

TWO MEN
ROMANS 5:12-21
4/6/25

I. ORIGIN STORY

Romans 5:12-14 – “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.”

A. Sin entered through one man- Adam

1. Original sin

B. Sin brought death

1. Death physically – we will not live forever
2. Death spiritually – separated from God

C. Death spread to all

1. Imputation of sin – representative headship

II. TWO MEN CONTRASTED

Romans 5:15-17 – “But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. And the free gift is not like the result of that one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. For if, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.”

A. Contrasting Actions

1. Trespass – selfishly motivated
2. Free gift – selflessly motivated

B. Contrasting Results

1. Condemnation & judgement
2. Justification

C. Contrasting Reigns

1. Reign of death
2. Reign of life

III. TWO MEN CONNECTED

Romans 5:18-21 – “Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

A. One for all

B. The imputation of sin makes way for the imputation of righteousness

1 Corinthians 15:21-22 – “For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive”

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. Why is it important for us to understand the origin of sin?
3. Does a passage like this change the way you see the world around you? Why or why not? Does it encourage you to be more gracious? Why or why not?
4. How does a passage like this impact the way you do ministry? (Evangelism, counseling, parenting...)
5. How does a verse like v.17 give us hope as Christians living in this world?
6. How does a passage like this deter us from hoping in our good works or attempts to be righteous?
7. How could you use this passage to share the Gospel with someone?
8. What is one thing from the message or the group this week that you can take with you and live out? How can the group be praying for you as you live that out?