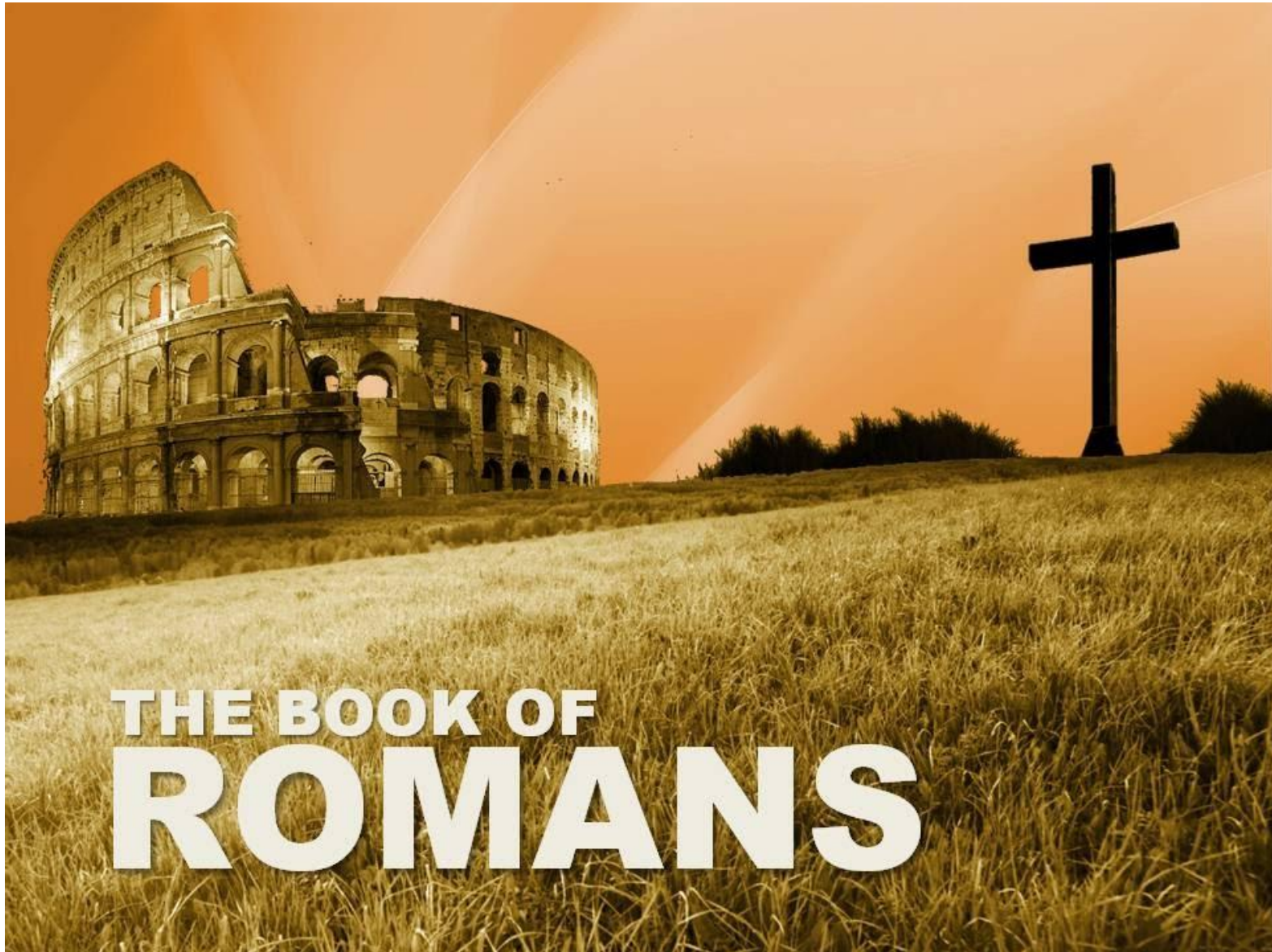




Rom 5:15-17 Adam and Christ Contrasted



How Sin Entered the World – Romans 5:12



Therefore,
just as through one man [the] sin **entered** into the world,
and death **[entered]** through [the] sin,
and so death **spread** to all men,
because all **sinned**

- The three verbs [entered, spread, sinned] in this passage are all aorist, indicative, active
- So Paul is telling us about an event that happened in the life of the one man [Adam]
- This event really happened
- Adam produced the action of this event
- the sin = the sin nature (Adam's fallen nature)

How Sin Entered the World ?



More observations from verse 12:

- The sin nature [Adam's nature] entered into the world
- This happened through one man [Adam] only
- The results of Adam's sin nature was death [both physical and spiritual] Molloy
- And death also entered through this sin nature
- Also this death spread to all men [mankind]
- Inasmuch as all [mankind] sinned in Adam when he sinned
- Therefore mankind's death must be due to the sin nature in mankind Molloy

Today's verses



¹⁵ But **the free gift** is not like **the transgression**. For if by the transgression of **the one** the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the **one Man**, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

¹⁶ **The gift** is not like *that which came* through **the one** who sinned; for on **the one** hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification.

¹⁷ For if by **the transgression** of **the one**, death reigned through **the one**, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through **the One**, Jesus Christ.

