

Title: Christ's Triumph Over Sin

Passage: Romans 5: 12-21

Summary:

I. WE ARE ALL BORN WITH THE PROBLEM OF SIN FROM ADAM.

II. GOD'S SOLUTION: CHRIST COMES TO RESCUE (v.15-19)

III. IN CHRIST, GRACE IS THE MOTTO OF YOUR LIFE.

Key Truths:

- There are only two camps: 1) Adam, 2) Christ. You are either in Adam or in Christ.

Contrast between Adam (and Christ)

- Adam turned from God the Father in a garden (Jesus turned to God the Father in a garden.)
- Adam was naked and ashamed (Jesus was naked on the cross and died for our shame)
- Adam substituted himself as god. (Jesus was God)
- Adam sinned at a tree (Jesus bore our sin on the tree)
- Adam died as a sinner (Jesus died for sinners)

Application:

- We are all sinners. We will always be bound by sin unless God intervenes and draws one to Himself
- We need to look inside and see where we have sinned and confess to God. This may be through commission (doing something) or omission (doing nothing)
- No government or program or political party can ever fix our human nature. We are tempted to always look for a solution to address problems in our world. But the solution will always fall short. Only Christ can solve the problem of sin.
- All have a sinful nature including children. Discipline is necessary to mold one's character so can distinguish between right and wrong. Why? Must teach that sin always has consequences.

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Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?

- Where do you need to look in the mirror instead of looking elsewhere with regards to a problem or situation in your life? What you could have done better? Is there something you can ask for forgiveness?
 - James 1:22 admonishes us to be “doers of the Word.” What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been exposed to?
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EXPOSITION

Introduction

We have a nature that we can never get rid of.

- regardless of background.
 - We all have a sinful nature.

Contrast: present culture of victimhood

- We are victims of outside sources or our background or our past or...
 - Yes, these may enhance or exacerbate certain characteristics.
 - But we are all ultimately held accountable for our choices.

Passage:

Romans 5:12-21

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. 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. 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 5:12-21

- Two camps: 1) Adam, 2) Christ.
 - You are either in Adam or in Christ.

Who was Adam?

Genesis 2:7

then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

- Adam was the first human.

Genesis 2:15-16

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,

- Adam was given a task and also given a clear command.

Genesis 2:21-22

So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

- Eve created out of Adam.
 - A woman of equal worth and dignity

Eve

- A helper to the man
 - Not inferior but of equal dignity and worth
 - Ex: Jesus is a helper to Israel (Jesus was never less than Israel but to help Israel)

Genesis 2:25

And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

- Why important? No sin - no guilt or shame

Temptation of sin

Genesis 3

- Satan enters into the picture and first goes to Eve.
 - Usurping God's design as doesn't go to Adam first.

Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'"

- "Did God actually say" = Questioning God's Word
 - Age-old attack.
 - Once question God's Word, then it is an endless downward spiral.

Genesis 3:2-3

And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die."

- Eve tried to point back to God's Word.

Satan's response

Genesis 3:4-5

But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

- Questions God's purpose and goodness.
 - "You be you. You be god."

Genesis 3:6

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

- Where was Adam? He was nearby and let this whole conversation between Eve and Satan let it unfold.
 - Adam abdicated his role as the head. He allowed his wife.
 - Head = lead and take responsibility for the decisions
 - Decisions are made together by husband and wife. But man is responsible for the decisions adopted and made.

Original sin

Genesis 3:7-8

Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

- shame and guilt followed from sin.

Genesis 3:9

But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

- Likewise, ask yourself as a man.
 - lack of leadership and accountability is resulting to fallen families and society.
- It is important for a man to lead well.
 - If a man knows God's Word, the whole household follows
 - Stop being passive or domineering.
 - Lead like Christ!

God's confrontation

Genesis 3:10-12

And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate."

- Adam deflected blame and instead blamed the woman (and ultimately God)

Consequences of Original Sin

Separation between God and man

- Why? God is holy.

Physical Death

- We all have 100% mortality. We all will die.

Eternal, spiritual death.

- eternal condemnation in hell is our destiny.

I. WE ARE ALL BORN WITH THE PROBLEM OF SIN FROM ADAM.

Romans 5:12

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

- Chain reaction of sin
 - Adam sinned. From Adam came all humankind. From Adam came all sin to humanity.
 - How? Adam was our “federal” head
 - Federal = one who represents us.
 - Adam made decisions on our behalf and suffered the consequences on our behalf.

Romans 5:13-14

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.

- two reasons this is true:
 - Death was in the world.
 - All died.

Romans 2:15

They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

- we all have a consciences

Summary: our problem is our sin.

1. This sin is imputed from Adam to us

- We have no choice. It is inherited in our nature. Imparted in conception

2.. We sin by choice.

- No one forces us to sin.

Implication: Sin is inherited in our nature

- We are all sinners.
- Ultimately, we need to look inside and see where we have sinned.

- This may be through commission (doing something) or omission (doing nothing)
 - Ex: Adam failed to speak up (sin of omission).
- Is there anything you can take responsibility for a given situation?
 - What you could have done better?
 - Is there something you can ask for forgiveness?
 - Instead of always pointing at someone else, consider:
 - What can I do different?
 - What can I take responsibility for?

Implication: No government or program or political party can ever fix our human nature.

- We are tempted to always look for a solution to address problems in our world.
 - But the solution will always fall short. A mere band-aid.
 - Only Christ can solve the problem of sin.

Implication: We are not free to choose whatever we want. We are slaves to sin.

- You have free will. But your will can never want to follow God.
 - We will always be bound by sin unless God intervenes and draws one to Himself.

Implication: Sin is imparted at conception.

- All have a sinful nature including children.
- Discipline is necessary to mold one's character so can distinguish between right and wrong.
 - Why? Teach that sin always has consequences.

II. GOD'S SOLUTION: CHRIST COMES TO RESCUE (v.15-19)

Work of Christ is far greater than Adam's.

- Adam brought death.
- But Christ brought life.

Romans 5:15-16

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.

- Free gift = not as a result of anything you can do.

Romans 5:17

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.

- God accounts on your behalf Christ righteousness
 - Even though you did not do anything.
 - Christ has done it!
- We are saved and justified by faith alone in the works of Christ alone.
 - Christ still had to keep the whole law perfectly.
 - Not just merely faith that Jesus died on the cross alone.
 - It also includes not that you have never sinned but also that you have always done right.

Romans 5:18

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.

- "For all men" - Is this universalism?
 - No, see the prior verse: only for those who receive Jesus.
 - "those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness"

Contrast between Adam (and Christ)

- Adam turned from God the Father in a garden (Jesus turned to God the Father in a garden.)
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III. IN CHRIST, GRACE IS THE MOTTO OF YOUR LIFE.

Romans 5:20-21

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.

- Not only have you been given a new life in Christ, you also have grace from God.
- Grace = receiving what you do not deserve
 - G.R.A.C.E. = God's riches at Christ's Expense
- Question: Does grace characterize your life? Do you live your life under the umbrella of grace?
 - Do you pay evil with good?
 - We love to receive grace but do we also give it to others?