

LESSON 10: ROMANS 5:12-21
JANUARY 15, 2020

OVERVIEW

- . The believer's mystical union with Christ
- . Sin and death enters the world through one man - Adam – Romans 5:12-14
- . Salvation and life enter the world through one man - Christ – Romans 5:15-21

THE BELIEVER'S MYSTICAL UNION WITH CHRIST

- . The true nature of the pre-resurrected Christ who was both fully human and fully divine
 - . The human nature of Christ is easier for us to understand and identify with
 - . He was born into this world just like the rest of us
 - . He had all the human characteristics that we possess
 - . He had a mind and soul just like us
 - . He had the ability to experience the full range of emotion just like us
 - . He experienced death just like we will
 - . The divine nature of Christ is harder to understand
 - . He existed in heaven, in the presence of God, before coming to Earth John 1:1-2
 - . He was God's first Creation in heaven through which everything else sprung – John 1:3
 - . There were many moments during his life when there was witness to His divine, supernatural powers through miracles, walking on water and the transfiguration – Matthew 17
 - . He was in possession of the Holy Spirit at a time when no other human could make the same claim
 - . He was fully aware of God's will for His life and fully obedient to that will
- . The Risen Christ
 - . Post resurrection, the Risen Christ is different than the pre-resurrection Christ
 - . His resurrection was a bodily resurrection with many of the human elements that we can recognize and identify with Luke 24:36-49
 - . Although it was a bodily resurrection, His appearance was different and not immediately recognizable to some
 - . The resurrected Christ has defeated death and is able to ascend to heaven without dying
 - . He now takes His place on His throne, at the right hand of God, both Son of God and Son of Man

- . A believer's mystical union with Christ
 - . As a believer, we are now connected to the Risen Christ, a member of the Body of Christ
 - . Jesus describes this connection to His disciples – John 15:1-16
 - . Paul talks about this union using the marriage analogy – Ephesians 5:22-32
 - . This part of our new identity has the ability to experience the full joy of Heaven on Earth, through our relationship with and a part of the Body of Christ
 - . This part of our new Being has already transcended death and is there with Christ in heaven
 - . Herein lies the mystery of being in this Earth but not of this Earth as Jesus describes to His disciples
 - . As a believer, the difference between the Risen Christ and us is that we still have the presence of sin within us and feel the power of sin that still wants us back in its power
 - . Although this struggle will continue for the rest of our earthly days, we know the power of the Holy Spirit is greater than the power of sin, evidenced by the Risen Christ's defeat over death
 - . Believers need to continue to try to better understand this new dynamic and learn to surrender ourselves over to the Spirit
 - . We need to believe and live our lives accordingly to this belief
 - . The righteous will live by faith in the Risen Christ and this new mystical relationship that we now have with Christ

SIN AND DEATH ENTER THE WORLD THROUGH ONE MAN – ADAM **ROMANS 5:12-14**

- . Adam's act of disobedience brought sin in to the world
 - . What is sin?
 - . From Adam to Christ, was any man immune from sin?
 - . As Paul points out in these passages, all men during this period are a slave to sin
 - . Even before Moses and the law, man had an inherent knowledge of good and evil
 - . Those whom God declared righteous were men, who despite their captivity to sin, would seek God and aim to please Him
 - . Included in this list would be men like Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph
 - . The law was designed to help mankind better see where their heart was and their rebellion against God
- . Through sin, death was ushered in to this world
 - . Was death part of God's original plan?
 - . With the advent of sin, God needed to separate Adam from the Tree of Life

- . God could not be in the presence of sin
- . God did not want man to spend an eternity, separated from Him in this sinful, warlike condition
- . From Adam to Christ, did any man escape the act of death

SALVATION AND LIFE ENTER THE WORLD THROUGH ONE MAN - CHRIST
ROMAN 5:15-21

- . Just as sin enters the world through one man, so to does salvation
 - . Paul compares the acts of Adam and Christ
 - . He talks about how one act of disobedience ushered in a lifetime of sin
 - . He talks about how much greater is Christ's one act that erased many generations and a multitude of sin
 - . He uses these two situations to demonstrate how God works
 - . If God can determine a course of human events through one act of disobedience, why can't He determine a course of human events through one great act of obedience?
- . The law and sin help to illuminate the grace that God demonstrates through Christ
- . Just as sin ushered introduced the world to death, Christ and His actions defeat death and create n opportunity for eternal life, alongside God

NEXT LESSON - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020 - ROMANS 6:1-11

NO BIBLE STUDY ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020