

Title: Grace! Greater Than Our Sins

Text: Romans 5:12-21

Will you take your Bibles, please, and turn to the book of Romans. Romans chapter 5 beginning with Vs 12. I think of all the sections of Romans this is the most difficult passage. ^{to accept} This deals with the fall of man, and the contrast between Adam and the Lord Jesus Christ. Romans chapter 5 beginning with Vs 12 is concluding the ~~section~~ section of the second principle of God's righteousness which is "JUSTIFICATION." The act whereby God pronounces us righteous because of our faith in Christ. ^{Remember} The first principle was condemnation. Now, both of those ^{principles} condemnation and Justification, are brought together in these last few verses in a summary before Paul takes us into some particular areas of Christian experience. under the doctrine of Sanctification.

Chapter 5 beginning with Vs 12...(Read Vs 12-21)

Join with me in a moment of prayer

Father, we do thank you again for your Word. And we thank you for the Holy Spirit who has been given unto us to guide us into all the truth. We thank you for the wonderful grace of God. And we pray that you would exalt ⁱⁿ in our presence today. So that we might see that you love us in spite of our attitudes towards him; and in spite of our sin. Help us to see that your grace is greater than our sin....And we ask this in Jesus name...Amen

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(10) Some beginning observations that might be helpful to you in understanding this passage of scripture.

(16) ^{First} In Vs 12 you will notice the word "therefore" (wherefore-KJ). This is a word which connects two thoughts. "Therefore"...and it is referring back to the ^{First} ~~first~~ 11 verses. ^{Remember} In the first 11 verses we ^{were} ~~are~~ dealing with ~~justification~~ justification. "Therefore" it is like justification what he is going to say now about "condemnation" in Adam. In other words "condemnation" that all people are ~~condemned~~ condemned because of what Adam did, is just like "justification" That, because of Christ, one man, God will justify many.

So, "condemnation" and "justification" are just alike is the point of the first word in Vs 12.

(2) Number two, believers are reigning. Vs 17 says, "For if by the ~~transgression~~ transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ."

You will conquer as a believer and have victorious life in Christ. And that is contrasted with death reigning..Death and life.

(3) Number three, sin reigns. Vs 21 says "sin reigned in death." Sin conquers you. It has victory over you. And the result is death. ~~And you cannot do anything about it without Christ.~~ *SAID TO BE*

(4) Now, fourth, grace reigns, or is a king that conquers. In Vs 21 we read "even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life."

(5) Now, one final thing as to these introduction observations. In this text you have the phrase "much more." *deal with* It appears in Vs 15..17..and 20. Now, what is Paul talking about when he uses the phrase "much more?"

Well, Adam's Event In every case, it is the ~~the~~ grace of God. The grace of God. God's grace is more than you can imagine.

In Vs 15 Paul says "much more did the grace of God."

In Vs 17 Paul says those who will reign has received "much more of the abundance of grace."

In Vs 20 where it says that sin abounds, "grace abounded all the more."

The passage, as you can see, is really dealing with God's grace. And *Paul* is going to show ~~it~~ *God's grace* to you *with* by contrasting Adam and Christ. He is going to show you how wonderful is the grace of God.

Now, with this background there are two things that I want you to look at.

(1) First of all, in Vs 12-14, we want to look at the two consequences of the fall of Adam. ~~Two consequences of the fall of Adam.~~ *results* Adam fell into sin. And there were two consequences.

(1) Number one, Paul writes that the presences of sin in the world is a consequences of Adam's fall. Have you ever wondered ~~where~~ *where* sin came from? The presence of sin, *in the world* is the result of Adam's fall.

Vs 12 says "through one man sin entered into the world."

Vs 13 says "for until the Law sin was in the world."

In 02 words

You don't need the law to point out man's sin. It does do that. But sin was already in the world before we ever had the Mosesic law. So, the presence of sin is the first consequence *of the fall of Adam.*

(2) Number two, the pentality of death is in the world. Vs 12 says, "and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned."

Now, why is death in the world? Because Adam fell into sin.

Why will we die? For two reasons: One, because Adam died and sin came into the world. But secondly, because all have sinned. Meaning "an act of si If you atell one lie or a thousand, it only takes one sin to produce the consequences of death. All ^{people} ~~things~~ do die, wthether we like that or not. ~~It is~~ inspite of modern efforts to change that fact, people still die. Every one will die. Everybody in this room will die unless the one major exception on the stream of human history, outside of our Lord who was resureected, is that believers who are alive at the time when Christ comes again, will be changed in a moment of time and be with the Lord. Before that happens, everybody will die. That is a fact of history.

