

Union with Adam -- Union with Christ Romans 5:12-21

1. Why do you think the world focuses constantly (in News and media) on the sin of this world rather than the cross of Jesus? What does this tell us about them? What should we focus on?
2. According to v.12, why is there death in the world? How does this pose a serious problem to those who hold to an evolutionary account of human origins?
3. What does Paul mean when he says in v.14 that the sin of those after Adam were different to Adam's sin?
4. In what way is Adam "a type" or "a pattern" of Christ according to v.14?
5. What is our natural condition according to v.12? Look up these passages as well: Psalm 51:5; Ephesians 2:3; Titus 1:15.
6. Why does it matter in Paul's argument that death "reigned" in the world before the law was given in vv.13-14?
7. What is the "free gift" and what is "the trespass" in v15? How are they "not like" one another?
8. What are the consequences of the "free gift" and "the trespass"? How is the "free gift" superior to "the trespass" in vv.16-17?
9. Why does Paul emphasise the humanity of Jesus in v.15 and v.17 saying "the man Jesus Christ"?
10. In what ways is the grace of Jesus "much more" than the disobedience of Adam's sin?
11. v.18 speaks of "justification and life for all people". Is Paul teaching that in the end all people will be saved (a belief called universalism)?
12. In v.19 Paul says that through Adam's disobedience many were made "sinners". What is the difference between "sinning" and "being a sinner"?
13. v.19 also speaks of the "obedience of the one man". What obedience is Paul speaking about here?
14. What difference does the law make in v.20 to sin in this world?
15. What is the difference between the kind of union we have with Adam, and the kind of union we have with Christ?
16. v.20. Why do we often find it so hard to believe that the grace of God is much greater than all our sin? How can we overcome difficulties to believing it?

Pray that God would enable you by Christ to see the far greater riches in store in Christ.