

**"The Doctrine of Sanctification"**

**Romans 5:12-8:13**

**Part 3**

**Introduction:** Last week in our study of Romans we were in our study of the Doctrine of Sanctification. This section can be divided into three parts as we have seen.

- 1. The Explanation of Sanctification. - Romans 5:12-21**
- 2. The Illustration of Sanctification. - Romans 6:1-8:1**
- 3. The Application of Sanctification. - Romans 8:2-13**

We are currently in the first of the three sections which is really the foundation for the Doctrine. In this section Paul is answering a question that would have been raised by his sceptics and the question would pertain to his previous teaching of the previous chapters. In those chapters we looked at how all mankind is sinful and alienated from God and is unable to save himself from the judgment of God. Paul then went on to explain how the death of Jesus Christ satisfied the wrath of God on man's behalf and all who will come to Jesus will be justified freely by grace based upon His finished work on the cross. This is the teaching that would have raised the question and the question would have been something like this, "How can what one man did on the cross affect so many people?" To answer this question Paul is using Adam in a negative sense to show us that his one act of sin in the garden affected the entire human race and then Paul points to Jesus Christ to show us that through His redemptive work on the cross MANY have been justified. But it is not just that Jesus work upon the cross reversed what we had lost in Adam, but His work has done so MUCH MORE.

**I. The Explanation of Sanctification**

**Romans 5:12-21**

**Part 3**

When Adam sinned, we were all plunged into sin because we were all in the loins of Adam. The entire population existed within Adam because no one was yet born, and the entire population would come from Adam and Eve.

**Notice Romans 5:13-14**

Those who lived between Adam and Moses were all guilty of sin, but they were not guilty of sinning against a direct command as Adam was but they all still died which proved they too had within them the sin nature. The Law had not yet been given but sin still existed

within each person and therefore death reigned over all those people. Let us not forget that we are not sinners because we sin, but we sin because we are sinners. In other words, we are all born with a sin nature and evidence of that sin nature is the sin we commit. This sin nature that we are under and controlled by came to us through Adam when we were yet IN HIM IN THE GARDEN.

So, the one sinful act of Adam affected every one of us.

#### **Notice Romans 5:15**

Here we see that the FREE GIFT of eternal life through Jesus Christ is not the same as the offence. The sin of Adam brought death upon the entire human race, but the finished work of Jesus does MUCH MORE. The sin of Adam made us all sinners, but the work of Jesus Christ and the GIFT of GRACE does far more than reverse what Adam did. The GIFT of GRACE takes us out of Adam and places us in Jesus Christ.

#### **Notice Romans 5:16**

Adam sinned once and brought death to all mankind, but Jesus Christ died once and brought the forgiveness of MANY offences so that we could be justified.

#### **Notice Romans 5:17**

This is the verse we stopped with last week. Here in this verse we are told that with the finished work of Jesus Christ we have also received an abundance of grace. As we have looked at, when we rest our faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ then by grace we receive so MUCH MORE than what was lost in Adam. Two of the "MUCH MORES" are seen in this verse.

##### **1. We receive an abundance of GRACE and the gift of righteousness.**

The condemnation that Adam's sin brought upon the human race can be reversed and then MUCH MORE is received by grace but the life and the justification that we receive through the finished work of Jesus Christ can never be reversed because the ABUNDANCE of GRACE which we receive is far greater than all our sin. Let me show you some of the words by one writer that I shared with you last week;

*"Jesus Christ broke the power of sin and death, but the converse is not true. Sin and death cannot break the power of Jesus Christ. The condemnation of Adam's sin is reversible, the redemption of Jesus Christ is not. The effect of Adam's act is permanent only if not nullified by Christ. The effect of Christ's act, however, is permanent for believing individuals and not subject to reversal or nullification. We have the great assurance that once we are in Jesus Christ, we are in Him forever."*

We also receive the GIFT of God's righteousness to our account which is to say we are justified. There is nothing that we can ever do to reverse our legal standing before God.

I had told you before that when a believer sins he or she will be disciplined but we will never experience the wrath of God.

**Romans 5:9-10**

<sup>9</sup> *Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.*

<sup>10</sup> *For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*

**2. We are given the power to REIGN in life.**

**Notice Romans 5:17 again.**

In Adam sin and death reign over the individual but in Christ sin's power is broken and we now have the power within us to conquer sin.

There are three very relevant statements in this passage that we MUST understand. The work of Jesus Christ;

- a. **Provides for us the gift of righteousness.** This is His righteousness gifted to us.
- b. **Provides an abundance of grace through which we are kept saved.** This abundance is greater than all our sin.
- c. **Provides to us the power to reign over sin in this life THROUGH Jesus Christ.**

There are a few verses in the book of Judges that we need to consider here. After Joshua's leadership there was some confusion as to who should deal with the troublesome Canaanites, and the Lord settled the problem by sending the tribe of Judah.

**Judges 1:3-6**

<sup>3</sup> *And Judah said unto Simeon his brother, Come up with me into my lot, that we may fight against the Canaanites; and I likewise will go with thee into thy lot. So Simeon went with him.*

<sup>4</sup> *And Judah went up; and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand: and they slew of them in Bezek ten thousand men.*

<sup>5</sup> *And they found Adonibezek in Bezek: and they fought against him, and they slew the Canaanites and the Perizzites.*

<sup>6</sup> *But Adonibezek fled; and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes.*

When they captured Adonibezek they did not kill him but instead they cut off his big toes and his thumbs. Now let me show you how this king responded.

