

# **THE ABUNDANT REIGN OF GRACE**

## **ROMANS 5:20-21**

### **I. SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE BETWEEN ADAM AND CHRIST, THE LAW ENTERED AS A SIGNIFICANT PLAYER IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND MAN (5:20a)**

- A. The Law Came In "Alongside" The State Of Affairs Man Was Left In Because Of Adam's Sin
  - 1. It Is Supplementary Not Primary
  - 2. It Does Not Present A Third Alternative To Adam Or Christ
- B. The Law Came In "Alongside" In Order To Magnify The Severity Of Adam's Sin
  - 1. It Demonstrates That All Men Are Prone To Follow In The Same Path As Adam As They Do The Very Thing That Is Forbidden
  - 2. It Demonstrates That What Arouses The Sin Nature Is In Reality The Good Law Of God

### **II. IN SPITE OF MAN'S SINFUL ABUSE OF GOD'S GOOD LAW, IT IS POSSIBLE FOR GOD'S GRACE TO ENTER IN AND OVERWHELM THE ABUSE (5:20b)**

- A. Notice The Timing Of God's Grace
- B. Notice The Proportion Of God's Grace

### **III. NOW THIS SUPER-ABOUNDING COUNTERACTION IS DESIGNED TO BE IN CONTROL (5:21)**

- A. In Order For Something To Reign, Something Else That Was Previously Reigning Must Be Displaced
  - 1. Co-Regency In This Matter Is An Affront To God
  - 2. Grace Is An Able Teacher
- B. This Is Only Possible Because Of The Primary Benefit That Accompanies Identification With The Headship Of Christ.

**THE FOUR "KINGS"**  
**OF**  
**ROMANS 5:12-21**

**KING DEATH**  
**(5:14-17)**

*...so death passed upon all men... (vs. 12)*  
*Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses... (vs. 14)*

**KING SIN**  
**(5:21)**

*That as sin hath reigned unto death... (vs. 21)*

**KING GRACE**  
**(5:21)**

*...even so might grace reign... (vs. 21)*

**KING BELIEVER**  
**(5:17)**

*...much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of  
righteousness shall reign in life... (vs. 17)*