

Death Through Adam; Life Through Christ

5:12-21

Sin came through Adam, bringing about death to all. 12

- Through one man's sin all sinned and all face death (6:23).
(one = 11x, all/the many = 9x, sin/trans. = 15x, death = 6x)
- Is this fair? Just how am I related to Adam?

Grace came through Jesus, bringing life to all. 13-17

- 13-17 = parenthesis (answers a question and adds details).
- Question: What about those who sinned before the Law?

- Contrast: the effects of Adam's act versus Jesus' act.
Jesus' free gift = grace of righteousness (must receive it).
Receivers will *reign in life* (see 21b, II Tim. 2:12, Rev. 22:5).

Summary: Adam and Jesus brought opposite results. 18,19

- This finishes 12 & summarizes contrast, cf. I Cor. 15:21,22
- Some appeal to 18,19 for universalism, but see 17, 5:1.

The Law exposed our sin but grace easily surpasses it. 20,21

- The Law makes sin more obvious and worse (3:20, 7:7ff.), however this only made God's grace even greater.
- Note reversal: grace reigns in place of death/sin, 14,17,21.



Option #1: to allow sin and death to reign over you.

Option #2: to reign in eternal life.

Question: Have you received the free gift of righteousness offered by Jesus?