph. 2:3). Here God declares all are guilty by the act of Adam. When Adam, our representative sinned, we sinned. This is a forensic (court-room) idea. To stay this way without being justified through Christ is eternal hell. Oh, turn today and believe the Word of God.