



What A Difference It Makes!

Romans 5:12-21

#7 in a series on Romans

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Theme: **Being Related To Christ Makes All The Difference.**

The Legacy Of Being Related To Adam by Birth.

1. Adam's disobedience brought sin into the human family. (12; cf. Genesis 1-3; 1 Timothy 2:14)
2. Sin brings death. (12, 14, 15, 17, 21; cf. 6:23)
3. All sinned in Adam, and so all die. (12-14, 15, 17, 21)

The Legacy Of Being Related To Christ By The New Birth.

1. Christ's love brought super-abounding grace. (15, 16, 17, 20, 21; cf. John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 5:1-2, 25-27; Philippians 1:6)
2. Christ's obedience brought the gift of righteousness. (16, 18, 19; cf. 3:26; 4:25; 6:23; John 4:34; 8:29; 15:10; Ephesians 2:8-9; Philippians 2:8)
3. Christ's gift of righteousness brought the gift of reigning in life. (17, 21; cf. 6:14, 17-18; Revelation 5:10)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. By birth you and I along with everyone else are related to Adam. This relationship is more than physical—it includes our spiritual as well as physical nature. Read 5:1. Adam's disobedience brought sin into the human family. King David realized this (see Psalm 51:5). Think about what it means that you too were born sinful, a sinner, and so sinned. What would it be like for you if you were not related to Christ by the new birth?

Tuesday. In Adam all sinned, and in Adam all die. Review the emphasis on this in verses 12, 14, 17, 21. Physical and spiritual death are a reality for every person related to Adam (all of us). There is no way we ourselves can change this (see 4:2; Galatians 2:16). Everyone you meet, know and care about who is not related to Christ is under this just sentence. Make a special effort to show and speak of Christ to them during the soon-to-be-upon-us Christmas season,.

Wednesday. *Being related to Christ makes all the difference.* The basis of being related to Christ is the new birth which is a gift of God's grace (see verses 15, 16, 17, 20, 21 and Ephesians 2:8-9). We are adopted into God's family (8:15, Galatians 4:5 and Ephesians 1:5). Make a sign (as fancy or plain as you like) that says "I am Adopted ... by God!" and place it where it will remind you to thank and praise Him for your adoption.

Thursday. One of the gifts of righteousness is that we "we reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ (verse 17, see also verse 21). This is a certainty, but what does it mean for and to you? Use the thoughts God brings to your mind from the Scripture to help you live and thank Him for this, and all the gifts you have in Christ.

Friday/Saturday. Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. We will take a break from our series in Romans during this season. We plan to think about *Breath of Life* as we enter the season and begin to prepare ourselves to celebrate Christ's birth.

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