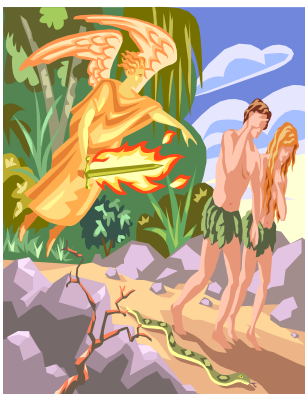


The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 57

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
The Baptism of God the Holy Spirit
Part 8

Retroactive Positional Truth
The Doctrine of the Two Men

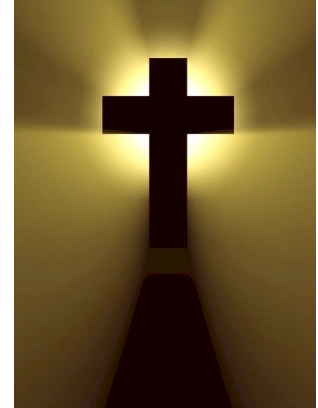
The First Adam & Last Adam...Jesus



December, 2011

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sin of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. [\(Acts 16:31\)](#) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." [\(John 3:16\)](#) "God loved the world so much that He gave us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



Lesson

We're going to continue our study on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and in particular again with *retroactive and current positional truth*.

Again, here is our definition of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit: at the moment of salvation, the omnipotence or power of God the Holy Spirit places the Church Age believer into an eternal very important or vital union with Christ, identifying the believer positionally with Christ in His death, burial (Retroactive Positional Truth), resurrection, ascension and session (Current Positional Truth).

Retroactive positional truth itself starts in [Romans chapter 6, verse 1](#). But let's look at [Rom 5:12](#) first to really help make everything very clear for you. [Rom 5:12-21](#) "Therefore, just as through one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and (spiritual) death through sin, and so (spiritual) death spread to all men, because all sinned (in Adam) (13) for until the (Mosaic) Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed (or credited to man) when there is no (Mosaic) law. (14) Nevertheless (spiritual) death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him (Jesus) who was to come. (15) But the free gift is not like the sin. For if by the sin of the one (Adam) the many (all mankind) died (spiritually), much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many (all mankind). (16) The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned (Adam); for on the one hand the judgment came from one sin resulting in condemnation (for all mankind), but on the other hand the free gift (of salvation) came from many (personal) sins resulting in justification (+R). (17) For if by the sin of the one (Adam), (spiritual) death ruled through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness (+R) will rule in life through the One, Jesus Christ. (18) So then as through one sin there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness (Jesus paying the penalty for all our personal sins) there resulted justification of (eternal) life to all men. (19) For as through the one man's (Adam's) disobedience the many (all mankind) were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One (Jesus) the many will be made righteous (+R imputed). (20) The (Mosaic) Law came in so that the sin would increase; but where sin increased, grace increased all the more, (21) so that, as sin ruled in (spiritual) death, even so grace would rule through righteousness (+R) to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

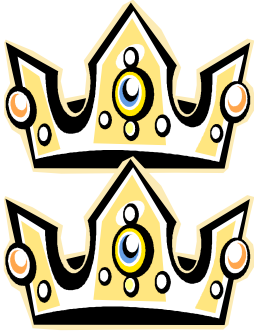
Now we read all this in order to be convinced of one major thing. That is this section of [Romans chapter 5](#) has God dealing with the salvation of the human race in terms of two representative men: ADAM, and the LORD JESUS CHRIST. This is sometimes called the "Federal headship" because Adam is the Federal head of the fallen human race, while Christ is the Federal head of all redeemed or saved members of the human race...believers! "Federal" here means universal or worldwide.

You remember we sinned when Adam sinned. Christ paid the penalty for sin as our substitute on the cross. We are going to really take a long look at some of the words that appear in the [Rom 5:12-21](#) passage. However, the first thing to look at is what words DO NOT appear in [Rom 5:12-21](#). The words

that do NOT appear are: **"you", "I", or "we"**. God is dealing with the human race in terms of two men: Adam and Christ. **"You", "I," "we,"** or our personal sins are NOT involved at all in [Rom 5:12-21](#).

What are involved here are two men, and two acts. The two men are Adam and Jesus. The first Adam and the last Adam. The two acts are (1) "the sin of the one" – Adam's original sin; and (2) "one act of righteousness" – the death of Christ on the cross. [Rom 5:18](#) "So then, as through one sin (Adam's sin) there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification (+R imputed or credited to all who believe in Jesus) of (eternal) life to all men."

