



INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

BOUND TO SIN OR GOD?

PASSAGE OVERVIEW

This passage has three contrasts. The first is the contrast between Adam and Jesus Christ. The phrase “one man” appears over and over. The impact of the one man, Adam, has reached us all. His sin has bound us all over to sin. The curse of death which he bore has been transferred to all of his descendants.

But now another one has appeared, Jesus. Through this one man, justification is offered to all people and with it, eternal life. Born in sin as the descendants of Adam, we are now offered forgiveness through one man only, Jesus.

The second contrast is between death and life. Sin leads to death. Forgiveness of sin through Jesus leads to life. But this truth goes beyond a simple momentary transaction. This new life means a new walk. A new way of living, in fellowship with and obedience to Christ, becomes the new pattern.

Thirdly, this new way of living represents a new allegiance. Once bound to sin, we are now bound to God. We are slaves of the one we obey. When we are bound to sin, we are free in regard to righteousness. The standards of righteousness don't bother us. But when we are bound to Christ, we become free from the power and dominion of sin.

To whom then do we belong? To sin and death? Or to Christ and life?

We deserve death. Life is an undeserved gift of God's grace through Jesus.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

Romans 5:12 – 6:23

I. **Jesus took your place.** (3:21-31)

- A. Justified
- B. In Jesus
- C. Through faith
- D. By grace

II. **Credit, not debit.** (4:1-25)

- A. Abraham
 - B. David (from Ps 32:1-20)
 - C. The same principle is true for us. (4:23-25)
- Credit, not debit. Paid in full by Jesus. No debt remains.

III. **Four results of justification.** (5:1-5)

- A. Peace with God (5:1)
- B. Access
- C. Rejoice in the hope of His glory
- D. Growth - progressive sanctification (5:3-5)

The only way you can be justified is by faith; trusting that Jesus stood in your place so that you can stand in His righteousness.

How does this apply to me?
