Union with Christ

Dr. Sinclair Ferguson November 9, 2025

Part 4: "Adam & Christ"

Review

Becoming a Christian is bigger than we ever anticipated because, at conversion, we were believing not only on Christ but into Christ, into union and communion with Him. This opens a whole world of blessings; in fact, every spiritual blessing is ours in Christ (Eph 1:3)

Watch video

From Romans 5:12-21 we learn that both our sinful condition and our justified condition are rooted in the lives of two men, Adam and the Lord Jesus Christ (compare 1 Cor 15:45-49)

- Everything that Paul says previously in Romans leads down to this foundation. Everything he says after leads up from this foundation.
- We want to unfold this passage in its basic simplicity that we might capture the marvelous vision of what it means to be a Christian.

Two men: Adam and Jesus

- The first man, Adam, was the father and representative of the whole human race
- The second man, Jesus, came to be the father of a whole new humanity (Isa 9:6)

Two radically different actions

- There are implications for us in what Adam did. We realize the catastrophe our first father created for all people
- Where Adam failed, Jesus succeeded. Where Adam sinned, Jesus lived in perfect obedience (Jn 8:29; Phil 2:8), even paying the penalty for Adam's disobedience

Two radically different effects

- Through Adam all sinned, then sin reigned, and all died
- Through Christ grace entered, obedience was offered, and atonement was made. Life and grace come to His people

"This is the biggest narrative of all, one that spans the whole of history. If you don't understand this, you want understand history or your Christian life." — Dr. Sinclair Ferguson