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INTRODUCTION

1. The New England Primer [1777]: A: In Adam's Fall, we sinned all.
2. Adam & Jesus as covenant heads: legal representatives of 2 humanities.

1st: Christ and the The Reign of Life - Rom 5:12-17

1. v12-14: Paul explains how death reigned over men before Moses b/c *all sinned* when Adam sinned. Adam is type & Jesus is anti-type. Contrasts & comparisons based on both as legal representatives of men.
2. v15-17: contrasts Adam & Jesus - *the many* - 2 communities; 2 identities; 2 destinies.
 - i. v15 - transgression - the abounding gift given by grace of God
 - ii. v16: condemnation - justification: *the gift* [v17 of *righteousness*]
 - iii. v17 death - life. 2 *reigns*. Adam - v14 & v17 *death reigned*; v21 *sin reigned in death*. The *life* wh/ comes to reign, is resurrection life of next age; life wh/ conquered death: vocab of *much more & abundance*
 - a. Note: we, recipients of grace, *reign in life*.
3. All in Adam: sin, condemnation: reign of death.
4. All in Christ: righteousness, justification: reign of grace & life.

2nd: Christ and the Reign of Grace - v18-21

1. v18-21 - Adam & Jesus are similar as two legal representatives - v18,19,21 *so then as...* [speaking of Adam] *even so...* [speaking of Jesus].
2. v18 - 2 dif results - the similarity is they are the effects of each cov head.
 - i. *one transgression* - the culminating sin: ate fruit.
 - ii. *one act of righteousness* - culminating obedience: the cross [Phil 2:8].

3. v19 - Adam & Jesus cov heads of respective *many* who are *imputed* [v13 - credited] either *sinners* or *righteous*. "Made" = legal status. 2C 5:21
4. v20 digresses back to v13 re: Moses/Law. Jewish interest in Moses [Hb 3] in perspective, but Paul compares Adam & Jesus [also Ab].
 - i. Law defines sin - increase of sin!
 - a. Jn Bunyan: Christian in Interpreter's house - sweep up dust
 - b. 1st Use of Law; 2nd: draw to Christ; 3rd: way of love for Xn
 - c. Rm 7:7 - Xth c *produced coveting - wretched man!* [v24], but v25 *thx to God - 8:1 there is NOW no condemnation!*
 - ii. In the midst of sin's increase? *grace abounded all the more!*
5. v21 *sin reign in death - grace reigns thru righteousness to eternal life*.
 - i. 2 ages, 2 kinds of "life": *eternal life*.
 - ii. All is *thru Jesus Christ our Lord - v11* [6:23, 7:25; 8:39]. The defining trait of *the many w/ the gift of righteousness* is faith in Jesus.

Applic # 1: Appreciate Paul's Vocabulary of Abundance

1. *A fortiori* [how much more] argument: *much more* [v9, 10, 15, 17], *abound* [v15, 17] - v20 *grace abounded all the more*.
2. Apply personally - can you say *wretched man that I am?* Can you say "abundantly forgiven & graced man that I am?" Look at self: *sin is increased!* But look at Jesus: *grace abounded all the more!*
3. Apply Redemptive Historically - what Paul does compares Adam w/ Jesus.
 - i. What have you inherited as a child of Adam?
 - ii. But what is your inheritance as a child of God in Christ?
 - a. Life in Jesus is *much more* than life in Adam's fallen world.

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LIVING UNER THE REIGN OF LIFE AND GRACE - Rom 5:18-21

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b. 1 Cor 15:45 - life in Jesus is *much more* than life in Adam's pre-fallen world!

4. How extensive & pervasion is death? In Jesus *grace abounds all the more* - *grace reigns thru righteousness to eternal life thru Jesus Christ our Lord.*

5. Rm 6:1 *What shall we say then?* Ps 116:12-14