



Alive

Romans 5:12-21

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The Reign of Death (verses 12-14)

1. What does Paul mean by “*sin came into the world through one man [Adam]*”?
2. What does Paul mean by “death”?
3. What does Paul mean by “*death spread to all men*”? How is this possible? Is this fair?
4. What does Paul mean by “*death reigns*”?
5. How is it true that death reigned even before the law was given to Moses?
6. How does the law help us to understand the reign of death?
7. How does Paul’s teaching about sin and death help us to understand how things have gotten “this bad”?
8. These days where are you experiencing the reign of death in your life?

The Reign of Life (verses 15-17)

1. Consider how Paul describes Adam and Jesus. What are the similarities? What are the differences?
2. What was the moral choice that both Adam and Jesus made? (c.f. Luke 22:42)
3. Consider how Paul contrasts the impact of their choices. How has the choice of each impacted humanity? Closer to home... how has the choice of each impacted those you rub shoulders with each day? How has the choice of each effected you?
4. Why does God offer us “*the free gift*” of life in Jesus Christ? Put another way, how important is grace to God’s freely giving us life in Jesus Christ?
5. How do we receive “*the free gift*” of life in Jesus Christ?
6. These days how does what Paul describes (what he is comparing and contrasting between Adam and Jesus) impact on your life?

The Reign of Righteousness (verses 18-21)

1. These verses are the summary/concluding point of Paul’s teaching in this section (1:18-5:21). Each verse contrasts the reign of sin and death with the reign of grace and life. What are the contrasts in each verse?
2. How does Jesus’ one act of righteousness lead “*to justification and life for all men*”?
3. These days how might God’s reign of grace “*through righteousness leading to eternal life*” give you encouragement and hope?

Processing... What is it like to live in the reign of God’s grace?

1. What could living in the reign of God’s grace be like for you? What attitudes would you need to embrace? Are there different choices you need to make?
2. It has been said, “*Those who know God’s grace extend God’s grace to others.*” How might the “extending” of grace to others be a part of your life? To whom do you need to “extend” grace?

TAKE HOME QUESTION: If you had to pick just one insight from this study that speaks specifically to you, what would it be? Why? How do you plan to respond to it?