

A study of the Letter to the Romans, written by the Apostle Paul in A.D. 57

Answer Guide (ESV Translation)

Romans 5:12-21

Begin with prayer, asking the Lord to cleanse your heart and give you insight so that the message of the gospel will be clear to you as you study the Bible.

Introduction: There is the insurmountable issue of inbred sin in the hearts of all mankind caused by the first sin (rebellion against God's command) committed by Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Everyone born after them would be separated from God because of the sinful nature that was a consequence of that sin. But, God already had a plan for redemption and reconciliation for all who would place their faith in Him! That plan required a blood sacrifice made by the death of a perfect sinless Man. Only the Son of God, Jesus Christ, was qualified to make such a sacrifice, so that all who would believe in His death, burial and resurrection from the dead may be justified, redeemed, and reconciled to God.

Day 1:

Review Romans 5:6-11

"We have received reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ our Lord". Let's review the definition of reconciliation: "to restore harmony or friendship; quiet submission".

When we are saved ("justified by faith"), we become reconciled to God (v.11), making us friends with God.

How does Proverbs 18:24 indicate this friend is God himself?

There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

What can God alone do that an earthly friend or brother can never do? Reconcile us to God

James 2:23 reminds us that "Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness" – and he was called a friend of God.

James 4:4b is a strong contrast to the previous verses:

"Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God".

Review Romans 5:10-11

God's great love for us motivated Christ to die for us while we were His enemies, yet our faith in Him results in our friendship with God!

Let's consider for a moment the secondary definition of reconciliation, "quiet submission". **Ask yourself: How does refusing, or neglecting, "quiet submission" to the Lord affect my relationship with Him?** _____

Day 2

READ Romans 5:12

Circle the word “Therefore”. A review of Romans 5: 6-11 will explain *what the therefore is there for*.

How many men brought sin (missing the mark), and death through sin, into the world? One man

Who was the first man to sin? Adam (see Genesis ch. 2-3)

To whom did death spread because one man (Adam) sinned? Death spread to all men Why? because all sinned.

Read Genesis 5:1 and 5:3. Note the contrast in the likenesses of Adam and his son: Adam was created in the likeness of God
Adam’s son was created in his own likeness

Adam passed on the inbred sin nature to all future generations; even to us. No one but Jesus Christ would ever be born without that sin nature! (Ahh! The reason He had to be born of a virgin by the Holy Spirit!)

Romans 5:13

Was sin in the world before or after the Law was given?
Before

Romans 3:20 says that “through the Law comes the knowledge of sin”.

Romans 5:14

Death has been the result of inbred sin from that very first sin of Adam until now, but verse 14 tells us that “sin is not counted where there is no law.”

Review Romans 5:1-5

We have something better than the Law; we have grace!! Pray Romans 5:1-5 back to God in thanksgiving. You can follow this example, if you’d like to:

Thank you, God, that you have justified me by faith, rather than by works, because I could never work enough to be worthy.

Thank you for giving me peace with You through Jesus.

Thank you for enabling me to stand (firm) in Your grace.

Thank you for the hope of Your glory.

I even rejoice in my suffering because of the hope it will produce in me and will not put me to shame before You .

Thank you that Your love has been poured into my heart through the Holy Spirit whom You have given to me. Amen.

Day 3

Romans 5:14

Does the truth that “sin was not counted where there is no law” mean people could do whatever they wanted back then without consequence? Circle one: YES/NO.

But until God gave His Law to Moses (Exodus 20: 1-17), man was not held accountable to the *standard of His Law*. The standard that man was held to was that all people would eventually die because they inherited Adam’s sinful nature.

Does this apply to those who have never heard the gospel? The following cross-references will help answer that question.

Review Romans 1:18-20:

List God’s invisible attributes that have been evident to all men since the creation of the world and hold us all accountable to Him, so that we are all without excuse.

1. His eternal power
2. His divine nature

Review Romans 2:11

For God shows no partiality.

Review Romans 2: 14-16

For those who have not heard the gospel, but who do instinctively the things of the law, where is the law written?

On their hearts

When and by whom will they be judged (2:16)

They will be judged on that day by God through Christ Jesus

Does this apply to those who have never heard the gospel?

Yes, it does.

In prayer, thank God for revealing His divine attributes to you. Talk to Him about the decision will you make, or have made, regarding the gospel which you have heard and are now accountable to, so that you are without excuse.

Day 4:

Review Romans 5:14

The issue was that Adam's sin affected the entire human race. Even though no one born after him would have the same exact circumstances as Adam (walking and talking face to face with God in the perfect Garden of Eden), or the same transgression as Adam, the penalty for his sin was death to him and all who were born after him. Thank God, He didn't leave us in that hopeless state!

Adam was a type (pattern) of the one "who was to come." Who was "the one"? Jesus Christ

Read Romans 5:15-17

The rest of the chapter points out amazing contrasts between the condemnation brought about by the sin of the first Adam, and the free gift of the one man who came after Adam (Jesus Christ).

Read Romans 5:15

How is the free gift not like the trespass (*offense; purposely stepping over*)? The trespass of Adam brought death to many, but the free gift by the grace of Jesus Christ abounded for many.

Read Romans 5:16

How is the free gift not like the result of Adam's sin?
"The judgment following *one* trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following *many* trespasses brought justification."

Read Romans 5:17

What reigned through Adam's trespass? Death
Because Christ died for the ungodly (Romans 5:6), those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through Him.

How is this free gift obtained? Review Romans 5:1 .

By faith

Do you remember the definition of justification? to be declared righteous.

Have you received this free gift by faith? _____

Day 5

Read Romans 5:18-19

Circle the word “therefore”, which begins the summary of death brought by Adam’s sin and life brought by Christ’s righteousness.

The contrasts in these verses are simple yet profound:

Verse 18:

One trespass led to condemnation for all men

One act of righteousness leads to justification *and* life for all men

Verse 19:

By the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners

By the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous

Read Romans 5:20-21

What was the purpose of the law, according to verse 20?

The law came in to increase the trespass (Trespass is defined here as purposely stepping over; a lapse or [willful] deviation)

Romans 5:20

Another contrast is given in verse 20:

Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.

Romans 5:21

Although death reigned from Adam to Moses (verse 14), where sin reigned in death, grace has an greater effect through Jesus Christ our Lord. What is that effect, according to Verse 21?

Grace reigns through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amazing isn’t it?!?! Amazing grace, how sweet the sound!! **Sing a song in your heart about God’s grace as you think about the truths you have studied this week through Romans 5:12-21.**