

At the start of the Reformation of the Church in Scotland in 1557, John Knox wrote to his congregation before going into exile and said,

“You are bishops and kings; your wife, children, servants, and family are your bishopric and charge. Of you it shall be required how carefully and diligently you have instructed them in God’s true knowledge . . .

And therefore I say, you must make them partakers in, exhorting, and in making common prayers, which I would in every house were used once a day at least.”

Let’s Worship God

13th-18th May 2013
Romans



Let's Worship God is a ministry of



Airdrie Reformed Presbyterian Church

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Family worship, a joy to be experienced every day!



Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
Romans 5:6

reading Romans 5:12-14 - The Ruin of the Fall

notes Sin is an intrusion into this world. It has invaded it from elsewhere (verse 12). But it secured its footing here by means of Adam. He had received a clear command from God, and was free and able to keep it. Yet, fully knowing the consequences, he disobeyed. What was the result? Death!

Death came by sin. Death is not natural to man; that is why we fear it. Death meant that Adam's fellowship with God was broken, he was expelled from paradise, and physical death inevitably followed. If he had not sinned, he would not have died.

This single sin of one man is the cause of universal death. When Adam sinned, all sinned. Adam is mankind. He is the federal and representative head of the whole human race. There is a unity in the race. Adam and ourselves are members of one another, like root and branches. God ordained that we should stand in this relationship to him. When Adam sinned, we sinned.

It's no good saying, 'It's not fair!', for these are the facts. It is pointless to say, 'I would not have done what Adam did!', for we ourselves do as he did every day of our lives. It is foolish to say, 'It is unjust', because the very representative principle which makes us sinners is the same principle by which One, Jesus Christ, saves sinners.

questions

1. How did death come into the world?
2. How did Adam sin?

praise pray

Ps. 39:1-6

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
Romans 5:6

reading Romans 6:1-11 - United to Christ

notes When did you, as an individual Christian, die to sin? When were you resurrected to live for God?

To answer this we must look at our union with Christ which we who are Christians enjoy. The New Testament describes a Christian as someone who is in Christ. You were united to Christ by God, being chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world (Eph. 1:4). When Christ lived His perfect life on earth, that life was reckoned by God to be your life - that is the truth of justification which was explained in chapters 1-5. When Christ died, His death was reckoned by God to be your death, so that God declares that there is no longer any eternal death for you to die as the penalty for your sin. This, too, is something which Paul told us in chapters 1-5. In the same way, when Christ rose from the dead, His resurrection was reckoned by God to be your resurrection (Eph. 2:5). The whole of your salvation depends on the fact of your union with Christ.

Knowing this, read again verses 2-6, 8, and 10-11. Our question is now answered. It was when Jesus died on the cross that you died to sin. He did not just die for you (a truth covered in chapters 1-5). You died with Him. In the reckoning of God, you were also on the cross when Christ died. It is the same with His resurrection. Because in the plan of God you are united to Christ, you are reckoned to have risen when He did. You rose when Christ rose. Paul brings this out clearly in verses 4-5 and 8-9. You have risen never to die again. Christ lives unto God, and so do you. That is why you are to reckon yourself to be alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord, as verse 11 says.

questions

1. What does it mean to be united to Christ?
2. When did we die to sin?

praise pray

Ps. 41:1-6

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Fri.
17th May

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
For while we were still
weak, at the right time
Christ died for the ungodly.
Romans 5:6

reading Romans 6:1-11 - Dead to Sin

notes Some might ask: If I am not saved by righteous living, why should I bother with righteous living now? It cannot make me any more saved. The grace of God is at its greatest where sin is at its worst, so the more I sin, the more I will experience the grace and kindness of God. Paul's reaction is one of horror and he says, How can we who died to sin still live in it?

If you are a Christian, you need to understand your relationship to sin, the old master who once ruled you. You have undergone a death (verses 2-6). Because you have died this death, sin is no longer able to be the controlling factor in your life. Being dead, you are now freed from sin (verses 7, 11). It once dominated you. It was your master, your ruler. Like a tyrant, it kept you in bondage and misery. But that relationship is now completely ended, because you have undergone a death. You are dead to sin. Instead, you now have a relationship with a new master, who is God. After your death to sin, a resurrection took place (verses 4-5). You are now alive with no possibility of dying again (verses 8-9). You are dead to sin but alive to God through Jesus Christ (verse 11). One master, and only one, has any legitimate claim upon you, and that master is God Himself!

