
Monday, March 6, 2023 ▪ Read Romans 5:18–19

Questions from the Scripture text: What had one done (v18)? What resulted to all men? What had another one done? What resulted to all men? What had one man done (v19)? By this, what were many made into? And what did the other man do? By this, what were many made into?

In what ways are the federal headship of Adam and of Christ similar? Romans 5:18–19 looks forward to the sermon in this week's midweek meeting. In these two verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **both in Adam and in Christ, all who were in them came into their standing before God and had their character come into them.**

What came to men by the actions of their federal head was a standing before God. *Through one transgression, to all came condemnation. Through one righteousness, to all came justification of life.* This is an overly literal translation of v18. The words "offense" and "righteous act" in v18 refer to a single action. But as we saw in vv12–14, each of these was the single act of a federal head, a representative person. As he acted, all those who were federally within him acted with him. Death came to all men, because all sinned.

But the last Adam, Jesus, did not sin. In fact, in addition to His perfect righteousness throughout His life, there was one action of His that even canceled the guilt of our sin. In the first Adam, we became guilty. His disobedience resulted in condemnation. In the last Adam, we not only had all of the obedient and righteous actions, but in the action of the cross, where the wrath of God was poured out upon Christ—and upon all who were in Him, that standing of condemnation was eliminated.

What this means for every human being is that we come into this world already condemned, and justly so, for the sin that we committed in the first Adam. But what this means for every believer into Jesus Christ is that when we are born again, we are born again unto a living hope. Through the faith that it always produces, our new birth brings us into a living hope. It is birth into a new humanity, in a new Adam, to Whom belongs a new creation. And just as there was nothing that we ourselves could do to undo the condemnation of the first Adam, so also there is nothing that we can do to undo the justification of life of the last Adam. In Jesus Christ, we are "stuck" righteous. Nothing can undo our righteous standing before God or the life that comes with it. Hallelujah!

What men came into by the federal head in whom they acted was a condition. *Through disobedience of the one man, into sinners were made the many; through the obedience of the one, into righteousness were made the many.* This is an overly literal translation of v19.

Our federal head has not only brought us into a particular standing; he has brought a particular condition into us. We became sinners in the first Adam. Not just guilty of record but wicked of nature. This is why we continuously sin. We come into this world not only dead in guilt but dead in trespasses and sins. We are not only counted righteous in Jesus, but we have a new nature, a righteous nature, from which now proceed love and obedience and service unto God!

And just as with our standing in Christ in v18, the good news of our condition in Christ in v19 is even better than the bad news had been bad. The "not like" and "much more" from vv15–17 continue to hold true. So, in vv12–14 we saw the reality of federal headship and union with our head. And now in vv18–19, we see the function of that headship and union in both our standing and our condition. But these will combine with the imbalance described in vv15–17 to conclude with how grace super-abounds and reigns forever!

Where in your life do you see sinfulness from the first Adam? How should you respond to the guilt? How should you respond to the sinning? Where in your life do you see righteousness from the last Adam? How should you respond to the forgiveness? How should you respond to the loving and obeying? Which does this encourage you to see/do more of?

Sample prayer: Lord, we praise You for Your gospel, which is Your power unto salvation, in which You give us Your righteousness—both counted for us as our standing and worked out in us as our standing—through faith in Christ Jesus. Grant that, by Your Spirit, we would grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ; we ask in His Name, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP32AB "What Blessedness" or TPH433 "Amazing Grace"

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Romans chapter 5, our portion is 18 and 19. These are the words of God. Therefore us through one man's offense, judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation. Even so through one man's righteous act, the free gift came to all men resulting in justification of life. For us by one man's disobedience, many were made sinners.

So, also buy one man's obedience. Many will be made. Righteous. Amanda sends this reading of gods inspired and an aarent word. Inverses, 12 to 14. We saw the reality. A federal headship and union with our head, which is to say we saw that Jesus acts in his obedience and in his death, on the cross, as our representative, our mediator.

So his obedience for the one who believes in him as counted for us just as if we had done it in him. And his stuff on the cross is counted for us just as if we had died on the cross in him. And he proves this by showing us in verses 12 through 14.

