

The Book of Romans
5:12-21
12/12/2018 Wednesday PM

Introduction

- In **Romans 5:12-21** Paul uses a “just as...so also” comparison.
- He begins the comparison in **v. 12**, but he does not resume and complete the comparison until **vv. 18-19**.
- Adam and the sin and death he brought into the world are in the “just as” clause.
- Christ and the righteousness and life he provides are in the “so also” clause.
- The main point Paul is making can be found in the “so also” clauses.

Adam, Sin, and Universal Death (v.12)

¹²Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—

- The “Therefore” in this verse really does not look back at just the previous verse or paragraph. Here Paul is basically saying, “in order to accomplish what I have just taught...”
- What he just taught was basically the certainty of salvation.

Sin and Death Even Apart from the Law (vv.13-14)

¹³for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law.

¹⁴Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

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The Contrast Between Adam and Christ (vv.15-17)

¹⁵But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

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The Comparison Between Adam and Christ (vv.18-19)

¹⁸Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. ¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

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The Conclusion: Grace Reigns! (vv.20-21)

²⁰The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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- In chapters 1-4, established the truth of justification by faith.

Next Week Study

Romans 6:1-14