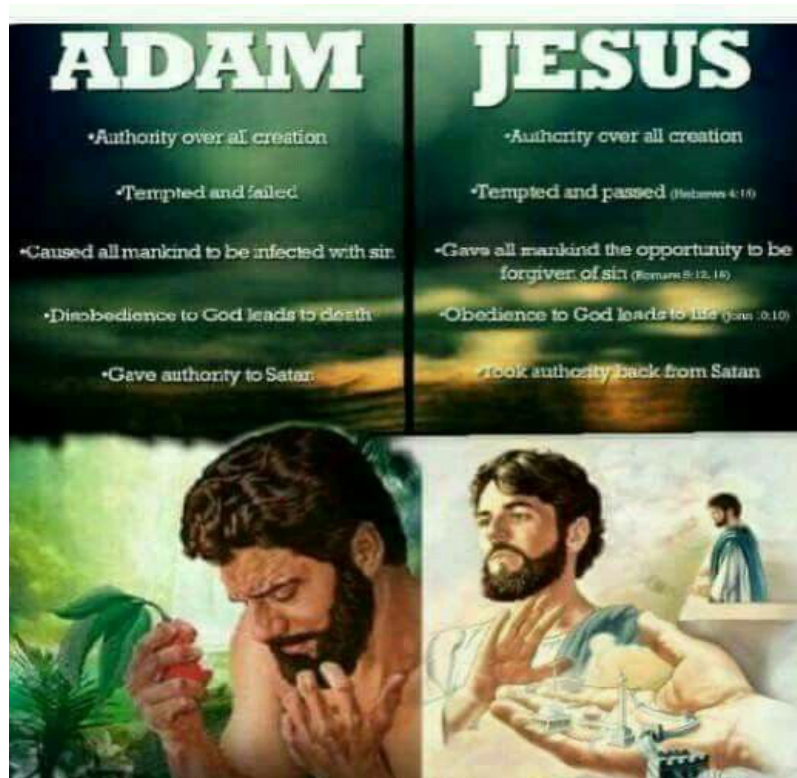


A Study of Romans

Month 5: Romans Chapter 5

Reconciliation in Christ the New Adam



Overview

In Chapter 5 of Romans Paul moves on from his explanations of the relationship of Jews and Gentiles, and he begins his explanation of the gospel and begins to explain the blessings and struggles of the Christian life beginning from justification to ending in salvation.

Paul says “we rejoice in hope of the glory of God” because of 4 reasons:

- we have access to God’s grace,
- we have absolute salvation,
- we have eternal life if we choose the right path, and
- God has granted us peace through Christ.

Paul continues that through Justification, Peace and Access, we should be motivated to worship and praise God because Christ died for us even though we are sinners.

Paul’s focus in Chapter 5 turns away from Abraham’s obedience of God to Adam’s disobedience of God. Through Adam’s disobedience (one man) many men were made sinners. And through the obedience of Jesus (again one man) many men will be made righteous.

1. Peace with God through Christ (5: 1-5)

- 1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:**
- 2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.**
- 3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;**
- 4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:**
- 5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.**

Key Points:

- Paul's theme shifts from the *basis* of justification to the *benefits* of justification.
- Suffering should be glorified because the characteristics it produces in man.
- Christian hope does not disappoint or deceive because its source is from the Holy Spirit.

Questions:

1. What do you think it means to be "justified by faith"?
2. Besides building perseverance, character, and hope, why do you think Paul says we should glory in our sufferings?
3. Do you see the expression of shame used in Romans 5:5 as Paul's interpretation of Psalm 22:4-5. Do we worry about being shamed for having hope?

2. Reconciliation with God through Christ (5: 6-11)

- 6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.**
- 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.**
- 8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**
- 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.**
- 10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.**
- 11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.**

Key Points:

- Christ's death as the basis of our salvation came at just the right time.
- The heroic generosity of Jesus proves the intensity of God's love for us.
- We are reconciled with God through the death of His Son.

Questions:

1. Why does Paul claim Christ's death came at the right time when we were still powerless?
2. Why does Paul write that rarely would anyone die for a righteous person or for a good person?
3. What is meant by having received the atonement with God?

3. Sin and Death through Adam (5:12-14)

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have 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 to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

Key Points:

- Sin came into the world by one man, and death as the consequence.
- Sin prevailed in the world, for many ages before the giving of the law by Moses.
- Death reigned not only over those who willfully sinned, but also as a general condemnation from Adam's original sin.

Questions:

1. Paul introduces three leading conditions, or states, where people sinned, and where the effects of sin were seen. Can you identify or describe these three sins?
 - a. Adam's sin
 - b. Sin during the period between Adam and Moses
 - c. Sin under the Law
2. What is meant by Adam's transgression being "a figure of him that was to come"?

4. Disgrace in Adam, Divine Grace in Christ (5:15-21)

- 15 ***But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.***
- 16 ***And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.***
- 17 ***For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)***
- 18 ***Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.***
- 19 ***For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.***
- 20 ***Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:***
- 21 ***That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.***

Key Points:

- Adam and Jesus are compared and contrasted
- God's grace is bigger than sin
- The final results of God's grace will be far beyond the results of sin.
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Questions:

1. What is meant by the phrase the "free gift" is not like the offence?
2. What is meant by "the law entered, that the offence might abound" (Rom 5:20)?
3. Here are 5 contrasts between Adam and Jesus. Can you think of any comparisons?

| ADAM | JESUS |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Forbidden tree | The Cross |
| "trespass" or "transgression" | "free gift" |
| Many died | Grace given to many |
| Condemnation | Justification |
| Death reigned | Gift of righteousness will reign |

----- END OF LESSON -----

NEXT MONTH – read Romans 6: 1- 23 (New Life and Liberation in the Messiah)

Covering: Dying and Rising with Christ in Baptism; Dead to Sin but Alive to God; Freed from Sin and Slaves to Righteousness