

“CONDEMNATION GONE FOR GOOD”

(Romans 5:12-21)

“For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.”

Question: Why are so many believers defeated by condemnation and feel unworthy to approach a Holy God?

Answer: “For the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.” (Revelation 12:10)

In Other Words

- ◆ There is one (satan) whose job it is to accuse you before God continually.

Question: Where is the victory found?”

Answer: “And they overcame him by the blood of the lamb.” (Revelation 12:11)

How can this be?

1. What does it mean to be justified before God?
2. How did we really sin in Adam? (v. 12)
3. What is the free gift of righteousness? (v. 15)
4. What does it mean to reign in life? (v. 17)
5. How can you know that you’ve been “made righteous”? (v. 19)
6. How can grace “much more abound” where sin abounds? (v. 20)
7. How does “grace reign through righteousness?” (v. 21)

The Basis and Blessing of Justification

I. The Guilt of Sin (Vs. 12-14)

“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” (v. 12)

Fact: Sin came into the world by one man (and death as the consequence).

Fact: The whole world was condemned because of one man’s disobedience (Adam’s sin).

Fact: Because of Adam’s sin, all of us are under condemnation and death.

Fact: But, because of Christ’s obedience on the cross, we now are afforded righteousness and justification.

Question: Was it fair for God to condemn the whole world just because of one man’s sin and disobedience?

Answer: It was not only fair, but it was wise, gracious and compassionate on God’s part.

1. If God would have tested us all individually, the result would have been the same (disobedience).
2. By condemning the entire human race through one man (Adam), God was then able to save the human race through One Man (Jesus).
3. We all are racially united to Adam, and his deed affects us all.
4. Because we were lost in Adam (our racial head), we can now be saved in Christ (the head of the new creation).

Question: How do we know that we are all racially united to Adam?

Answer: Because of the truth of Romans 5:12-14.

Read it slowly.

1. We know that all men die.
2. Death is the result of disobeying the Law of God.
3. But, there was no law from Adam to Moses, yet men still died.
4. The cause of death can only be one thing; the disobedience of Adam.
5. When Adam sinned, he died as well as all of his descendants. (Genesis 5)
6. Yet, the Law had not yet been given.
7. Thus, we must conclude, they died because of Adam's sin!

Fact: "For that all have sinned" in verse 12 means "all have sinned in Adam's sin. "

Fact: In other words, we do not die because of our own acts of sin, otherwise babies would not die.

Fact: We die because we are united racially to Adam.

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (I Corinthians 15:22)

II. The Gift For Sin (Vs. 15-18)

"But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one may be dead, much more the grace of God and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many." (v. 15)

Oh what giving:

- ◆ "Free **gift**" (v. 15)
- ◆ "So is the **gift**" (v. 16)
- ◆ "The **gift** of righteousness" (v. 17)
- ◆ "The **gift** by grace." (v. 15)
- ◆ "The free **gift**" (v. 16)
- ◆ "The free **gift**" came upon all men" (v. 18)

1. Adam's Offence vs. Christ's Gift (v. 15)

Fact: The word offence means "fall" in verse 15.

Fact: It means the fall, or the first sin of Adam.

Fact: It refers to the fall from obedience to condemnation.

Fact: The "free gift" is the life Christ brings to us all.

Fact: The word "free" means:

"Without merit on our part, and bestowed on the undeserving"

Fact: We were dead under the dark and gloomy reign of death

Fact: But "much more" are now found in the abounding mercy of God. Oh what a gift!

2. The Effect of Adam's Sin vs. The Effect of Christ's Obedience (v. 16)

Fact: Adam's sin brought judgment upon us.

Fact: Adam's sin brought condemnation upon us.

Fact: When Adam sinned he was declared unrighteous and condemned (so were we).

But Christ

- ◆ Christ's work on Calvary has brought justification.
- ◆ Christ's work on Calvary has made us righteous.
- ◆ Christ's work on Calvary has more than counterbalanced for the ills which were introduced by the sin of Adam. (Praise God!!!)
- ◆ Christ's work on Calvary has set you free!!!

3. The Reign of Adam vs. The Rein of Christ (v. 17)

“For if by one man’s offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.” (v. 17)

Fact: Because of Adam’s sin, death reigned.

Fact: But because of Christ’s obedience, we now reign in life through Christ’s power.

