

WORD

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. **ROMANS 5:17**

Adam was the first of the human race and made from the dust of the earth. On the other hand, in 1 Corinthians 15:45, the Apostle Paul calls Jesus the last Adam, a *life-giving spirit*. He had a human body, but He came from heaven and not from dust. We have all been born with the likeness of the earthly Adam. Because of sin that was first brought into the world by the first Adam, we are limited by disease, weakness, and death. However, the Bible promises that believers will be resurrected in eternal and glorious bodies like the perfect man, Jesus Christ. In this lesson, we will look at who we are in Christ and what He has done for us.

1 In Christ, we have been justified.

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. **ROMANS 5:18**

The one sin of Adam brought condemnation and guilt to all mankind. Similarly, Christ's life of obedience allows God to see us as perfect and unblemished if we believe in Jesus. What is the one act of righteousness that led to our justification?

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2 In Christ, we are made righteous.

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. **ROMANS 5:19**

All of us are sinners and born with a sinful nature. Because of Adam's disobedience, all of mankind was declared and regarded guilty by God. The good news is that Jesus' obedience gives believers right standing before God. According to Philippians 3:9, how can we have right standing before God?

3 In Christ, we have eternal life.

. . . so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **ROMANS 5:21**

Left to ourselves, we will be like Adam who sinned against God and could not save himself. But the excellence of Jesus' salvation triumphed against all sins, granting us eternal life. What do we deserve because of our sin? How did God show His abounding grace to us?

APPLICATION

- If you are a Christian, according to these verses, how does God view you? How do you view yourself? Starting this week, how can you view yourself more the way God views you?
- How can you grow in your understanding of who God is and what He did for you? How can you know and love Him more, as each day passes?
- Could you explain what God has done in your life and how He has saved you from your sins? Practice this and determine who you can share this to this week.

PRAYER

- Thank God for sending Jesus, the perfect man, to save us from our sins and give us eternal life. Pray that you will always be grateful for Christ's finished work on the cross.
- Ask God that you would be secure and confident because of who God is in your life, and how He is working in you. Pray that you would be more like Him as each day passes.
- Pray for those you will encounter this week, and ask God for opportunities and boldness to preach the gospel and tell them about God's goodness in your life.



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