Have you ever meet a medical doctor with his head strewed on right, by that I mean he understands the facts as they are, who might stay to you, concerning a loved one or a friend, I AM SORRY TO TELL YUU THAT YOU ARE GOING TO DIE. AND THERE IS NOTHING THAT I CAN DO. ~~AND I~~ I AM SORRY. AND I HATE TO TELL YOU THAT. BUT YOUR LOVED ONE IS GOING TO DIE. IT MIGHT BE TONIGHT OR NEXT MONTH OR SOON.

and

And then every now and then God comes along and makes the person live for a number of years. You know, it is kind off frustrating to the doctor. He is embarrassed and so forth...All doctors know that happens.

Then the reverse is true. I AM HAPPY TO REPORT TO YOU THAT THE SURGERY WAS A SUCCESS AND YOUR LOVED ONE WILL LIVE FOR A LONG TIME.

And then the next ^{day} the fellow dies....Now, most doctros are more carefull then this illustration.

But the point is that death is a fact. Why do we knock that.

People often ask: "why do we have to die because Adam sinned back there in the garden?".....Well, I am going to explain that in a moment. But really even if I didn't explain it, we all still die. Isn't it best to accept the fact and figure out why God has all ^{people} ~~men~~ dieing?

Funny creatures we are. We ~~get~~ bitter about what Adam did and as a result we never understand why....The facts are still here. Sin is still in the world..Death is in the world. Everybody is going to die. Everybody sins. NOW, LET'S FIND OUT WHY...rather than blaming good old Adam. Because Adam isn't really at fault....You say, wait a minute...this text says by one man... I know that...God's at fault....God wanted to do this...And I want to show you why....

Turn back to Genesis chapter 3. And let's look at the story for a moment. If you will remember the story, Adam was very sure that he wasn't at fault. Genesis chapter 3. What a great place the Garden of Eden must have been. It was really paradise. Things were going great..fellowship with God.... great joys and blessings.....all the food that one could ask for....no rain.. God was watering everything with a mist. It was just fantastic. What a wonderful place to live....And then Adam and Eve decided to do something that God told them not to do.....All the wonderful things that God gave them, just one thing. Just one little test he gave man....Just don't touch that ~~one~~ one little tree.

People often look at that story and say, "Isn't that foolish." Listen, God didn't have to use a tree. He could have used anything he wanted to. But he would have given man a moral test to show man what he really is.

Don't forget that fact, people. God wanted to test man. And he gave him a test that he knew he would fail. So, God is to blame.

Genesis chapter 3 verse 8...(Read Vs 8-13)

Now, one of the interesting things in Vs 14 is God does not do what you expect he would have done. You would expect that he would have jump all over Adam and Eve. He didn't. He turned to the serpent and said, "now, serpent I am going to curse you."

Now, try to picture the scene. There God is crushing the serpent and Adam and Eve are standing by watching. And I can just see them thinking: "Boy we got out of that one alright"....

But that doesn't happen. In the same order they passed the buck, he deals with them. First the serpent....Then the woman....Then Adam...

To the woman, God says in Vs 16a..(Read)

Do you know why women suffer in childbirth?...Only one reason. ~~He~~ ^{she} came from God as a result of the fall....WHY?...

God gave to every woman, just as we will see he gave to man, to every woman, one visible, personal remainder that all have fallen in Adam. Now, you may not like it. But it is true.

Now, they have all kinds of ways to do away with that suffering. And you ladies know that. I have never been through childbirth. But I have watched. And I know what the doctors gave my wife to stop the pain and suffering. But, there is still suffering....ONE...PERSONAL...VISIBLE...RESULT OF THE FALL.

He also gave woman another remainder which is often hard to accept. "Yet your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you."

There is that terrible word...He shall rule over you....The chain of command is established....WHY?...Because the woman was deceived. She took a place that wasn't hers...

But, old Adam he wasn't to escape either....Vs 17....(Read)

~~Now~~ Work men....Work is our problem....And it is our consistent remainder of the fall...."The sweat of your face you shall eat bread."

