

# **A PREVIEW OF ROMANS 5:12-21**

## **I. THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS PASSAGE TO OUR STUDY**

- A. We See Here The Centrality Of This Passage To The Whole Of Paul's Argument In The Book Of Romans.
  - 1. It Is At Once An Explanatory Summarization Of What Has Preceded And An Introductory Preparation For What Will Follow.
  - 2. This Is Almost Universally Agreed Upon By Scholars
- B. We See Here The Key Theological Themes Which Are So Critical To Pauline Thought
  - 1. Hamartiology: Original Sin
  - 2. Bibliology: Inspiration Of Scripture
  - 3. Soteriology: Union With Christ

## **II. THE NATURE OF THIS PASSAGE**

- A. An Explanation Of One Truth Either Stated Or Implied Repeatedly In 5:1-11.
- B. This Explanation Takes The Form Of An Extended Comparison Between The Two Key Figures In World History.
  - 1. Employment Of the Word "One"
  - 2. Type And Anti-Type
  - 3. Employment Of "Even So"
- C. There Are Two Minor Digressions
  - 1. Explanatory Thoughts On "All Have Sinned" (vs. 12)
  - 2. Explanatory Thoughts On "The Figure Of Him That Was To Come" (vs. 14)
- D. An Introduction To The Purpose Of The Law

## **III. ONE'S REACTION TO THIS PASSAGE REVEALS HIS RELATIONSHIP TO SCRIPTURE AND TO GOD**

## **IV. THE CENTRAL TEACHING OF THIS PASSAGE**

# ADAM & CHRIST IN ROMANS 5:12-21

This section of Romans could be understood in columns. They are family columns in which every human being who has ever lived bears the appropriate characteristics that are in keeping with the head of each family.

*But not as the offense, so also is the free gift. For if through the offense of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.*  
(Romans 5:15)

<u>Tragedy</u> <u>In</u> <u>Adam</u>	<i>Even So</i> <i>So</i> (5:18,19,21)	<u>Greater Countermeasure</u> <u>Of</u> <u>Christ</u>
CONDEMNATION	(5:18)	JUSTIFICATION
DISOBEDIENCE	(5:19)	OBEDIENCE
SIN	(5:21)	GRACE
DEATH	(5:21)	LIFE