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| 1  Romans 5:12-14 Sermon Outline  11/24/24  “The Reign of Sin and Death”  **INTRO:**  Want to start off with question:  “Who comes to your mind who has influenced your life the most?”  Aside from Jesus….  Maybe mom, dad, coach, teacher, etc.?  Actual answer: = Adam  Time Magazine 2013 “Who’s Biggest” = top 100 most influential  1. = Jesus  2. = Napoleon | 2  But 2. = should be “Adam”  That is what this passage is about:  Because all of humanity united to Adam and his original sin  Why are humans so corrupt/depraved = original sin  Thus far 1:18-3:20 = symptoms of poison, outbreak of sin = sins (plural) not sin (singular) not poison in bloodstream but boils caused by that poison  But here in 5:12-14 = original poison  Sort of in two parts  Today = The Reign of Sin and Death  Next Sunday = Message from Rob Herman  Following Sunday = The Reign of Grace and Life = that what Jesus did far surpassed what Adam did to the human race |
| 3  Last week = benefits of being justified by grace through faith alone  Not only “not guilty” = not only forgiven = peace and hope to endure life’s trials = even boast/rejoice = what God has done in Jesus = poured out His love into our hearts  But question becomes = where did my sin come from in the first place? How can one man do so much damage to the entire human race?  Am I responsible for my sin or is someone else responsible for my sin?  V. 12 “*Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned* **---**.”  Want to say: VV. 12, 13, 14 = hardest verses in all of Romans to interpret  Partly = the way Paul writes  Partly = difficult to accept and understand those truths as independent sinful rebellious | 4  V. 12  Starts off “therefore” = Paul continuing his thought from last week’s section 5:1-11  V. 11 “*And not only this, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation*.”  Jesus Christ = reconciliation  But can be easy to miss the glorious extent to which Christ went to do all of that  That’s why Paul is explaining this section  “*Just as through one man sin entered the world*…”  Who’s he talking about?  Adam and his transgression of God’s command back in Genesis 3 |
| 5  God specifically commanded Adam not to eat from fruit of tree of knowledge of good and evil = if you eat = absolutely die  What did he do? = disobeyed and brought to entire world  “*Just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned*.”  Origin of sin = devil  That’s why Jesus ultimately created hell for the devil and his angels, not intended originally for humans  But through Adam, sin was first introduced into this world  What does Paul mean “because all sinned?”  How can I have sinned in Adam when I wasn’t even born yet?  Didn’t even exist? | 6  This is the difficulty of what I mentioned  Our union with Adam is something that we must trust is true without exactly knowing how that works  If we understand “why” + “how” = God  Some things = “why” but not “how”  Some things = “how” but not “why”  Now having said that, it doesn’t mean there is no clarity in Scripture at all = “how”  Some will use “mystery” as a cop out to not go through what God has revealed, even if it’s not the full revelation  This is a mystery not because God’s Word is unclear or confusing, but because He intentionally designed to conceal the “how” = we would not trust in our works but in pure mercy of Christ (I will explain later)  So = two main views |
| 7  I’ll be quick for sake of time  1. Federal Headship View  Adam = representative head  Whatever he does = we do  Kind of like President Joe Biden’s actions affecting the whole nation  2. Seminal View  We were all in Adam’s loins in one sense because we all came from Adam  So when Adam sinned, his body became corrupted and all the offspring he produced = sinful = sinful = sinful  Adam made us sinners by nature  We don’t become sinful by sinning, we sin because we are sinful | 8  ILLUST:  You don’t have to teach a child to lie, steal, cheat, manipulate, etc. they already know how to do that  Vipers in diapers!  Looking forward to when Leon will start talking back and saying mean and nasty things  Ps. 51 “in sin my mother conceived me.”  Not = mother conceived me while doing sin or conceived me in a sinful way  = rather = I came into existence sinful and corrupt  Notice there is “dash” after “*because all sinned*”  = bit of awkward pause = but v. 13-17 one big explanatory thought  But Paul puts dash = anticipates objection |
| 9  V. 13 “*for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law*”  It is true God won’t condemn you for breaking a law that didn’t exist = but problem is = without Law/until the Law = sin existed in the world  Then V. 14 “*Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the trespass of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come*.”  Before Moses = no explicit commands = no 10 commandments “you shall not steal, you shall not…etc.”  Death reigned “*even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the trespass of Adam*.”  Simply Adam sinned by “transgressing” = explicit law/command by God not to eat of the fruit  Genesis 5 = problem “he died” “he died” | 10 Problem = everyone dies! 10/10 die!  Two things guaranteed = death and taxes  But only death is guaranteed!  Last part of verse 14 Adam = “type of Him who was to come”  In same way Adam brought death and ruin = human race  Christ brought life and restoration = to all who are in Him  Christ, Second Adam, = not only undid everything Adam did, but did infinitely far more than what Adam did  We will look at that contrast of what Christ did verses what Adam did when I return back from Los Angeles  But I want to return back to earlier statement of the reason God didn’t crystal clearly reveal “how” |
| 11  I know doctrine of Original Sin = not fair  You’re right  It’s not fair we suffer for someone else’s sins  But pause for a moment  Why do we think it’s unfair?  Have we stopped to consider why it is we feel this way?  I think deep down we believe in our prideful hearts that if I suffer anything, it should be because it was my fault, and I deserve that suffering  If I received anything good, it should be because I deserved it, because I did something good  God wants us to totally disassociate salvation with anything to do with idea of “fairness” because if God were “fair” he would give us what we would deserve = hell | 12  We deserve death and do die = sinners by nature first not because we are primarily sinners by choice  Although we do prove that we are sinners by nature by the fact that we also sin  = We are sinners by nature first and then by choice  If only sinners by choice = we could have passed the test of righteousness = it would have been our achievement  But if you are a sinner by nature inherited from Adam = nothing you can do about it  Yes, it’s not fair but so is salvation  It’s not fair that Christ would grant a murderer the same gift of righteousness and eternal life as someone who seen as a good person  But which would you prefer? |
| 13  Ask yourself this?  Would you prefer salvation depended on making you like blank slate = up to you to pass or fail?  If you were there instead of Adam, surely you would do better than him right with the whole weight of the world on your shoulders?  Or would you rather prefer salvation to be dependent not on your performance but about someone else who is perfect to pass that test and for God to credit that to your account despite all your failures and sins?  I know what I would prefer and God knew best what He was doing when Adam failed, so that the Second Adam could succeed on behalf of all of us  Let’s pray | 14  Benediction:  2 Thessalonians 2:16-17  *Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.* |