But, the major remainder to man is found in Vs 19 "You shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."

So, according to the Bible death was the consequence of Adam's sin.

THE QUESTION IS: Do all men die who do not know of Adam's sin?....

Come back to Romans 5, please.... WILL ALL MEN SIMPLY DIE, NOW, BECAUSE OF WHAT ADAM DID?....God's answer to that is: YES! THEY WILL.

Do you know why? Because the condemnation is death. And all men die. Have you noticed that? Sure you have. No one escapes it...

and

and

Now, notice the details of it in Vs 14 of Romans 5....(Read Vs 14ab)

Now, who is that? Who in the world could possibly avoid sinning like Adam did?.....Well, after all is said, it breaks down into two categories. One are children, who don't really understand. But, I want to tell you that as soon as we get a little maturity we understand how to sin after Adam very quickly...But children... So, let's include them...

Then maybe ~~some~~ people who are mental ill. They cannot comprehend... People who are in that category..

So, possible those two categories would be the simplest explanation. But, have you noticed: they die also.....Have you noticed that...

So, even if you do find people who have never sinned after the likeness of Adam's transgression, the Bible says that death still happens.

Now, the question is why? ^{why?} Do ~~they~~ ^{we} deserve to die? Well, have you ever known anybody who did understand and thus escaped death?...of course not... So, why do we ask the question, why do they deserve it?...

You see, obviously, since no ~~man~~ ^{person} can escape it, and thus escape death, obviously death is here to stay. People die...for some reason...Now, what is the reason?.....WHY DO ALL ~~men~~ ^{people} DIE BECAUSE ADAM SINNED?....

Answer....so that all people ~~could~~ ^{could} be saved by one man.... You say, ~~what?~~ ^{what?}.. YES..God has all folks dieing just to show you how all ~~men~~ ^{folks} can be saved through one man, Christ.

You ~~see,~~ ^{say,} "I don't deserve to pay for what Adam did."....But you still die, don't you?....YES.....Well, do you deserve to be saved because Christ died on the cross?.... NO!.....But you want that, don't you?...Funny how we are isn't it?

You see, all people are condemned in Adam. We ~~are~~ ^{all} participate in that. WHY?....~~just~~ ^{so} God can show you His amazing grace. That all can be saved through one man. Not through your own efforts. You cannot earn salvation. THAT IS THE POINT...That all people are condemned in Adam because of one man's sin. And the simple reason is so that it will exalt the wonderful grace of God and prove to you that just as it happens that way which you know in life, because everybody dies, it will prove to you that Christ can save everybody, just by believing in Him....

Tremendous, the grace of God will be exalted because all men die in Adam....

(2 D) Now, let's look at a ^{contrast between the fall of Adam and} comparison of the fall with Jesus Christ. This is verses ~~15-21~~ ¹⁵⁻²¹. ^{This is the reason behind the Christian story} And I want to give you 6 things, of ~~comparison or~~ contrast with the fall ^{of Adam} and Jesus Christ.

(1 F) Number one, in Adam the ^{many} ~~meaning~~ get what they deserve. In Adam the many get what they deserve. ^{But} In Christ, we are offered everything we do not deserve. That is Vs 15. In Adam the many get what they deserve.....WHY?...Because you will prove by one act of sin that you deserve death. So, the many do get what they deserve. If I die, I get what I deserve.

But, in Christ I am offered everything that I don't deserve. I don't deserve God's grace. But he gives it to me, through faith in Christ.

(2 F) Number two, one sin brought condemnation. ^{but} Many sins were removed in justification. One sin brought condemnation. But many sins were removed in justification. That is Vs 16. Christ has taken all sin away. No matter how many you have committed. Amazing contrast.

(3 F) Number three, death comes through one man, Adam. But life comes through Jesus Christ. Vs 17. Just like death comes through one man, so life comes through Jesus Christ.

(4 F) Number four, one sin of one man condemned all people. No one excluded. ^{vs 18} But one Act of Christ, meaning the cross, One act of Christ brought salvation for all people. Notice that contrast. One sin of one man brought condemnation to all men. One act of Christ on the cross brought salvation to all men. Everyone can be saved if they will trust Jesus Christ as saviour. ^{Confess Their Sin and} That is ~~vs 18~~ ^{the point of vs 18}.