That this is how we send and died in Adam that Adam was a federal head that we were united to Adam in his disobedience. And so he said therefore justice through one man sinned into the world and death through sin and that's that spread to all men because all sinned Until the law sin was in the world, but soon is not imputed.

Where, when there is no law. Nevertheless, death rained from Adam to Moses even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of him, who wants to come. And so he says, you can see in the world that people are sinners and that people die, which is the consequence of what Adam did.

And since this was the case, even before a new law was given a Sinai, we know that the law under which we became sinners and died and were condemned. Today was the law that was given to Adam in the garden. And so he says, you can see sin and death and everyone can see that the world is full of sin and death.

And he says this proves the truth, the reality of federal headship. So where is you might not be able to see as well, the reality of Jesus's representation of you, you can see it already and Adam and you can know that since Christ has acting, as a last Adam, a final atom, the ultimate Adam in the happy use of the connotation of that word that we have now And since Christ is all acting as the ultimate Adam we may be sure.

That he represents us just as Adam did and then in verses 15 through 17 immediately before the passage that we are in today, He tells us ways in which Christ's representation was even was different. Then Adam's representation for is even stronger and fuller, and better. So he says, but the free gift is not like the offense for if, by the one man's offense, many died, much more the grace of god and the gift by the grace of the one man.

Jesus Christ abounded to many And the gift is not. Like that, which came through the one who sent for the judgment, which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification, First by the one, man's offense death reigned through the one much more Those who receive abundance of grace into the gift of righteousness will rain in life through the one.

Jesus Christ. And now he having Proved the fact of federal headship in verses, 12 through 14 and argued that Christ's federal headship is of an infinitely. Greater Quality. Then Adams Federal headship, was, he talks about a couple of the particulars of how this had federal headship functions. Hey, we see the function.

When our passage today of the headship that Christ has over us and the union that we have with him both in the standing into which we come, By Christ's obedience and the condition that comes to us by Christ's obedience. And he does this by comparing again, the two headships.

Now, we're going to have to Read the verses a little bit more. Literally, if you're looking for instance, in New King James, you'll see that there are a lot of italicized words in verse 18. And so we're actually going to cut those out. And we're going to say Through one transgression to all came condemnation, and that's just very literally what it says in the original.

Through one transgression to all came condemnation through one righteousness, to all came justification of life, And so, if you take the italicized words out, you can see therefore, as through one man's offense to all men resulting in condemnation, Even so through one man's righteous act to all men resulting in justification life.

So the point is what came to the men by the actions, Adam made the offensive action and condemnation came to all men who were in Adam. But Jesus has made a righteous act. And through his righteous act. Righteousness, justification of life. Came to all men. Who are in Jesus Christ.

So in addition to his perfect righteousness throughout his life, there is the one action of his of Jesus's that canceled our sin. That is the one righteous act that is described here, because Jesus committed many right to sex, didn't we? He was perfectly obedient. But something has to be done about our guilt that we have from the first Adam, because that headship was real.

And we are condemned by what Adam did and where condemned by all the things that we have done after. In fact, we are condemned by all the things. That all of our fathers, going back to Adam have done. I saw there is this massive amount of condemnation that is against all of us.

So even if we just had All of Christ's other active obedience counted for us. We would still need something done about our sin. And so, when he talks about what came to us, By Jesus's action. The first great thing that has come to us is a righteous standing before God.

He eliminates the condensed standing before God that we got from Adam. And gives us a righteous standing before god, that belongs to the Lord Jesus, as the second Adam. So, every human being Who has come into this world since Adam is coming to the world already condemned except for Christ.

For, he was not in the covenant of works. His death satisfied for us, the covenant of works. But Jesus was not in the governance of works. Every human being comes into this world already. Condemned. But what it means for every believer not now, every human being. But every believer, Is that when we are born again?

When we are given A new life. In order to believe in Jesus and a new humanity that comes from Jesus, in union with Jesus. When we are born again, we are born again into what the holy spirit calls by the pen of Peter a living hope. A certainty that we have justification of life that we have a righteousness from God in Jesus Christ.

That. That makes us to receive not just the verdict of righteous, but the sentence Of eternal life. And Adam we received the verdict of guilty. And the sentence of condemned. So that's the first part there in verse 18. What came to us? By the action of our new federal head.

