

Romans Chapter 5 Continued

Romans 5:12 "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:"

Adam and Eve were created to live (not die). In the Garden of Eden was the tree of life which would make them live forever, if they ate of it. The tree of life is Jesus Christ. Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, and God drove them out of the garden so that they would not eat of the tree of life and live forever in their sinful nature.

Adam and Eve brought sin into the world: thus, by one man sin entered. When Adam sinned, all mankind sinned in his loins (see v.18). The sin nature of man has to do with the flesh man. The flesh man is controlled by the desires of the flesh. Man is a spirit who lives in a body of flesh. Man has a free will to do with his life on earth as he wishes.

Because all humanity existed in the loins of Adam, and have through procreation inherited his fallenness and depravity, it can be said that all sinned in him. Therefore, humans are not sinners because they sin, but rather they sin because they are sinners.

Romans 5:13 "(For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law."

Man chose to follow the flesh instead of God beginning with Adam. It is impossible to break the law however, if there is no law. If there is no speed limit, you could drive a hundred miles an hour and not be arrested. If the speed limit is 55 and you go even 65 you are probably going to get a fine to pay. You would be breaking the law. Until Moses, there was no law written down.

Verse 12 tells us all men were regarded as sinners, but because there was no explicit list of commands, there was no strict accounting of their specific points of violation.

From Adam to Moses was the period where God had not yet given the Mosaic Law. Imputed can also be translated "reckoned" or "counted".

Romans 5:14 "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."

Instead of each person possessing life, they are facing death. Adam brought death into the picture. And God could not allow them to live forever in sickness, pain, and deterioration of body and mind. God provides a way out of this terrible mess that man has gotten himself into, by sending the second Adam (Jesus Christ).

All have sinned and come short of the glory of God, so God sent us a Savior.

Even without the law, death was universal. All men from Adam to Moses were subject to death, not because of their sinful acts against the Mosaic law, which they did not yet have, but because of their own inherited sinful nature.

In the rest of this chapter Paul explores the contrasts between the condemning act of Adam and the redemptive act of Christ. They were different in their effectiveness, their extent, their efficacy, their essence and their energy.

Romans 5:15 "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."

Paul uses the word "many" with two distinct meanings, just as he will use the word "all" (in verse 18). He has already established that all men, without exception, bear the guilt of sin and are therefore subject to death. So, the "many" who die must refer to all Adam's descendants.

Death reigned from Adam until Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ defeated death when He rose from the grave. We see this statement above how much greater Jesus' act of mercy than Adam's act of sin. By one man's transgression sin entered. Jesus Christ actually took the sin of the whole world upon His body and sin for the Christians died on the cross.

2 Corinthians 5:21 "For he hath made him [to be] sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

In 1 Peter 2:24 "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

The real story is that Jesus paid our debt for us. We are bought and paid for with the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

He provides our righteousness. Jesus made us righteous. We can't make ourselves righteous in God's sight. Jesus made us righteous in God's sight.

Romans 5:16 "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."

God tells Adam (in Genesis 3:19), that he is dust and to dust he will return. This is the fate of all flesh. Flesh and blood do not inherit heaven.

Adam brought upon all men the condemnation for only one offense, his willful act of disobedience. Christ however, delivers the elect from the condemnation of many offenses.

1 Corinthians 15:50 "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption."

The death that Adam brought was of the flesh. Jesus did not just pick out some sins and die for that, but in fact died for all sin.

Romans 5:17-18 "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.)" "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."

This is just repeating again, that through Adam sin ruled in the flesh of man and brought death until Jesus Christ who defeated sin and death, and brought life when He paid for all sin on the cross.

1 Peter 3:19 "By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;"

When Jesus died on the cross, he descended into the lower parts of the earth.

Ephesians 4:8-10 "Wherefore he saith, when he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men." "(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?" "He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)"

Upon examination, we find from 1 Peter 3:19 that after His crucifixion, our Lord, "... by the Spirit ... went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

The Lord Jesus Christ went down "into the lower parts of the earth" (Eph. 4:9) or "Sheol," called "Hades" in the New Testament (Acts 2:27, 31).

