

2024: It's a Matter of Life and Death (Romans 5:12-21)

Pastor Deric

(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.

Practical Application

1. Review: Christian, you have been justified, have peace with God, are standing in His grace, have been given deep joy, deep hope, and great glory awaits you. There is a reason for all your suffering. You are becoming spiritually stronger and more resilient, you are becoming more like Christ, you are an honored child of God, God and His love are living inside of you, there is no condemnation for you, and you have been reconciled to God forever!
2. Getting the message of Romans to the people of the world is a matter of life and death.
3. Let's live and serve in 2024 conscientious of the importance of spreading the Gospel (good news of Jesus Christ) to the people of the world.
4. Sin came into the world through Adam, our father.
5. Death is a result of sin coming into the world through Adam.
6. We inherit a sin nature and the consequence of death from Adam, our father.
7. We have all sinned in our lives.
8. Sin comes before the law. Sin is our problem, not the law.
9. Death is our problem, and the law is not the solution.
10. Because of sin, death reigns over people. What is the solution to the death problem?
11. Adam was a type of Christ. Jesus is the greater Adam and the true Son of God.
12. Eternal life is a free gift from God through Jesus Christ. Receive it.
13. God's grace is free, abounding, overflowing, and available to all. Embrace it.
14. God's grace is greater than the greatest sin. Believe it.
15. Judgement brings condemnation, but the free gift of salvation brings right standing before God and His eternal blessing.
16. Life reigns through Jesus Christ because He reigns over all. Life is greater than death. Life rules because Jesus rules!

17. The disobedience of Adam brought death, but the obedience of Christ brings life.
18. Adam's sin is imputed to us, but Christ's righteousness is imputed (accredited) to all who trust in Him.
19. The law shows us our sin with greater clarity and precision, but grace covers our sin totally and completely.
20. Grace reigns over sin because Jesus reigns over all!
21. Choose life. Receive grace. Turn to Jesus Christ and trust Him fully today.

Announcements

- Global Missions Christmas Offering (Lottie Moon): \$5,000 Goal. Please be praying about how God might use you to impact the people of the world, especially those have never heard of Jesus Christ.
- No Wednesday Night Awana & Adult Bible Study (6:30-7:30) until January 10th.
- New Members class will be on February 4. You can sign up today. Lunch will be provided.
- My favorite Bible reading plan is the "One Year Bible." Prayerfully consider reading through the Bible in 2024 in about 15 minutes per day.
- Kids ministry training for the Spring will be on January 7th right after worship. Lunch will be provided.