What follows the two acts of two men? Two results! Adam brought forth sin, and sin brought forth spiritual death and condemnation and eventually physical death. The results of Adam's original sin are condemnation and spiritual death but the results of Christ's act of righteousness is justification (+R imputed to all who believe and who are made perfect in the eyes of God) and eternal life.



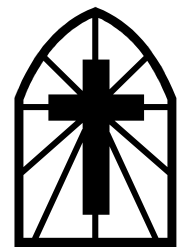
Finally, there are two kings, two who reign or rule. Sin reigned through death ([verse 17](#)) but grace reigns through righteousness ([verse 21](#)). Believers in Christ therefore reign in life through Christ because they have received the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness (+R) (Jesus' perfection). ([Verse 17](#)).

So you have two types of men, in two very different states. You have condemned mankind, the slaves of sin (the sin nature in them) and spiritual death under Adam and you have justified mankind, those who believe in Jesus reigning in life, in Christ.

So starting in [Rom 5:12](#), you have two men, Adam and Christ, and we see them in this verse in their own position as representatives of the entire human race...our species. This is what we call their Federal headship. "Federal" means one person acting for all in a certain matter, or for the consequences of an action. The word "one" appears 14 times between [verse 12](#) and [verse 21](#)! So it is no longer what we have done...our sins, but rather the ONE SIN of Adam that we see here. And we see the work of Christ, also, who by the way, is called the "Last Adam." It is Christ's one righteous act of spiritual death on the cross, with its results of justification (+R imputed or credited) for all who believe. [1 Cor 15:45-46](#) "So also it is written, 'The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL. The last Adam (JESUS) became a (eternal) life-giving spirit. (46) The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual.'"

Adam had soul life in the Garden of Eden but he had no ability to give eternal life...the life that mattered to his children. In order for us to have eternal life, we must have our ties with our ancestor Adam completely cut off and must be joined to the Last Adam, Jesus, who is able to give us eternal life, and life abundantly.

Jesus' cross was what God used to perform spiritual surgery, this circumcision (cutting away) made without hands mentioned in [Col 2:11-12b](#). "In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, (12) having been buried with him in baptism..." We look back to the act of the first sin by Adam that made us sinners, rather than to our own personal sins, and we look to the act of Jesus paying the penalty for our sins on the cross that makes us righteous (+R imputed), rather than from our own works.



[Rom 5:19](#) "For as through the one man's (Adam's) disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One (Christ) the many will be made righteous (+R imputed or credited to the believer)." Notice that Christ obeyed His Father and did EVERYTHING He was told to do here on earth. Aren't you happy about that? I am. Just think, if Jesus didn't obey, NONE of us would be able to go to heaven and live with Him!!!

This verse explains justification (perfect in the eyes of God because of Jesus) in a more direct way than any other. God bases our justification completely in the work of Another...the Lord Jesus Christ...rather than ourselves.

Please notice also that there is no mention of the sin nature in this passage. We were made guilty and

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condemned by Adam's sinful act NOT by our personal sins. We are so connected with the first Adam that we did not have to wait to be born, or have a sinful nature. When Adam acted, we acted because we were in Adam! Look at [verse 19](#) again! [Rom 5:19](#) "For as through the one man's (Adam's) disobedience the many (all mankind) were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One (Jesus) the many (all mankind) will be made righteous (if they believe in Him)." We were all made sinners when Adam disobeyed the LORD God in the garden thousands of years ago. Kids, we were in Adam back then!!!!

Here in [chapter 5 of Romans](#), the great truth of [verses 12-21](#) is that Adam, who represented the human race, acted and that act involved all those connected with him...the entire human race! Adam's sin affected the entire human race as follows:

- 1) Through one man (the first Adam) sin entered the world ([verse 12](#)).
- 2) In that way spiritual death passed to all men, for all sinned when Adam sinned ([verse 12](#)).
- 3) By the sin of the one (Adam) the many (the entire human race) died spiritually ([verse 15](#)).
- 4) The judgment came from one sin resulting in condemnation for the entire human race ([verse 16](#)).
- 5) By the sin of the one (Adam), death reigned-as-king through the one ([verse 17](#)).
- 6) Through the one sin, the effect was towards all men to condemnation ([verse 18](#)).
- 7) Through the one man's (Adam's) disobedience, the many (the entire human race) were made to become sinners ([verse 19](#)).

