

Romans

SERMON SERIES

Romans



HOW DO WE
LIVE THEN?

CHAPTERS 4-8



Journey of Job



Was live



This Weeks Sermon
“The Problem of Evil”

What prompted Adam and Eve to choose
Evil?

1. *Evil*
2. *Good*
3. *Neutral*



This Week's Sermon:
The True and Better Adam
Romans 5:12-14

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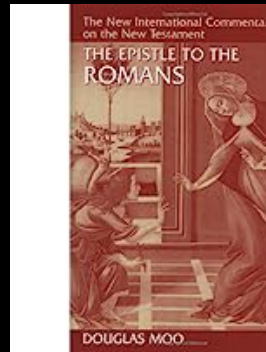
Big Q: Can we be declared guilty by a representative?

Romans 5:12-14

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In a passage that rivals 3:21–26 for theological importance, Paul paints with broad brush strokes a bird’s-eye picture of the history of redemption. His canvas is human history, and the scope is universal. We hear nothing in this paragraph of Jew and Gentile; both are subsumed under the larger category “human be-ing.”

Moo, D. J. (2018). *The Letter to the Romans*. (N. B. Stonehouse, F. F. Bruce, G. D. Fee, & J. B. Green, Eds.) (Second Edition, p. 343). Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.



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I. Just as... So also...

A. Sinners through Adam

Romans 5:12-14

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Genesis 3:1-6

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Genesis 3:1-6

⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Romans 5:12-14

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Original Sin

Original sin is foolishness to men, but it is admitted to be such. You must not then reproach me for the want of reason in this doctrine, since I admit it to be without reason. But this foolishness is wiser than all the wisdom of men. For without this, what can we say that man is? His whole state depends on this imperceptible point. And how should it be perceived by his reason, since it is a thing against reason, and since reason, far from finding it out by her own ways, is averse to it when it is presented to her?

~Pascal



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Original Sin

If I am born with a sin nature, how can God hold me accountable for my sins?

Original Sin

Realism

Original Sin

Realism

Federalism

There is only one time in all of human history when we have been perfectly, accurately represented, and we did not choose our own representative. God chose our representative for us. Adam was the perfect choice for you and for me. God holds me accountable for what Adam did, because Adam did in fact truly, perfectly and infallibly represent me. He was my candidate. I did not choose him; God did. But again, if we suppose that when God chose Adam to represent us, that his choice was malicious or foolish, fallible or inaccurate, what are we saying about God?

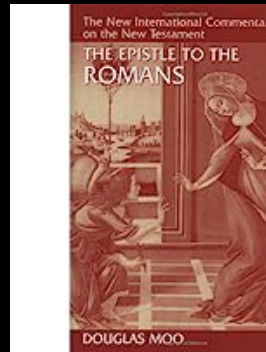
When we make those kinds of complaints and register those kinds of protests, we are proving how accurate the choice was, because when we assail the integrity of God in making the selection for us, we are revealing our own fallenness.

Sproul, R. C. (1994). *The Gospel of God: An Exposition of Romans* (pp. 103–104). Great Britain: Christian Focus Publications.



On the view we are examining, these statements must be expanded to mean “one man’s trespass resulted in the corruption of human nature, which caused all people to sin, and so brought condemnation on all men.” While it is possible that Paul would want us to assume these additions, he has given us little basis for doing so.

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B. Death Through Sin

Romans 5:12-14

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Physical Death or Spiritual Death?

Romans 5:21

...as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. How Can One Sin Without the Law?

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D. Jesus, the greater Adam

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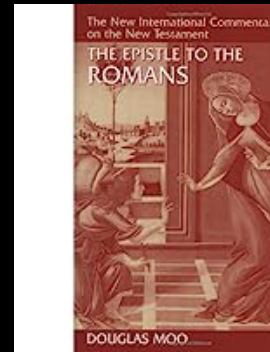
D. Jesus, the greater Adam

Adam

Jesus

The main connection is with the teaching of assurance of final salvation in the immediately preceding paragraph (vv. 2b, 9–10). The passage shows why those who have been justified and reconciled can be so certain that they will be saved from wrath and share in “the glory of God”: it is because Christ’s act of obedience ensures eternal life for all those who are “in Christ.”

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Gospel Application

Jesus ensures eternal life by his obedience, not yours.