Today's verses



15

Definition of words used in today's verses

free gift - is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

the transgression – Adam's disobedience as
recorded in Genesis Chapter 3

the one – refers to Adam

the many – can refer to all mankind or to all believers
in Christ Jesus

the One – refers to Jesus Christ

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¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.



But the free gift is **not like** the transgression

for if [since] by
the transgression
of
the one [Adam]
the many died

much
more

did the grace of God
and
the gift by the grace of the
one Man, Jesus Christ,
abound to the many

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But the free gift is not like the transgression

but – *alla* – in strong contrast

- Now Paul will contrast the sin nature entering the world through Adam with God's grace through Jesus Christ
- The definite article is with free gift

free gift - *charisma* - a gift of grace, a gift involving grace (*charis*) on the part of God

- Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- God's grace is displayed by eternal life in our living union with Christ Jesus

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.



is not like or not as

transgression -*paraptōma* - a falling alongside, a deviation from the right path

- Adam's original sin was the violation of the known will of God. Wuest
- Gen 2:16 The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷ but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."
- The consequences of the transgression is given next, then the contrast with the free gift.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.



For if by the transgression of the one the many died

- The transgression of the one is referring to Adam
- The many died – so the effect was not just on Adam
- So the whole human race transgressed when Adam transgressed
- In the case of Adam, "the many" means all people,*
- But in the case of Christ, "the many" means all who receive the benefit of His saving act by faith, namely, all believers.*

*Constable

15 But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.



much more - vastly superior to it

- "Much more" here shows that Jesus Christ did not just cancel the effects of Adam's sin, but he provided more than Adam lost or even possessed, namely, the righteousness of God!

Constable

did the grace of God [the Father]

- This is a general statement about who God is

the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ,

- 2 Cor 9:15 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

abound to the many [all believers]

abound - *perisseuō* - to be in excess; in the NT, to be or have more than enough (aorist, indicative)

- It's a fact that every believer has more than enough grace



¹⁶ The gift is not like *that which came* through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification.

The gift **is not like** *that which came* through the one who sinned

for on the one hand
“the judgment” *arose*
from
one transgression
resulting in
condemnation



but on the other hand
“the free gift” *arose*
from
many transgressions
resulting in justification

¹⁶ The gift is not like *that which came through the one who sinned*; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification.



The gift [eternal life] *is not like*

gift - *charisma* - a gift of grace, a gift involving grace

- This is the same word used for “free gift” in verse 15

not like or not as

that which came through the one who sinned

- again “the one” is Adam
- lit: having sinned – aorist, indicative, active
- so this is “the event” of Adam’s disobedience
- this is a fact - it really happened
- Adam was the one producing the action



¹⁶ The gift is not like *that which came* through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification.

The structure here is one thing contrasted with another
for on the one hand [*men*]

the judgment *arose* from one [Adam's] *transgression*

- It only took one transgression

resulting in condemnation,

- In Adam's case a single sin by a single individual was sufficient to bring condemnation to the whole human race.

Constable



16 The gift is not like *that which came* through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification.

but on the other hand [*de*]

the free gift *arose* from many transgressions

- The transgression of all mankind
- 1 John 2:2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

resulting in justification.

- In Christ's case one act of obedience, which the transgressions of many people made necessary, was sufficient to bring justification to all those who believe in Him.

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17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.



For if [since] by the transgression of the one [Adam], death reigned through the one [Adam]

much more

those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ

17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.



For if by the transgression of the one [Adam]

if - in view of the fact by - by means of

- again Adam's act of disobedience is presented

death reigned through the one

death - both physical and spiritual death

reigned - *basileuō* – one who sits on a throne and rules;
lit: to reign as king

- Again this is speaking of an event (aorist tense)
- So spiritual death is on the throne.

McCalley



17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

much more – exceedingly above and beyond the transgression
those who receive the abundance of grace

- lit: the ones receiving
- present tense – continuous action – 24/7
- this is speaking of the present position of every believer

1st – the abundance of grace

- No amount of sin can overcome grace. McCalley
- Rom 5:20 The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.

17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.



2nd - the gift of righteousness

- Rom 4:5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness.

will “reign in life” through the One, Jesus Christ

- The believer is now reigning through Jesus Christ
- What does “reign in life” mean ?
- Notice it is through [*dia*] Jesus Christ.
- The contrast is between “**death reigning**” and the “**believer reigning**” (so the believer is king, not death).*
- The believer under control of the Holy Spirit will reign in this life and will reign with Christ when He comes.* *Molloy

Final Thoughts



- Whose family are you in ?
- Every person on the planet starts in Adams' family.
- Every person sinned when Adam sinned.
- Therefore every person needs to recognize that his actions good or bad cannot change the family he is in.
- Only God can change this family relationship.
- What will allow God to bring you into Christ's family?
- It is by His doing that you are in Christ Jesus. 1 Cor 1:30
- Without faith it is impossible to please God. Heb 11:6
- It is faith in the person and work of Christ on the cross.
- Christ is the God-man and died for our sins according to the Scriptures and was buried and rose on the third day.
- Rom 10:9 that if you confess [to God] with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.