**Judges 1:7**

<sup>7</sup> *And Adonibezek said, Threescore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat under my table: as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died.*

The king had done the very same thing to seventy kings previously and he believed God had returned the very same to him. But there is something else here. The big toes of a man are for balance and the thumbs are for gripping. This king and the men he had done the same to were now only able to stumble through life, unable to carry a sword to fight and relied upon food from the tables of others in order to survive.

Now I want you to hear clearly the application here. We as believers are to reign over sin through the power of Jesus Christ. We are kings and priests in Christ. But there are many believers who are just like Adonibezek. They are kings by name, but they are stumbling through this life suffering defeat after defeat. The reason is because they do not understand the power that is within them and so they are like this thumb-less king in the sense they cannot carry the SWORD. I am not talking about a steel sword, but I am talking about the SWORD OF THE SPIRIT which is the Word of God. They are not familiar with the SWORD/WORD OF GOD maybe because of the teaching they were under or for some other reason but they are stumbling through life suffering from defeat from sin reigning over them and because they cannot handle the Sword they rely upon food from another's table, by that I mean they have no steady diet of the Word of God on their own. They are "kings" by name but instead of striding through life as royalty they stumble through life.

Notice the words of Barber;

*"To **reign in life** is the "much more" effect that Jesus has had for you and me. It goes back to the first part of the chapter. Now I am able to bear up under. Now I am able to deal with all the tribulation and suffering and sorrow in this world.*

**Romans 5:3-5**

<sup>3</sup>*And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;*

<sup>4</sup> And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

<sup>5</sup> And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Do you understand the effect God has had on your life? Maybe you don't understand the life that is within you. That doesn't mean that it is not going to be difficult on the outside, but the victory is on the inside! Did you know that victory for the Christian is not a goal? We don't work toward victory! We come from it! It's already been won in Jesus Christ. We rule and reign in His life. In other words, the moment I surrender to Him, the moment I surrender to His word, then His life in me begins to strengthen me to be and to do what I never could do before! How many Christians even understand that? We forget that in the life, He gives us power over the sin that used to afflict us when we were in Adam."

Let us notice the words of F. B. Meyer on this thought;

"IT WOULD take a lifetime--nay, it will demand eternity--to explore the treasures of this paragraph from which our text is taken. Let us not, however, stand gazing into heaven, but avail ourselves of the privilege offered us during our earthly life of reigning through the One, even Jesus Christ. Do not postpone the fulfilment of this promise! We may have to wait for the future life to unfold depths of meaning which now transcend our thought; but any fair reading of this radiant verse compels us to appropriate it for here and now.

But, "how can these things be?" He, a master in Israel asked that question of Christ! This blessed life of victory is only possible to those who have been born from above. By nature, we were born from below into the first Adam, who was "a living soul." We must be born from above, into the second Adam, who becomes to all who trust in Him a Life-giving spirit. That which is born of the flesh is flesh and cannot of itself rise into the Spirit; the Holy Spirit must stoop to lift it into union with Himself. But He will do this for you, if only you will lift your heart to Christ in simple faith and surrender.

The difference it will make! Each life has been planned by God with the intention of training it for high service here and beyond; and whatever happens in life, there is always an abundance of grace awaiting our use. But how often we are as blind to it as Balaam was to the Angel that stood on the wayside! We make our plans! We lie awake half the night in a fever of anxiety! We go to this friend or that! But we do not claim that abundance of grace which is intended to meet the need of the hour. It is only as we receive it by a childlike faith that we can reign in life. That word "abundance" in its Latin original speaks of ocean-waves. Stand on the shore and look out on that infinite expanse, and do not be content with Scooping up enough to fill an oyster-shell!

*What will result? A royal life! If a throne means power--we are strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man. If it means victory--we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. If it means generosity--we have always all sufficiency in all things and abound to every good work."*

The power that we need is given to each of us who are believers and it is accessed by faith in God's Word. Let me show you something which we will study in the next chapter in great detail.

**Romans 6:1-11**

*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*

<sup>2</sup> *God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*

<sup>3</sup> *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*

<sup>4</sup> *Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

<sup>5</sup> *For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:*

<sup>6</sup> *Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.*

<sup>7</sup> *For he that is dead is freed from sin.*

<sup>8</sup> *Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:*

<sup>9</sup> *Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.*

<sup>10</sup> *For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.*

<sup>11</sup> *Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**2 Peter 1:2-4**

<sup>2</sup> *Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,*

<sup>3</sup> According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

<sup>4</sup> Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

**Conclusion:**

**Notice Romans 5:17 again.**

There are two words in this verse that I want to draw your attention to as we close out tonight.

1. **Receive** - Here we are told that when we are saved we receive an abundance of grace. We must believe that we have been given this abundance of grace and power to reign over sin. We must not allow our emotions and our feelings to dictate how we are going to face situations in life. No matter how I feel and no matter where my emotions are I must acknowledge that within me is the power to reign over sin. He has filled our lives with all we need even when we do not "feel" it. We must walk upright as the kings we are instead of stumbling through life.
2. **Abundance**- This word has the idea of "running over" just as the ocean spills over the shore. We need to be reminded here that this grace is to also be poured out into the lives of others. Reaching out to them and helping them to reach the throne life. Showing love and patience to our fellow laborer's in Christ as well as to the unsaved world.