The Lord Jesus is justification of life is righteousness. But in verse 19, it doesn't talk about What came to us, it talks about what we became. Verse 19 for us. Buy one man's disobedience. Many were made sinners. So, also by one man's obedience. Many will be made righteous. To the disobedience of the one man into sinners were made the many And through the obedience of the one, Into righteousness are made, or will be made or were made the many Our federal head, the Lord Jesus.

Has not only brought us into a particular standing. That of justified unto life. Now he's all brought a condition. Into us. He has made us ourselves different. So in verse 18, he made our status before God different But in verse 19, he makes ourselves different By the one man's obedience.

Many will be made righteous. So in Adam, we didn't just become guilty of record before God guilty of standing before God, but wicked himself before God, we could have nature before God. This is why we continuously sin. Even after we have a new nature, we still have that which remains from our former nature.

So wicked, was it that we continually have the old man with us and we keep sinning We came into the world, not only dead in the guilt of Adam. But dead in the character of Adam dead and trespasses and sins. But now in Jesus, the last Adam, we're not only counted righteous, With the righteous standing of Adam, but

we have been given a new nature.

From Jesus. So, just like you received a nature from Adam because you sinned an atom, you have the sinful nature. Until you are born again and believe in Jesus. Now, because you believe in Jesus and are counted righteous in Jesus that you have also received a new nature from Jesus.

You are already. You already have a new righteous nature and you will be made perfectly righteous. By the time. His work in you is done. This is what produces in Christians love to God and obedience to God. Now, it's true. Everyone should love God and everyone should obey. God and we read those constructions in the Bible and the commands and the Bible and it's it's correct and appropriate to tell everyone.

They must do it. The problem is, Until you become a believer in Jesus Christ. You are unable to love God. And whatever does not proceed from faith is sin. Everything that doesn't proceed from faith. Is soon. But when you come to faith in Jesus Christ and you have his spirit dwelling in you.

Then the law of the spirit and life. By the law of the spirit in life. We walk according to the righteous requirements of the laws we were going to hear. When we come to chapter 8 and the reason we're able to do, that is here in chapter 5 and verse 19.

For us. Buy one man's disobedience. Many were made sinners. We were in Adam when he sinned. And not only were we made guilty. But we were made sinners. So, also by one man's obedience. Many will be made righteous. If you believe in Jesus, Not only will your guilt be taken away so that you're not guilty anymore.

You're forgiven. But if you believe in Jesus, you are made righteous. You have a new righteous nature. And that righteous nature of course will win because we're killing the old man. Which is the right thing to do. And so, even your mortification, your efforts to kill sin, your hatred of the sin that remains that comes from the new nature that you have been given in Jesus Christ.

In the last Adam And so what verse is 18 and 19 do is they show us that there's not just a new status that we get in Christ, the status of righteous verse 18 but there's a new self. That we got from Christ, a righteous nature from which comes love to God, and hate to sin.

And so this we get from our federal head this weekend from our representative, The Lord Jesus. Praise God. That He has given us in Christ, literally everything. All right, that he's giving us, he has given us in Christ. He's giving us everything we need.

Pray, father, in heaven. That you would help me and my wife, my children. To look to you by faith in Jesus Christ. That you would continue to strengthen the new man, then you nature. That you have produced an us from the Lord Jesus as the last Adam That we would more and more appear to be these new creations, that belong to the new heavens and the new earth.

Because we have been born again in Union with The last Adam, the atom of the new creation your son, our Lord Jesus. And we pray that you would make us to hate that which remains in us from the first Adam. That we would see that we did not just have the problem of guilt, but we also had the problem of our sinful nature.

And that that sinfulness remains with us. And so, we pray that we would not live according to the flesh and die. Which is what belongs to Adam. Help us O Lord in every situation to see that we have a choice. Either to live, according to the flesh, or to be led by your spirit to live, according to Christ, and put to death, the deeds of the body.

And so we pray that you would help us to see more clearly The choice that is before us in every moment and every in every question and every decision, And that's by Christ's life in us. By the new nature, you have given us from him. We would be killing sin and growing in Christ likeness.

Granted we pray by the working of your spirit, even applying to us your word that we have. Just now had the mercy of hearing and thinking about and worship before you, For, we ask it in Jesus name. Amen.