Sheol (pronounced "Sheh-ole") [1], in Hebrew שאול (Sh'ol), is the "abode of the dead", the "underworld", or "pit". [2], Sheol is the common destination of both the righteous and the unrighteous dead, as recounted in Ecclesiastes and Job.

There are three Greek words for our English word "hell", Hades, Gehenna, and Tartarus, none of which are rendered by the word prison. Hades had a section commonly known as "hell" and a compartment known as "paradise," separated by "a great gulf fixed" (Luke 16:26). Gehenna is used of our Lord in the warnings and "danger of hell fire" that the "whole body should [not] be cast into hell" (Matt. 5:22, 29-30; etc.).

While "tartarus" is found only one time (in 2 Peter 2:4), to describe the intended purpose for this "hell": Now if "TODAY" the thief was to be with Christ in "Paradise" (Luke 23:43), then it was at the time of His death that he went to "Paradise." Since Christ had "not yet ascended to [His] Father" (John 20:17), and could therefore not be "touched," it is more than logical that "Paradise" was "IN THE HEART OF THE EARTH", where "the Son of man" spent "three days and three nights" (Matt. 12:40).

The answer is no. You see the Lord was victorious when He went to hell and he preached to the prisoners there and brought them out with Him. In some cases, preachers are teaching that he went there to preach to the spirits (demons), who were incarcerated there to claim the victory he had won over death.

We see from this that Jesus' purpose in going to hell was not to suffer, but to deliver those in the devil's captivity.

Remember, up to this point Satan had the keys to death and hell. I believe this is when the keys were taken from Satan.

Romans 5:19 "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous."

These many who were made sinners, just means that through the ancestry of Adam and Eve they knew sin. The natural thing for anyone to do is to listen to the lust of the flesh. The opportunity and the desire to sin were available to all. Each person did their own sinning. We were not guilty because Adam sinned, but because we sinned.

Righteousness is made available to all mankind through Jesus Christ. Again, we must accept His righteousness into our lives. He (Jesus), has made it available for all of us, but we must act upon this availability before it will bring life and righteousness into our lives.

1 Peter 3:18 "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:"

We too must put our flesh to death that we might live in His Spirit.

Galatians 5:24 "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."

Romans 5:20 "Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:"

When God gave the law to man, it showed man how far short he had fallen in God's ways. There was absolutely no way that fleshly man could keep God's law. Man realized he needed a Savior. Through the grace of God, Jesus Christ became our Savior.

Although the Mosaic Law is not flawed, its presence caused man's sin to increase. Thus it made men more aware of their own sinfulness and inability to keep God's perfect standard, and it served as a tutor to drive them to Christ (Gal 3:24).

Romans 5:21 "That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

Sin reigned until Jesus Christ destroyed sin on the cross. God's grace (unmerited favor), to us provides eternal life to all who will accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord. We did not earn it; it is

a free gift. We can have life eternal, if we will only believe and receive the Lord Jesus Christ into our life.

Romans Chapter 5 Continued Questions

1. Sin entered into the world, how?
2. What was a byproduct of sin?
3. What percentage of mankind has sinned?
4. Who is the Tree of Life?
5. What does the sin nature of man stem from?
6. What do we find in 1 Corinthians chapter 15:44?
7. When is sin not imputed?
8. When is it impossible to break the law?
9. What reigned from Adam to Moses?
10. If all face death by one, how do we attain life?
11. What did Jesus defeat when He rose from the grave?
12. In 2 Corinthians 5-21, Jesus was made what?
13. Where does our righteousness come from?
14. Where do we find the Scripture that says (Who his ownself bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed.)?
15. The judgment was to what?
16. The free gift is of many offenses unto _____.
17. In Genesis chapter 3 verse 19, God tells Adam he will return to what?
18. What is this speaking of?
19. In 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 50, we read that something cannot inherit the kingdom of God, what is it?
20. How shall we reign in life?

21. What do we read in 1 Peter 3:19?
22. Righteousness is made available to all in Jesus, what must we do to receive it?
23. Jesus was put to death in the _____, but was quickened in the _____.
24. What was the purpose of the law?
25. By whom does eternal life for each of us come?