

30th October 2016—Home Group Study Notes

Read: Romans 5:12-21

1. It is easy to get lost in the details of this passage! Paul's central aim in this section is to highlight the wonderful things Christ has achieved by contrasting him with Adam. From this passage as a whole, in what sense is being a Christian a 'new way of being human'?
2. Looking more closely at v.12, if all humans are affected by sin because of Adam's Fall why can't we just blame Adam? In what sense are we all still morally responsible?
3. Jews thought that with the coming of the Law and the Covenant a new beginning has come. Why does Paul say this is not so? (v.13-14).
4. In what sense is Adam a pattern (a type) of the one to come (v.14b)?
5. In v.15–19 a number of contrasts are made to highlight how God's mercy in Christ is so much more powerful than Adam's sin? How would you summarise these five verses?
6. In what sense 'was the law brought in so that the trespass might increase'? (v.20)
7. Verse 20b is a great statement: 'where sin increased, grace increased all the more'. Where do you see that at work today?
8. Overall in this passage Paul is portraying Christ as nothing less than the New Adam. In what ways are we in danger of 'truncating the Gospel' – making its scope and focus too narrow?