A believer is not a person who has two masters, each of whom dictates to him at different times. He is not some sort of schizophrenic, sometimes ruled by one nature and its standards and sometimes by another. If a person is in Christ he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and all things have become new. The old man is off, and the new man is on. There are difficulties in living the life of the new man, as we shall see - nonetheless, there are no longer two masters. A Christian is dead to one, and alive to the Other.

questions
1. Who was your old master?
2. Who is your new master?

praise pray
Ps. 40:13-18
1. Give thanks that you are dead to sin.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Tue.
14th May

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
For while we were still
weak, at the right time
Christ died for the ungodly.
Romans 5:6

reading Romans 5:12-14 - Punishment The Same

notes Look at verses 13-14. The statement sin is not counted where there is no law shows a general principle Paul insists on (4:15). Since sin is breaking the law, it's obvious there can be no sin if there is no law. And Paul has just said that sin was in the world, so therefore there must have been law. And remember his argument from chapter 1 that the law of God is written on every man's heart. So, how can Paul say that there is sin before the law is given? The only explanation seems to be that Paul is talking about two types of law. There is a general law, written on everyone's heart by God, but there is also a specific law given by God to Moses. And before this law is given, yes, men and women sin, they sin against the law written on their hearts, but unlike the sin of Adam some are not sinning against a specific, revealed command of God. But they still die. They aren't sinning in the same way as Adam, but the punishment is the same. Why is this? This is the crux of Paul's argument in verses 13-14. They die because Adam's sin is counted against them as well. Being a sinner isn't just what they do, it is who they are.

What their representative had done affected them personally. The action of one affected all. The sin of one ruined the many. What ruin! There was no hope for the race, except in this - that by his being a representative head, Adam was a figure, type, and counterpart of Him who was to come. The representative principle which is the cause of our ruin is also the means of our salvation. In that sense there is a parallel between Adam and Christ. One is the type of the Other. There is a first Adam, and there is a last Adam. Such is the grace of God that even the ruin of man teaches us about Christ, the Saviour of sinners!

questions
1. Why were men and women punished the same as Adam when they hadn't sinned like Adam?
2. Who was Adam a type of?

praise pray
Ps. 39:7-11
1. Give thanks that there is a second Adam.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Wed.
15th May

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
For while we were still
weak, at the right time
Christ died for the ungodly.
Romans 5:6

reading Romans 5:15-18 - Representation

notes There is a resemblance between Adam and Christ. But there are also important differences. The free gift of salvation through Christ bears virtually no resemblance to the Fall through Adam. This is the chief point for us to grasp from verse 15 to the end of the chapter. Our ruin in Adam is great. Our salvation in Christ is greater. It is greater in privilege and benefit. Christ's power to save exceeds Adam's power to ruin, and we receive more blessings in Him than we lost at the Fall.

Paul underlines this in verse 16. There are parallels between Adam and Christ, but they fail. The ruin brought by the one who sinned cannot compare with the gift which has come through the Other. Through the one offense of Adam, the sentence of condemnation was passed upon mankind. But Christ's free gift excels this. Although there had been many repetitions of that first sin, He reversed the sentence, and caused many sinners to be brought into a right relationship with God.

By Adam's one offense, death reigned and held sway over us all (verse 17). But see what Christ brought us! His undeserved kindness overflowed towards us; His gift is righteousness reckoned to our account, and we share, and shall share, in His risen life and glory.

Look at verse 18. By the offense of Adam, condemnation came upon all who are united to him. By the righteousness of Christ, justification and life came to all united to Him! By saying 'all men' Paul does not mean that every single person will be saved. His previous chapters have made it clear that many will be condemned. He is arguing, rather, from the representative principle. Adam ruins all whom he represents. Christ brings justification and life to all whom He represents.

questions

1. What is the difference between Adam and Christ?
2. What has Christ given us?

praise pray Ps. 40:1-6

1. Give thanks that Christ is our representative.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Thur.
16th May

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
For while we were still
weak, at the right time
Christ died for the ungodly.
Romans 5:6

reading Romans 5:18-21 - Perfect Obedience

notes In verse 18 Paul talks about one act of righteousness. He is referring to the supreme act of obedience which was the climax of Christ's whole life of obedience - His securing of our salvation at the cross. We should be glad to note that Christ has not secured merely our forgiveness. He has secured righteousness for us! We are declared not guilty because Christ has paid the price for us, but we are also declared righteous because Christ's perfect righteousness has been credited to our account. This means that not only will we not be going to Hell, we are also admitted into Heaven to enjoy eternal life with God. It was the disobedience of one which constituted us sinners (verse 19). But Christ obeyed! This has constituted the many righteous. His righteousness is imputed to us. It is reckoned to our account.

The giving of the Law did not alleviate man's ruined condition (verse 20). The Law served to show sin up for what it really is. God's commands were crystal clear. But the human heart was unchanged, and was depraved enough to do the very opposite of what God had commanded. And so, after the giving of the Law, sin was compounded because everyone had it right there in black and white what to do, and inexcusably, they still disobeyed. Yet Christ's salvation was to be greater than the ruin. Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.

Sin reigned (verse 21). The proof of this was that there was spiritual and physical death everywhere. Yet the benefits of redemption were going to exceed even that! Christ came, kept the Law, and exhausted its penalty, so that justice was not set aside. On this basis He now gives His people eternal life. Death reigned. Sin reigned. But for us grace reigns! It reigns by Jesus Christ our Lord.

questions

1. What does Christ's perfect obedience mean?
2. What reigns in our lives now?

praise pray Ps. 40:7-12

1. Give thanks for Christ's perfect obedience.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.