

LESSON 12: ROMANS 5:18-6:23

Adam and Christ (cont'd)

1. What are the results of the “trespass of Adam” and the “obedience of Christ” (vv. 18-21)? How is it that by one's man's disobedience the many were made sinners. Is this fair? How is understanding our connection to Adam crucial to understanding our connection to Christ?
2. Compare 5:20 with 5:13? What was the impact of the Law? What does it mean that the law came to increase the trespass?
3. Note the word “reign” in verses 17 and 21. What is it that reigns in the lives of people who choose solidarity with Adam and those who choose Jesus Christ? In what ways is grace more than a match for sin?

One With Christ

1. In what sense is your baptism both a funeral and a resurrection (6:1-4)? In what way are we united to Christ (v. 5), and how does baptism fit in this union? What does it mean to say that “our old self was crucified with him,” and what point is Paul making in those verses (6-8)?
2. When a person believes in Jesus Christ, radical changes take place (vv. 5-10). Using Ephesians 2:1-6; 1 Corinthians 12:13, and Galatians 2:20 as a foundation, summarize what happens in this life-changing transaction.
3. In what sense is sin rendered powerless (vv. 5-7)? Why then do we continue to sin?
4. What does it mean to be “dead to sin”? What does it mean to mortify our sin. See 1 John 3:6; John 8:11; and Matthew 5:48 (but also 1 John 1:8!). What is your understanding of sin and the Christian's life? Can we be rid of it?

5. What is the first step for the Christian in attaining victory over sin?
6. What does a Christian “know,” and what must be done with that knowledge?
7. What must a Christian do to live a consistent life before God (vv. 11-14)?
8. What foundational truth makes it possible for a Christian to obey these instructions?

Living Under Grace

1. According to Paul, between what two masters must a person choose (v. 16)? What insights does he provide which help in making this choice?
2. What benefits do people think they gain by self-serving actions? However, what is the real result for the person enslaved to sin?
3. In what ways is the Christian's relationship to God like slavery? In what ways is that relationship not like slavery? (See also John 15:15; and Romans 6:17, 22-23.)
4. Why does Paul speak of slavery to “obedience” (v. 16), to “righteousness” (v. 18-19), and to “God” (v. 22)? How are these kinds of slavery connected? What is sanctification? How does it relate to these verses (vv. 15-23)? What would you say to the person who asked, “What is required to live a holy life?”