

8-17-14 Message

ORIGINAL SIN

Romans 5:12-14

Introduction:

- It is natural to be curious about the origin of things
 1. Little kids _____ - “Mom, where did I come from?”
 2. Scientists have developed theories _____ on the origin of life (e.g. evolution, the Big Bang)
- There is a book on origins in the Bible – Genesis
 1. The Hebrew word means “beginning”
 2. It is not a theory but an eyewitness account
 - a. Moses recorded it
 - b. The Church reported it
- The apostle Paul goes back to the truths of Genesis to look at the first sin and how it affected mankind.
 1. The first sin is known as original sin.
 2. If we understand the doctrine of original sin, we will better understand our situation and the solution to man’s problem and our own problem.

The Nature To Sin Came Through One Man (12a)

...through one man sin entered into the world

- What is the definition of world?
 1. It is not the universe - Satan, who was the serpent in the garden (Rev 12:9), was already doing the sinful work of darkness (2 Cor 11:3).
 2. It is mankind in general (e.g. Jn 3:16 – God loved people, humans, because He created mankind in His image).
 3. So through one man sin entered into mankind
- Who was the one man through whom sin entered into mankind?
 1. The word “Adam” is a Hebrew word that was adopted into the Greek language, as well as our language
 2. Adam can refer
 - a. To the first man
 - b. To the first male and female (Gen 1:26,27 – God created “Adam” male and female)
 3. Paul is not excluding Eve by the word Adam, but he seems to be focusing on Adam, the male as seen in verse 14.
- What is sin?
 1. Sin literally means to miss the mark
 - a. What mark or standard has God set for mankind? The standard of faith (Rom 14:23; Heb 11:6)
 - b. Adam and Eve had one rule – don’t eat from the forbidden tree; they ate because they did not trust God! (Gen 3:6)
 2. The sin in this context is the sin nature
 - a. Through Adam the sin nature entered into mankind
 - b. Ps 51:5 states that this nature is present at birth and even at conception (see also Eph 2:3 – by nature we were children of wrath; 1 Cor 2:14 – a natural person is not spiritual).
- It does not seem fair that we inherit a sin nature
 1. Do not presume that you would not have sinned if you were Adam or Eve.

2. The fact is we are conceived and born with a sin nature.

The Penalty Of Sin Spread To All Men (12b)

...and death through sin, and so death spread to all men

●The penalty of sin is d_____

1. This penalty was set b_____ Adam and Eve sinned (Gen 2:17)
2. Satan played w_____ games with God's word to get Adam and Eve to eat the forbidden fruit.
 - a. Satan changed the definition of d_____ to immediate physical death (Gen 3:5).
 - b. The phrase "you will surely die" Satan restricted to the d_____ of the offense as opposed to what God meant - that their f_____ of death was certain in the day they disobey
 - c. Beware of the devil's tricks to get you to twist God's word to support your own beliefs or defend your actions.

●Death comes in two ways

1. S_____ly – as soon as Adam and Eve sinned they h_____ from God (Gen 3:8). Spiritual death is where our spirit separates from God.
 - a. We are body, soul and s_____ (I Thess 5:23)
 - b. Unbelievers are d_____ (spiritually) in their trespasses and sins (Eph 2:5).
 - c. The g_____ is preached to those who are dead (spiritually) so that they will live in their spirit (I Pet 4:6)
2. P_____ly – the separation of the spirit from the body (Jms 2:26).

The Blame For Sin's Penalty Is Put On All Mankind (12c)

...and so death spread to all men because all sinned

●Historical controversy in the 5th century over original sin

1. Pelagius taught that God would be unjust to condemn the whole human race for Adam's sin. He taught that we are sinners by choice. Adam was just a b_____ example.
2. Augustine taught that all of mankind was present in the loins of Adam and so when he sinned, all sinned.
3. You do not have to choose one side over the other, be b_____, not philosophical.

●The Greek translated as *because all sinned*, is not that simple

1. It can mean "in which or whom" or "upon which or whom" (e.g. Acts 7:33) or it can mean "because"
2. The context determines the meaning
 - a. If it means "in whom" than it is saying that we sinned in Adam. – *through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, in whom all sinned.* – "in whom" is too far away from "one man" to understand it this way.
 - b. If it means "because" than it is saying that death is our fault. – *death spread to all men, because all sinned.*

●We cannot blame anyone but o_____ for the penalty of sin (Rom 3:23)

Conclusion:

●Paul is comparing how Adam is like Christ – just as through one man came sin, so through one man came salvation. But don't draw other parallels (see verse 15).

●If you understand the doctrine of original sin

1. You will better appreciate your s_____
2. You will realize that the s_____ to your basic problem and anyone's basic problem is found in one – Christ.