Now contrast that (as [Rom 5](#) does) with what is said about Christ:

- 1) Jesus is called the Last Adam...the Representative or Federal Man who acts for all, in whom all in Him is seen. Adam is a type of Him who is to come, that is Christ ([verse 14](#)).
- 2) By the One Man Jesus Christ, the grace of God, and the free gift have been poured out abundantly to the many (who believed) and that much beyond the evil results of Adam's sin ([verse 15](#)).
- 3) Through our Lord's one righteous act (His spiritual death on the cross), the free gift is offered to all men to justification of eternal life...and this in the same way as condemnation resulted from Adam's sin ([verse 18](#)).
- 4) Through the obedience unto death of Christ, the many (all who receive the gift through faith) will be set down as righteous (+R) (perfect before God) ([verse 19](#)).
- 5) Those who receive the abundance of God's grace and the abundance of the gift of righteousness will reign-as-kings in life through the One, Jesus Christ, and this will be much greater than the reign death enjoyed through Adam ([verse 17](#)). Believers are royal family.

All right. That is an overview of this great passage [Rom 5:12-21](#). Keep in mind that we are still learning about the subject of *retroactive positional truth*. We are placed into Christ first with respect to His death and burial. The great passage on *retroactive positional truth* occurs in [Romans 6](#). But we saw the groundwork material here in [chapter 5](#) and now we'll take a look at what relates directly to our subject of *retroactive positional truth*. [Rom 5:14](#) "Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him (Jesus) who was to come."

The human race is under a death sentence, one they did not bring upon themselves. Adam is called a type of Christ here in [verse 14](#). That means Adam was a picture of Christ to come as Messiah...the Savior of the world. We have condemnation by the first Adam and we have justification by the Last Adam. [1 Cor 15:21-22](#) "For since death came through a man (Adam), the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man (Jesus). (22) For as in Adam all die (spiritually), so also in Christ all will be made alive (eternally)." This passage is talking about the body. [1 Cor 15:45-49](#) "So also it is written, 'The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL. The last Adam (Jesus) became a life-giving spirit.' (46) However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural (physical); then the spiritual. (47) The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven. (48) As is the earthy, so also are those who are earthy; and as is the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly. (49) Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly (in our resurrection bodies)." You see what is true of the body is also true of our soul and spirit.

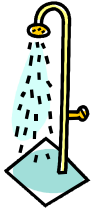
The great discovery in [Romans Chapters 6-8](#) is that as believers, we are even now no longer connected with that first Adam in which we were born. We still have the sin nature in us and sin everyday but now have God's grace of confession for that problem. We are no longer slaves to it like we were as unbelievers. But now we are connected to the Risen Christ, the Last Adam! This is fantastic, kids. You have got to think about all of this and let it sink into your souls. You have it all!!!



The foundation of this fantastic good news is laid here in [chapter 5](#) with this doctrine of the Two Men. [Rom 5:17](#) "For if by the sin of the one (Adam), death reigned through the one (Adam), much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ." Notice here that there is the act of receiving. The point is that God offers the free gift to all men, but not all men receive the free gift by believing. This is so sad.

What do you get when you believe in Jesus?

- 1) First you receive first the abundance of grace! The Lord Jesus Christ has satisfied all the demands made by God's righteousness and justice against sinners. Therefore, God was free to reveal Himself as He is, the God of love and grace. God's attitude toward you as a believer in Christ is super-abounding grace! When you receive God's grace, you give Him the honor of His graciousness...the fact that He can shower you with many, many blessings.
- 2) Second, you receive the gift of righteousness (+R imputed or credited to you). You didn't work for it. You didn't earn it. You didn't merit it. You didn't have to prove yourself to anyone. You didn't have to pay the penalty for your sins, or pay people back, or donate to worthy causes, or sacrifice your body, or go on a hunger strike, or put on robes and shave your head, or give up sweets for lent, or go to a lot of funerals, or send thank you notes, or anything. Get the picture? You don't even have to declare it on your income taxes! It is an out and out GIFT!!!!



Come on now...get excited...as a believer in Christ. I _____ (your name) have received the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness. Say it again with me! The ABUNDANCE of grace and the GIFT of righteousness!! Isn't it something? You are BLESSED beyond words.

I wonder how many people you're going to see in the next weeks that have a completely opposite view of God. How many people think instead that He is stingy, and takes all kind of things FROM them? But in fact He lives to provide them with ABUNDANCE and He wants to shower them with GIFTS. He is the Giver of GRACE...RIGHTEOUSNESS... AND ETERNAL LIFE...and He gives them ABUNDANTLY. Tons of blessings!

At the same time He is patient and waits for unbelievers to change their minds about Christ. This is why we must bring the Good News to our family and friends.

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on March 30, 2011
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