(5 F) Fiveth, All men are made sinners by one man's disobedience. But many are made righteous by one man's obedience. That is Vs 19... What a ~~contrast~~ contrast. Everyone is made a sinner by one man's act of disobedience. You say that isn't fare. Well, look at the other ~~side~~ side. Many are made righteous through one man's obedience. You think that is fare, don't you?

(6 F) Number six, the law made sin to ^{increase} ~~abound~~ ^{abound}. This is Vs 20. It says, "the law came in that the transgression might increase, ~~or~~ ^{or} ~~abound~~."

You see, sin became more evident. The law came in and told ^{us} ~~them~~ what ^{is} was like. And now ^{we can} ~~they~~ really ^{see} ~~saw~~ sin. Sin is increasing everywhere. The law made sin to increase, but grace abounded all the more. That is Vs 20. "Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more."

At ~~this~~ point will you look at chapter 6 verse 1 to show you how it will go into a particaly area of christian life. Look at Vs 1.. "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace might increase?"

and So you see the application of what ~~he~~ ^{he} is saying in Romans 5 is shall we then go on sinning? After all, it looks like all we have to do is believe in Christ. And then it is all done. And let's go on sinning. Because where sin increases, grace abounds all the more....That we will deal with next week.

But, in chapter 5⁵⁰..contrasting Adam with Christ, disobedience with obedience....righteousness with condemnation....grace with law....death with life....there is one thing that God wants you to know... ^{you can be saved} ~~(.HE CAUSE IT..)~~

SOFTLY You know, I can ~~stand~~ ^{stand} here and blame everybody but myself. ~~I can try to blame myself.~~ I can blame Adam. I can come up with all kinds of solutions. But the real ~~one~~ ^{relater} is God. God ~~wanted this to happen~~ ^{allows sin}...WHY?....TO SHOW YOU HIS LOVE AND HIS GRACE....

It can't be shown any other way, You see. ~~If~~ ^{If} I could do one thing to deserve what God has given to me, just one thing, at that point of doing that one thing, I have cut off the wonderful love and grace given to me..

Grace means I don't deserve it. Yet, God just gives it to me. So, to ~~exalt~~ exalt God's grace it was necessary for God through one man to bring condemnation upon the whole world. Everyone of us will die simeplely because Adam sinned.

Now, we will sin and prove that we deserve to die. But all of this was done by God simplely to show us that God loves us so much that no matter how much sin we have, through one man's act at the cross all people can be saved.

Do you realize,...oh, I know you ~~do~~ ^{do} as a believe~~r~~..but it is good to remaind ourselves..that all the sins in your life, no matter what they have been, are a drop in the bucket compared to the wonderful grace of God and his supply....

Do you know that you couldn't ~~be~~ sinenough sin in your life time... to even stretch the surface of the grace of our Lord...That is fantastic.... No matter how much you have sinned...God loves you in spite of your sin... and His grace is so broad, so big, and so wonderful, and so loving...that in one moment of time, He wiped all of ~~it~~ away. ^{sin} Whether one or a thousand ^{sins}.

And why?...because he loves you...God just loves you... (Quote John 3:16)

Have you ever sat down in a quiet place and just thought about that?... GOD...LOVES....ME.....~~WOW~~....GOD LOVES ME!!!! No matter what ^{anyone} happens in my life...GOD....LOVES....ME.....

And his grace is so fantastic. He wants to give to ^{us} ~~me~~ what ^{we} I don't ~~deserve~~ deserve.....And the only reason he gives ^{us} ~~me~~ his grace is because of his love..

Have you really taken ahold of that love?????

Let's close in prayer

We thank you Lord for your grace. This grace which is based upon your love. We read in your Word that your love was displayed to all of us when you gave your only begotten son to die on a cross. You tell us, "that here in is love, not that we love you, but that you loved us and gave your son as a propitiation for our sins. And we thank you that all of our sin has been paid for at the corss or Jesus. '

Thank you, Father, for your grace. And we pray that those here in our midst that have never come to a personal relationship with Christ as saviour, have not come to receive this wonderful grace, might understand that they can never conquer d~~ea~~th, they can never conquer sin, except through Christ. And I would ask, Lord, that you would impress upon each person here the grace of our loving Lord. Through his ~~day~~ death on the cross has provided salvation for all people. Help us to come to Him by faith. Just to trust in the Lord and not in our own works. And we thank you in Jesus name....Amen.....