

Romans 5:15-21

- The phrase most commonly used in this passage that stood out to me was "free gift"
- So I'd like to preach to you this morning about this "free gift"
- ~~Everybody has a free gift~~
- What an amazing gift God has given to us, his Son, Jesus Christ - who is God by the way...
- God has given to us himself...
- God told Abraham, "I am ~~your great~~ thing exceeding great reward."
- There is no greater possession than to have God...
- "To as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the Sons of God."
- That little baby that was born in a manger wrapped in swaddling clothes was the "free gift" of God... Just like we wrap up Christmas gifts lay them down under a Christmas tree, God wrapped up baby Jesus and laid him down in a manger...
- God gives us this "free gift". God offers the free gift. And says "Whoever will may come!"
- ~~And~~ And for 2000 years the doors have been swung wide open... And the Spirit and bride say "Come"
- Come & take of the water of life freely

- The transaction is done. The Law is fulfilled. The Payment has been made. You are free to come, free to ~~take~~ take that which God has provided.
- Where the Spirit of God is, there is Liberty - Freedom. - The shackles have been cut. - The Gates of Hell have been busted wide open. - The Veil has been rent. - There is no hindrance. There is no toll, price, or fee. - Just come.
- There's nothing to keep you or hinder you from the "free gift" of God.
- If there was, it wouldn't be free & it wouldn't be a gift.

- So a few things about the "free gift"

#1 vs 15 It's by one man

- We talked 3 weeks ago about Adam.
- Wherefore as by man sin entered into the world and death by sin & so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned.
- It was by One Man. (God made other people)
- If God created other men by which sin came, then that opens the door to God using other men to bring the gift of God.

- We're indoctrinated and to us it's absurd to think that God would bring salvation by someone other than Jesus Christ...
- The bible says, "But not as the offense, so also is the free gift!"
- This is a little strange, but remember this is the KJV or translation, not an interpretation...
- This was translated from Greek into Old English so it's gonna sound funny...
- Paul is comparing & contrasting at the same time... "Not as" & "so also is" at the same time...
- What Paul is demonstrating is that the free gift accomplishes the opposite of what Adam did yet in similar fashion...

And in verse 15, the fashion in which is noted is that it's one One man

- Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, & the life, and no man cometh to the Father except by me..."
- When John appeared before Jesus in Revel... & fell dead at his feet, Jesus laid his right hand upon him and said, "Fear not; I am the first & the last; I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen, and have the keys of hell and death..."

- One man has got the keys.
- If you're trying to get out of death & hell and go to anyone else other than Jesus, you're going to the wrong one. They don't have the keys.
- One man has got the keys.
- It's one man, one Lord, one faith, one baptism. Eph 4:5

So the similarity from Adam to Jesus is that there is a sole benefactor.

- Also in verse 15, Paul demonstrates another similarity in that there are many beneficiaries.
 - It wasn't just Adam & Eve that got kicked out of the Garden, it was everybody. We all got kicked out of the Garden.
 - Likewise, ~~it wasn't just Jesus~~ the righteousness of Jesus was not just for him, but was imputed to all that believe.

- The bible does say, "Straight is gate and narrow is the way that leadeth into life, and few there be that find it." And it is few compared to the many that choose death & destruction.

- But compared to the one that died on the cross for sins, it's going to be MANY.

- There is going to be Many people in heaven --

Reve 7:9

"After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands, and cried with a loud voice, SALVATION to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."

God told Abraham Gen 22:17 "... I will multiply thy seed as the stars of heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore, and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice --

Paul said the Abraham is the father of not just them of the circumcised, but who also walk in the steps of faith of our father Abraham --

4:16) Therefore it is of FAITH, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the FAITH of Abraham; who is the Father of us all --

(Repeat Gen 22)

1 Cor
15: 55

- O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law, But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ
- 2 Thim 1: 8-10 (Read)

Be not then therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. * But is now manifested by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

- Death is Powerful, but the free gift is more powerful.
- Sin in one man. (The offense of one) was strong enough and potent enough to bring sin many. "The judgment was by one to condemnation (of us all)"
- It was so strong that it brought down the entire race of man.
- (Ebola) Everybody is worried about it. --- Explain
- We know who the 1st one infected was and everybody has got the disease. Everybody is stricken with it + Nobody survives it.

- However, there is a cure for this one
 - That's the free gift (claim 15¢/gallon / \$25/cure)
 - No, this one is free... and it works everytime
 - Since Adam, sin has abounded
 - Think about the sin of Adam... He ~~did~~ ate the wrong fruit...
 - What have you done wrong?
 - You realize that our sin alone is 100,000X more deadly than what Adam did
 - Sin has abounded → You talk about a CUTBACK ^{EPIDEMIC}
 - But grace did much more abound
- Why? Because it didn't just cure one man's one sin
 It cured ^{many} many men's multitude of transgressions

1516
 * (Reps 17) **STOP** Reign

What a Saviour? Jesus is exactly what we needed
 We needed something greater, something to overthrow
 this King of Death

- God sent us (gave us) the King of Kings to fight our battle
- God gave us freely his own Son

- One benefactor
- Many beneficiaries
- Much more powerful benefits
- The benefit ---

- What is the benefit ---

vs 17. ~~in~~ reign in life

vs 18. Justification of life

vs 21. Eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord

- What is the benefit. --- It's life --- ETERNAL

- I tell you (last week) I like to live ---

- I like life --- I want to live ---!

- Eternal life ---

- Eternal means no beginning + no end ---

-> So we won't just live forever, but we shall have lived from ever ---

- I can't wrap my mind around it, but it sounds great! It sounds glorious!

- I want to live!!

- Jesus said, "I came that you might have LIFE and have more abundantly ---"

- I want to experience MORE ABUNDANTLY!!!

- Bless the LORD, Oh my soul

And forget Not all his BENEFITS!

Eternal Life?

A Free Gift.

- For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him ~~will~~ ~~everlastingly~~ ~~live~~. should not perish but have eternal life.

Adam - As sure as you sit here, as sure as your flesh & bones
In Jesus we have the surety of a new life & one day
a new body, and a new home.