

Adam 2.0

Romans 5:12-21 ESV; 1Corinthians 15:45-49 ESV

- I. The differences between the two Adams.
 - a. One brought death and the other brought life.
 - i. Adam disobeyed a direct command of God, so his sin brought death to him and a sin nature to the human race. Those who came next didn't sin in the same way, but they sinned against an internal law. Romans 2:15 NASB "...the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing of else defending them." When the law came sin increased greatly because there were more direct commands – willful disobedience increases our guilt. Death is not a natural part of life – it is our enemy!
 - ii. Jesus brought life to the human race through His death and resurrection. He has made eternal life available to all who will receive His generosity – He started a different race that we have to be born again to be part of. That redemption will be completed when we receive our new bodies at His second coming. Then death will be defeated and we will no longer feel its sting! "Oh death, where is your sting..." As everyone is crying – it's still here but one generation will not ever know it's sting.
 - b. One came from below and the other came from above.
 - i. Adam was formed from dust and had the breath of God in him which gave him the capacity to receive God's life, but disobeyed God and was cut off from the life God was offering.
 - ii. Jesus came from above. Hebrews 1:2-5 ESV The eternal Son came into time and inherited the name begotten from the human race. He was fully man and fully God. He obeyed every command – He only did the Father wanted and so could become the perfect sacrifice for us.
 - c. One rejected the tree of life, the other made a new tree of life.
 - i. Adam wasn't created with eternal life, but rather, for eternal life. He was locked out of the garden lest he eat the tree of life in his fallen state and live forever apart from God. (Genesis 3:22)
 - ii. Jesus, through the cross, is now able to give eternal life to all who believe. God's abundant generosity is waiting to be poured out on the human race but it is by the gift of righteousness that Jesus has won for us. 2Cor. 5:21 NASB "He made Him who knew no sin, to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."
- II. Similarities between the two Adams.

- a. They both committed one act that changed the way God dealt with the human race.
 - i. Adam's one sin led to tragedy for the entire race and the entire planet.
 - ii. Jesus' one act, dying on the cross, led to reconciliation of the entire human race. 2Cor. 5:19 NASB "...God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them..."
- b. They both affected all of mankind without removing personal responsibility.
 - i. "Because all sinned..." Romans 7:9 "I was once alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died." Children or the mentally handicapped – Mark 10:14 "...for theirs is the kingdom of God."
 - ii. "Those who receive..." John 1:11-12 We must receive the gift of grace God has poured out.

III. Reigning in life.

- a. Our destiny: Revelation 22:5b "...and they will reign forever and ever." What? I thought we watched Jesus reign. He wants to make us not just priests that worship, but kings who rule with Him. Revelation 3:21 ESV
- b. Reigning in this life – the gift of righteousness and the abundance of grace. The three chairs – I want the cookies to be on the bottom shelf – God wants you to win in this life.
 - i. Chair one from chair three – God's grace comes and finds us either in rebellion or in religion. One is lost away from the other sheep; the other is lost in the house. *His grace finds us and He clothes us in His righteousness!
 - ii. Chair one to chair two – I have all the habits and relationships of chair three even though I'm now saved. Fear – shame and guilt – not God turning from us but us turning from Him - rebellion; Pride – harden my heart and hide in religion. When you retreat in fear you are exposed to the enemy; when you advance in pride you are also exposed to the enemy. *Chair two Christianity will never lead chair three to Christ – it is what causes people to believe it's not true. It's a Christianity that will get to heaven, but doesn't bring heaven to earth.
 - iii. Encounter is in an invitation to transformation. *Leif coming – please don't let it be a memory – let's embrace the humility, honesty, and hunger to stay in chair one. *A Great Awakening – His relationship with Whitefield and his hiding behind wit to keep him from repentance. Our destiny is in our hands and no other. God is not involved in the affairs of man. The great liberty that had been won could now easily be lost.