In Fact

We reign “much more” (v. 17) which means:

- ◆ Our spiritual reign is far greater than Adam’s earthly reign.
- ◆ We now share the “abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness.” (v. 17)
- ◆ We now “reign in life” which means:
 1. We are free from all guilt and condemnation.
 2. We are free from Adam’s crime and curse because of the work of Another!

III. The Grace Over Sin (Vs. 20, 21)

“Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.” (v. 20)

Question: Why was the law given?

Answer: To show us that we couldn’t keep it and that we needed grace!

Question: What did the law accomplish?

Answer: It revealed our sin, caused it to surface and crowds us to Christ.

Fact: As the law made our sins increase in our slight, God’s grace has abounded even more.

Fact: As the law was effective in declaring us guilty, God’s grace is more effective in declaring us innocent.

It Means:

1. That the pardoning mercy of the gospel triumphs over sin.
2. That the super bounding grace of God is sufficient with every sin of your past.
3. That when God declares you righteous, you are righteous and justified in His sight.

In Fact

- ◆ It has nothing to do with your feelings! (However punishing they may be at times.)
- ◆ It has nothing to do with your sin! (However bad your acts of disobedience to date.)
- ◆ It has nothing too with your past! (However long you lived in sin.)
- ◆ It has nothing to do with your efforts! (However hard you work and labor to please God.)
 - #1. Because it is God’s grace that has cleared you.
 - #2. Because it is God’s plan to declare you righteous.
 - #3. Because it is God’s provision (not your merits).
 - #4. Because it is God’s will for you to “reign in life”.

**What’s the glorious result?
(Of the second Adam)**

1. "As far as the East is from the West, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:12)
 - ◆ East and West are an infinite distance apart. God has removed our transgressions an infinite distance from us.
2. "Thou has cast all my sins behind thy back." (Isaiah 38:17)
 - ◆ When something is behind our back, we cannot see it. God says, "I have put your sin there" The devil says God can see them. God says, "I can't see them anymore."
3. "I even I am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins." (Isaiah 43:25)
 - ◆ God has blotted out our sin (removed it from the record) and remembers it not!
4. "God has tread our sins underfoot and hurled all our iniquities into the depths of the sea." (Micah 7:19)
 - ◆ "If this is true, and it is; stop allowing the enemy to keep you fishing in the sea."
5. "All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned everyone to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53:6)
 - ◆ Christ's sacrifice was sufficient to pay for the iniquity "of us all"!
6. "And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." (Hebrews 10:17)
 - ◆ How? Why? Because He (Jesus) has offered one sacrifice for sins forever and sat down at the right hand of God." (Hebrews 10:12)
7. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9)
 - ◆ Our job – confess. God's job – forgive. How much? All of our sins!
8. "For thou, Lord, art good and ready to forgive and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee." (Psalm 86:5)
 - ◆ God is plenteous in mercy and ready to forgive whoever.
9. "Come now and let us reason together, saith the Lord, though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow, though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18)
 - ◆ White as snow means no blemish or record of past sin.
10. "To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved." (Ephesians 1:6)
 - ◆ God has accepted you, because you have accepted His Son.

Stop It

- ◆ If you ever feel unworthy as a believer (in Christ), you are declaring that the blood of Christ was not sufficient to satisfy God's justice and atone (cover) your sins!
- ◆ If you ever feel unworthy as a believer (in Christ), you are slapping God in the face!
- ◆ If you ever feel unworthy as a believer (in Christ), you are falling prey to Satan's trap!
- ◆ If you ever feel unworthy as a believer (in Christ), you are living below God's intended purpose!

Know the difference between:

Conviction

(vs.)

Condemnation

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Is from God..... | Is from Satan |
| 2. Is full of forgiveness..... | Is full of doubt |
| 3. Unites you to God..... | Separates you from God |
| 4. Brings freedom and light..... | Brings bondage & darkness |
| 5. Pulls you upward..... | Beats you downward |
| 6. Produces deep change..... | Produces superficial change |
| 7. Speaks to a specific problem..... | Engulfs your whole outlook |
| 8. Comes from the cross..... | Stops at the law |
| 9. Produces great joy..... | Produces haunting depression |
| 10. Liberates your outlook..... | Is like a dark cloud |
| 11. Leads you to Jesus..... | Cuts you off from Jesus |
| 12. Says "you will make it"..... | Says "you are doomed" |
| 13. Says "don't ever quit"..... | Says "give up, it's no use" |
| 14. Is full of love..... | Is full of torment |
| 15. Is the will of God..... | Has no part in you!!! |

AMEN
Bill Kirk