

## Romans 5:12-19 • One Man, Part 2

### Romans 5:12-19

*“Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.*

*But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. And the free gift is not like the result of that one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. For if, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.*

*Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.”*

*For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.*

### Overview & Review:

Romans, written by Paul under inspiration by the Holy Spirit, is about the Gospel. The Gospel is the good news of God’s work of redemption. In it, man’s inability is contrasted with God’s gracious work of salvation. The security of the believer is a major theme, if not the main theme. The weakest link in our security would be at the point of our *perceived* contribution, our role. The letter to the Romans methodically and tediously reveals that we are saved by God alone. Our security is not rooted in our ability to hang onto God but in God’s great power to hold onto us. There are no weak links because it is a work of God from beginning to end.

Hebrews is about the supremacy of Jesus Christ in all things. It’s major purpose is to remind, encourage and warn followers of Christ to continually rely on the finished work of Christ. If the most God glorifying thing ever accomplished was the cross then the most grievous sin, the most wicked thing you can do is to deny Christ the glory of the cross by considering it insufficient.

Hebrews 9:12 He entered **once for all** into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves **but by means of his own blood**, thus **securing an eternal redemption**.

Galatians 2:16 yet we know that a person is not **justified** by works of the law **but through faith in Jesus Christ**, so we also have **believed in Christ Jesus**, in order to be **justified by faith in Christ** and **not by works** of the law, **because by works of the law no one will be justified**.

Romans 3:10 as it is written: **“None is righteous, no, not one;**

Romans 3:11 **no one** understands; **no one** seeks for God.

Romans 4:5 And to the one who **does not work but believes in him** who **justifies the ungodly**, his faith is **counted as righteousness**,

*Peter writes in 2 Peter 3 “our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him”... “there are some things in them that are hard to understand...”*

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just **as sin came into the world through one man**, and **death through sin**, and so **death spread to all men because all sinned—**

[Romans 5:13-5:17]

Romans 5:18 Therefore, **as** one trespass led to condemnation for all men, **so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men**.

Romans 5:19 For **as** by the one man’s disobedience the many were **made sinners**, **so** by the one man’s obedience the many will be **made righteous**.

*Quick word on “all men”. Does it mean that every human being who is in Adam will also be justified so that no one will be lost and there is no such thing as eternal punishment for anyone? This is called universalism. Quick Answer, No. Not all are saved, hell is real and will be populated.*

2Thessalonians 1:9 **They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord** and from the glory of his might,

Romans 9:6 But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For **not all** who are descended from Israel belong to Israel,

Romans 9:7 and **not all** are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”

Romans 10:1 Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that **they** may be saved.

Romans 10:16 But **they have not all obeyed the gospel**. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?”

*All who are in Adam and remain in Adam are lost and All who, by grace, are in Christ will be saved. Everyone begins in Adam not all end in Adam.*

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so **death spread to all men because all sinned**—

*Paul wants to clarify that we are condemned solely because of Adam’s sin and not our individual sins.*

Romans 5:13-14a for **sin indeed was in the world before the law was given**, but **sin is not counted** (to put or charge to one’s account, to impute) **where there is no law. Yet death reigned** from Adam to Moses...

**“sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin”**

*“But people died even though their own individual sins against the Mosaic law were not the reason for dying; they weren't counted. Instead, the reason all died is because all sinned in Adam. Adam's sin was imputed to them.”* **John Piper**

Romans 5:14 **Yet death reigned** from Adam to Moses, **even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.**

Genesis 2:16 And the **Lord God commanded the man**, saying, “**You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,**

Genesis 2:17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil **you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**”

Romans 1:19 For **what can be known about God is plain to them**, because **God has shown it to them.**

Romans 1:20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, **have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.**

Romans 2:14 For when Gentiles, **who do not have the law**, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law.

Romans 2:15 They show that the work of the **law is written on their hearts**, while their **conscience** also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

*“He goes on to add the very crucial words, “[Death reigned] even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam.” In other words, yes he concedes that there are other kinds of laws before the Mosaic Law, and yes people broke those laws, and yes, one could argue that these sins are the root cause of death and condemnation in the world. But, he says, there is a problem with that view, because death reigned “even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam.” There are those who died without seeing a law and choosing to sin against it.”*

**John Piper**

*In other words, death reigned over all humans, even over those who did not sin against a known and understood law. What group of humans would fit this description?*

Romans 5:14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, **who was a type of the one who was to come.**

Hebrews 8:5 They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the **pattern** that was shown you on the mountain.”

That is the all-important parallel. The deepest reason why death reigns over all is not because of our individual sins, but because of Adam's sin imputed to us. So the deepest reason eternal life reigns is not because of our individual deeds of righteousness, but because of Christ's righteousness imputed to us by grace through faith.

**John Piper**

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1Corinthians 15:21 For as **by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.**

1Corinthians 15:22 For as in **Adam all die**, so also **in Christ shall all be made alive.**