

THANK YOU, JESUS!

ROMANS 5:15-21

Now the good news: What Adam messed up, Jesus fixed up . . . with the Grace Gift!

THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE CONTRASTING ADAM AND JESUS

- Remember, the only truly analogous factor between Adam and Christ is that of one man/one act; the rest is a study of opposites—polar opposites—failure versus victory.

FIVE CONTRASTING AREAS

1. THEIR EFFECT **v. 15**
2. THEIR EXTENT **v. 16**
3. THEIR RESULTS **v. 17**
4. THEIR ESSENCE **v. 18-19**
5. THEIR ENERGY **v. 20-21**

1. THE CONTRAST IN EFFECTIVENESS

- By definition, all gifts are free, but charisma (*free gift*) refers to something given with special graciousness and favor, and therefore could also be appropriately rendered “*grace gift*.”
- **Transgression** is from *paraptoôma*, which has the basic meaning of deviating from a path; it carries the idea of going where one should not go, and therefore is sometimes translated “*trespass*.”

The sin of Adam brought death; Christ's death brings life!

2. THE CONTRAST IN EXTENT

- Just as in its effectiveness, Christ's justification is far greater than Adam's condemnation.
- Any sin that any man has ever committed would be sufficient to damn the whole human race, just as Adam's one sin did. A sobering thought, indeed.
- Still more amazing and incomprehensible, and is as heartening as the first is sobering.

***GREATER EVEN THAN GOD'S HATRED OF SIN
IS HIS LOVE FOR THE SINNER.***

3. *THE CONTRAST IN RESULTS*

Remember, Adam's one act of sin brought the reign of death. But that was hardly the *intent* of the first sin.

- Neither Adam nor Eve sinned because they wanted to die; they sinned because they expected to become like God.
- Their sin produced the very opposite result from that which they desired—they became more *unlike* Him.
- The one act of Jesus Christ, however, produced precisely the desired result—salvation and life!

4. THE CONTRAST IN ESSENCE

These two verses show that the essence of Adam's **ONE TRANSGRESSION** (v. 18a) was **DISOBEDIENCE** (v. 19a), whereas the essence of Christ's **ONE ACT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS** (v. 18b) was **OBEDIENCE** (v. 19b).

- From beginning to end, Jesus' earthly life was characterized by perfect obedience to His heavenly Father.
- The person who genuinely belongs to Jesus Christ will reflect that same spirit of obedience, because he has Christ's own life within him.

5. THE CONTRAST IN ENERGY

In **CH. 7**, we find the energizing force behind man's sin is **the law**, which *came in that the transgression might increase*.

- God's own **law** had the effect of causing man's transgression to increase; *but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more*.
- Hyper-abounding grace: Grace greater than all my sins—past, present, and future!!

**THE WHOLE TAPESTRY OF REDEMPTION DECLARES:
THANK YOU, JESUS!**