

# Two Men

2-14-21

Romans 5:17 (ESV)

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.

**Chapter 5 is a Story of Two men. Adam was created spiritually alive and was a type of Christ a perfect man. However, Adam sinned and died immediately spiritually and later physically. Since Adam was spiritually dead, all his offspring like him were spiritually dead. The first man Adam has affected the whole of mankind, Death Reigns. All are separated from God and all die. God's countermeasure for Adam's failure was another man, Jesus Christ. Paul has presented all men as sinners and Christ came to redeem them. **The first man, the One Man, Adam, there was one Law and one trespass.** Adam was disobedient, but it was more than disobedience. The nature of disobedience is not immorality and wrongdoing, but the independence which leads us to say, "I am my own god." For mankind, our self-will and acting independent of God is the foundation for our disobedience and sin.**

Genesis 2:17 (ESV)

God said of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.

**Adam did eat of the tree and he immediately died spiritually and later physically. All Adam's offspring would be soulishly, physically alive, but spiritual dead and separated from God.**

Romans 5:12 (ESV)

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!

**Man's claim to self, acting independent of God came through Adam. All mankind is under the Reign of Death.**

Romans 5:17 (ESV)

For if, because of One Man's trespass, Death Reigned through that One Man (Adam)!

**All men like Adam fall short of God's glory. Like Adam all men die. Death Reigns over mankind. The Reign of Death is total, complete, and all encompassing! There is no escape!**

**God's answer is the One Man, Jesus!** Jesus was obedient and fulfilled the whole law. But more that, Jesus did not claim independence from God, but did whatever God told him.

John 5:30 (ESV)

I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

**The One Man Jesus, the second Adam or last Adam countered the failure of the One Man, the first Adam!**

1 Corinthians 15:45 (ESV)

Thus, it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

**Through Jesus’ obedience HE would give life to others. The attachment of the First Man and the attachment of the Second Man reveal each of the men’s destiny**

1 Corinthians 15:47 (ESV)

The First Man was from the earth, a man of dust; the Second Man is from heaven.

**The First Man was physical and lived according to the physical. The Second Man was spiritual and live according to the spiritual. Now we also are to live according to the spiritual.**

1 Corinthians 15:49 (ESV)

Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

**As believers, we are Christ’s image, heirs of God, joint heirs with Christ.**

Romans 8:17 (ESV)

We are children of God and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow (joint) heirs with Christ.

**We Reign in Life with Christ! Our reign is “much more” than the Reign of Death. We will not live according to the physical but according to power of God.**

Romans 5:17 (ESV)

**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.

**As total, complete, all-encompassing is the Reign of Death much more is the total, complete, all-encompassing Reign of Life. We have much more than the Reign of Death. We have abundance of favor and power, the free gift of righteousness, and we reign in life with Jesus. “Reigning in Life” means that we reign with Christ now which will reach its fullness in the hereafter. Just as Christ Reigned in Life through the Holy Spirit on this earth, we likewise will Reign in Life “now” with Christ through the Holy Spirit. We bring the Kingdom!**

Matthew 12:28 (ESV)

But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

**We Reign in Life with the One Man of heaven, Jesus.**

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.