

Discipleship:
An
Introduction to
Systematic Theology and
Apologetics

The Doctrines of Redemption:

The Heights Church October 2, 2016

The Fall – What is the origin of sin?

- **The NT authors see Genesis 3 as historical narrative.**

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 — (Romans 5:12)

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. (Romans 5:16)

But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. (2 Corinthians 11:3)

The Fall – What is the origin of sin?

- **Sin is irrational. It made no sense for Satan to rebel against God to exult himself over God.**
- **It made no sense for Adam and Eve to think there could be any gain by disobeying God's words.**
- **We must be ever vigilant against persuading ourselves that there is ever a good reason to sin.**

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good. (Psalm 14:1)

Doing wrong is like a joke to a fool, but wisdom is pleasure to a man of understanding. (Proverbs 10:23)

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice. (Proverbs 12:15)

You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)

The Fall – What is inherited sin?

1. We are counted guilty because of Adam's sin.

- Romans 5:12-21 is not about the sins we commit every day because it compares Adam and Jesus.

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—**for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 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.*** 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. 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. (Romans 5:12-16)

***people's sins were not counted as infractions of the law yet they died because they had inherited Adam's sin.**

The Fall – What is inherited sin?

1. We are counted guilty because of Adam's sin.

- Romans 5:12-21 is not about the sins we commit every day because it compares Adam and Jesus.

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. **Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. 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.*** (Romans 5:17-19)

***Though we did not exist God thought of us as sinners because we descended from Adam. but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)**

The Fall – What is inherited sin?

1. We are counted guilty because of Adam's sin.

- Romans 5:12-21 is not about the sins we commit every day because it compares Adam and Jesus.

Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 5:20-21)

- Sin vs justification

for **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the **redemption** that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a **propitiation** by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that **he might be just** and the justifier of the one who has **faith in Jesus**. (Romans 3:23-26)

The Fall – What is inherited sin?

1. We are counted guilty because of Adam's sin.

- We have *imputed* sin from Adam meaning *“to think of belonging to someone and therefore to cause it to belong to that person.”*
- Inherited sin is often called original sin. Original does not refer to Adam's first sin but that Adam represented every human and when Adam disobeyed, God counted every human as also guilty.
- Inherited sin seems unfair BUT (1) we have all willingly committed many other sins for which we are guilty. (2) If we had been Adam we **probably** would have done the same thing. (3) If someone thinks it is unfair to be represented by Adam and have imputed sin and guilt then why is it fair to be represented by Christ and have imputed righteousness?
- Blaise Pascal (1623-1662) said, “The doctrine original sin seems an offense to reason, but once accepted it makes total sense of the human condition.”

The Fall – What is inherited sin?

2. We have a sinful nature because of Adam's sin.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. (Psalm 51:5)

- **It is not necessary to teach a child how to sin!**
- **But we are not as bad as we could be due to the constraints of civil law, expectations of others, the conviction of our conscience and most of all by common grace (undeserved favor given to all people in varying amounts).**
- **Nevertheless our natures totally lack spiritual good before God.**
- **Every part of our being is affected by sin**

The Fall – What is inherited sin?

2. We have a sinful nature because of Adam's sin.

- Our natures totally lack spiritual good before God. Every part of our being is affected by sin.

The heart (*center of our desires and decision-making*) is **deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?**
(Jeremiah 17:9)

For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my **flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but **not the ability** to carry it out.**
(Romans 7:18)

The Fall – What is inherited sin?

2. We have a sinful nature because of Adam's sin.

- In our actions we are totally unable to do **spiritual good** before God.
 - This does not mean that unbelievers cannot do anything “good” (especially as the world defines good) but that they cannot do good in the sense of pleasing God.

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. (Romans 8:8)

And you were **dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— (Ephesians 2:1-2)**