

The Last Adam – Romans 5:12-21

We are spending few weeks looking at the coming of Christ – more deeply understanding his incarnation and looking forward to His coming again.

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— 13 for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 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. 15 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. 16 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. 17 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. 18 Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. 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. 20 Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, 21 so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In this passage, Paul draws out this comparison between Adam and Jesus, the Last Adam. Keeping in mind Genesis

- 1) Paul says that Adam was type of Jesus. How does he show us that Adam and Jesus are alike?**
- 2) Genesis 3 helps us to understand how the sin of one man could have consequences for all of us. It shows us that Adam was our covenant representative or head. How does that affect the way we understand sin?**

Jesus became incarnate so he could be our representative as Adam was. But he was also *not* like Adam in some vital ways.

- 3) How was the task in front of Jesus different than the one Adam faced? How did He perform?**

Jesus kept all of God's requirement for having eternal blessing and died for our/Adam's failure.

- 4) We are in Adam by nature. How do become "in Christ"?**
- 5) How does this understanding rightly shift our focus off our works and on to Christ?**
- 6) How do we see what we do – good and bad – differently when we understand what it means to be in Christ?**

PRAY

- Thank God for Jesus, and his willingness to take on flesh and represent us.
- Pray for our church, that God would keep us pursuing the right things and increase our love for each other and the world around us.
- Pray for each other: thanking God for His provision, giving our cares to Him and each other, and falling on His mercy and grace for our sin and failure.