



Romans

“... much more the grace of God ...” 5:15-17

Romans 5:15-17 (NKJV)

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. 16 And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification. 17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

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- The offense & the gift are contrasted in a syncopated fashion in these three verses, but Paul's point is that *there is no comparison*
 - Being contrasted, it is clear that the two compared are opposite in character, opposite in outcome & opposite in magnitude



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“...the free gift **is not like** the offense...
the gift **is not like** that which came through the one who sinned...”

The one man's offense	The free gift
One man: Adam	One Man: Christ
many died	grace abounded to many
condemnation	justification
death reigned	reign in life



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- This “free gift” is free to the recipient. How much did it cost the one who gave it? Why is it free? Could any of the recipients pay the price, even for themselves, if they were to try to buy the gift? Why or why not?
 - The offense – is it “free”? In what ways is it not like the free gift? Just how big is the difference between the free gift & the offense?
 - “For if...” might sound like there is some doubt – is that the case?
 - Why did “many die” when the one man (Adam) committed the offense?
 - Why isn't the grace gift just equal & opposite? Why is it much more? Why is the word “abounded” there?



“... much more the grace of God ...” 5:15-17

Romans 5:16 (NKJV)

And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.

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- Why did Paul repeat the same basic message as the first line of verse 15 – or did he? Did he restate the same message, but with a different intent? What was the intent?
 - Why was there a judgment? Why not just “skip it” & get on with things? If there was an offense (the offense), who was offended?
 - There was a judgment which came with the one offense. Was there also a judgment that came from the free gift? If so, what was the judgment? Why not just skip that & get on with life?
 - Why does it take just one offense for there to be mass condemnation, but many offenses had to be dealt with for there to be justification?



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Romans

“...being justified as a gift by His grace...” 3:24-26

Forgiveness of sins – Acts 10:43; Colossians 2:13,14

Redemption: The **ransom** price paid through Christ’s death on the cross for the whole world, but effective for those who believe & are in Christ - Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14

Justification: Those who have forgiveness of sins as a result of redemption, which is by faith alone, are then declared righteous – they have the righteousness of Christ, because they are in Christ – **Romans 3:21-26**; Galatians 3:24



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

- How did death get to reign through just one person, anyway? How did he get that much influence to make that happen? What does it mean for death **to reign**, anyway? Don't we live in a democracy where we get to choose who is in charge?
- Paul writes here “those who receive”. Why get picky? Doesn't this just apply to everybody automatically?
- Does it matter that there is abundance of grace? Why not just provide just exactly enough grace, and avoid any waste & excess?
- What does it mean to reign in life? Does it mean that we're guaranteed to live like kings here & now?
- Paul gets real singular & personal here. Why “...the One, Jesus Christ”? Why not just any of the “pretty good” people you know?