

## The Overthrow of Death (Romans 5:12-21)

### I. The Power of Death Reigned in the World (12-14)

#### A. Death has infected the world through sin (12)

##### 1. Death Entered Through One Man (Adam)

- a. Sin Came through Adam
- b. Death came from sin

##### 2. Death Spread Through the World

- a. All men sin
- b. All men die

#### B. Death Proves that sin came before law (13-14)

##### 1. Sin Exists even where there is no given law (13)

##### 2. Death Reigns from Adam to Moses (14)

- a. There was no written law before Moses
- b. There was God's standard and the law written on hearts
- c. (there has always been law, but it had not been recorded yet)
- d. Their transgression wasn't like Adam's
  - i. Adam was given a law (Don't Eat)
  - ii. Adam was mankind's representative
  - iii. Other men's sin only accounts to them, Adams passed to all
  - iv. As a representative, he was a "type" (foreshadowing) of Christ – i.e. As Christ represents believers to the Father, Adam represents all men outside of Christ

### II. The Power of Grace Overcame Death in the World (15-21)

#### A. Grace Intervenes (15-19)

##### 1. The Gift of Grace is Greater than sin and death (15-17)

- a. The gift is greater than the offence (15)
  - i. The gift isn't like the offence (transgression of Adam)
    - a. Through a man's action, many inherited death
    - b. Through God's Action many will inherit life
    - c. Death (condemnation) spreads by birth – you don't need to do anything – You are born a sinner
    - d. Life spreads by God's grace through faith
    - e. He takes action
- b. The gift is more powerful than condemnation (16)
  - i. the gift isn't like the transgression
    - a. Through one transgression many condemned
    - b. Through one act many transgressions were justified.
  - ii. by one transgression – death came to all
  - iii. by one act of righteousness – all transgressions paid
  - iv. The cross is more powerful than Adam's sin
  - v. The cross is more powerful than all sin

##### c. The gift removes the reign of death (17)

- i. Death reigned through one man's sin
    - ii. Those receiving grace in Christ now reign in life
      - a. There is no more death for the believer
      - b. Death is defeated (See John 11:26)
  - 2. The Gift and Death are Mediated Through one Act (18-19)
    - a. Through one man's disobedience many made sinners
    - b. Through one man's obedience many made righteous
- B. Grace Now Reigns Rather than Death (20-21)
  - 1. God's Grace Overpowers Sin (20)
    - a. The Law increased the understanding of sin
      - i. People didn't realize the magnitude of sin until the law
      - ii. The law increases man's sinfulness as he realizes the extent to which he breaks God's law
    - b. Where sin increases, Grace abounds more
      - i. There is no sin grace cannot cover
      - ii. There is no sin Christ doesn't atone for
  - 2. God's Grace Reigns Through Christ's Righteousness (21)
    - a. Just like sin reigned through death
    - b. Grace reigns through righteousness
      - i. It is grace through Jesus Christ
      - ii. It is grace by faith
      - iii. It is grace that conquers sin and death