**No Condemnation**

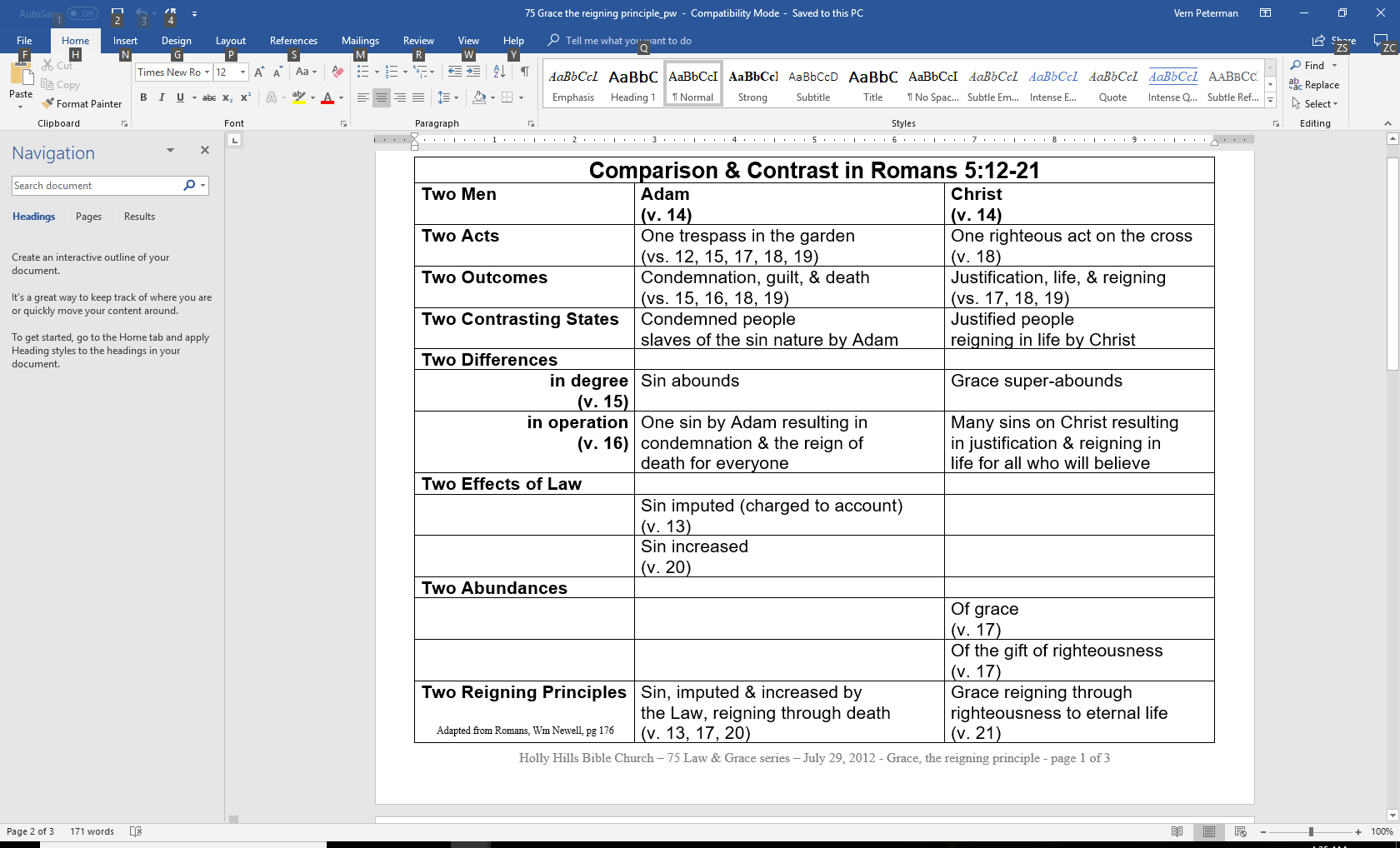
**Brief Review**

In the last several weeks, we said,

1. An understanding of the identification truths is essential to grasping the meaning of our unfathomable riches in Christ (Ephesians 1:3; 3:8).
2. The related words redeem, redeemed and redemption were part of a family of words related to slavery, as it was practiced in biblical times.
3. In Christ, we have redemption and forgiveness, so as to be justified – declared righteous (Romans 3:24; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14)

The one who believes is, by God’s doing, placed into Christ (1 Corinthians 1:30). The New Testament speaks of the believer being ‘in Christ’, ‘in Christ Jesus’, ‘in Him’, ‘in Whom’, ‘in the Beloved’, and similar ‘in Christ’ statements at least 164 times.

In the heavenlies, in Christ, to the credit and praise of God the Father, we are blessed with every spiritual blessing (Ephesians 1:3).

In Christ we have redemption, being fully bought out from the slave market of sin, and we have forgiveness of sins, our spiritual debts having been paid for completely and that payment applied because we believe (Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14). On that basis we can be and have been justified, that is, we have been ‘declared righteous’ (Romans 3:24; 5:1).

The chart shown on the previous page is excerpted from page 1 of the lesson ‘Holly Hills Bible Church – 75 Law & Grace series – July 29, 2012 - Grace, the reigning principle’. In the book of Romans, we see in chapters 5 and 8 that the unbeliever is under condemnation, but the one who believes is justified – declared righteous before God – and is therefore under no condemnation – ever again. Contrasting and comparing Adam and Christ, the verses in Romans chapter 5 that address condemnation are found in verses 15 and 16, and then in verse 18, as follows:

Romans 5:15-16 (NASU)

The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned [Adam]; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression [Adam’s] resulting in **condemnation**, but on the other hand the free gift [of God, through Christ] arose from many transgressions resulting in **justification** [God declaring the believer righteous].

Romans 5:18 (NASU)

So then as through one transgression [Adam’s] there resulted **condemnation** [and therefore death] to all men, even so through one act of righteousness [Christ] there resulted **justification** [God declaring the believer righteous] of life to all men [accomplished for all, effective for those who believe].

Based on everything Paul said in Romans chapters 3 through 7, Paul comes to this logical conclusion regarding believers in Christ:

Romans 8:1

Therefore there is now **no condemnation** for those who are **in Christ Jesus**.

‘Therefore’ tells us that this is a spiritually logical conclusion, that those who by grace through faith, having been placed totally and irreversibly and absolutely into Christ Jesus are also totally and irreversibly and absolutely under no condemnation – none whatsoever! Finally, Paul puts condemnation in full spiritual context for those who believe:

Romans 8:31-39 (NASU)

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? 33 **Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; 34 who is the one who condemns?** Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 Just as it is written,

"For Your sake we are being put to death all day long;

we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from **the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord**.