

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 –

14...who is a type of Him who was to come.

UNION WITH CHRIST

Romans 5:15-17

- $\nu\nu$ 15 & 16 – *is not like*
- $\nu\nu$ 15 & 17 – *much more*
- ν 15 – *abound*

- *charisma...free gift* in v 15 & 16
- *charis...grace* in v 15 & 17
- *dorea...gift* in v 15 & 16 & 17
- *dorema...gift* in v 16

SPURGEON – *What an abyss is the grace of God! Who can measure its breadth? Who can fathom its depth? Like all the rest of the divine attributes, it is infinite....It is because 'His mercy endureth forever' that men are not destroyed; because 'His compassions fail not' that sinners are brought to Him and forgiven.*

15 But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

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KECK – What occurs through Christ reverses and surpasses what occurred through Adam.

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SCHREINER – It is one thing to blemish what is beautiful, but it is much harder to set straight what is already crooked.

***Matt 1:21** - She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.*

***Isa 53:11-12** - 11... the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities. 12 ... He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.*

***Matt 20:28** - just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*

Two results of God's grace...

I. IT TURNS CONDEMNATION INTO JUSTIFICATION

16 The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification.

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CRANFIELD – *That one single misdeed should be answered by judgment – this is perfectly understandable. But that the accumulated sins and guilt of all the ages should be answered by God's free gift – this is the miracle of miracles...*

Two results of God's grace...

I. IT TURNS CONDEMNATION INTO JUSTIFICATION

II. IT TURNS DEATH INTO LIFE

17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

MARTYN LLOYD-JONES – *Over and above being forgiven, the righteousness of Jesus Christ is put to our account...you and I are not merely given back a human righteousness, the righteousness that Adam had before he fell – we are given the righteousness of Jesus Christ. “Much more” – abundance, superabundance – give full weight to it! We receive this abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness.*

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(Rev 3:21)

Two contrasting religious systems...

1. HUMAN ACTIVITY

- **Human merit**
- **Human spirituality**

2. DIVINE ACTIVITY

Eph 2:4-6 – 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love...5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...