



# Romans

**Right With God**

**Two**

**Men**

**Lesson Twenty-Five**

*Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum*

# Romans

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Lesson Twenty-Five

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### Two Men

In today's lesson, we can get distracted by words. Paul is making very sure that the Romans get what he is talking about, so he uses repetition. Read Romans 5:12-21

Now do you see what we mean about a lot of words? Well, let's break it down and see if that makes it any better. There are two Jewish concepts which shed light on this: First there is the idea of *solidarity*.\* The Jew thought of himself as a member of the tribe. This is how Paul sees Adam. Adam and Eve sinned, and all of their family (tribe), including you and me, are guilty of the sin. Second, we see here Paul's reference to the Jewish idea that *death is the direct consequence of sin*. The Jews believed that if Adam hadn't sinned, all humanity, Adam's tribe, would live forever. The Jews rightfully believed that sin and death were forever connected. Paul points out that Adam did sin, and because he sinned, he died. He died even though it was God's intention that he live forever.

Everyone between Adam and Moses died before the Law was written down. So, technically, they died without breaking the law. Why did they die? Paul says that it was because Adam sinned, and they were descendents of Adam. They were part of the tribe, and were guilty of Adam's sin.

In summary, because of solidarity, all of us are part of the tribe...humanity... and all of us are sinners because of Adam. Also, because death is the direct consequence of sin, all humans are condemned to death. Ezekiel 18:4b says that "The soul who sins is the one who will die."

So, now we know what happened to us because of the first man. But, let's keep going....

Into this bad, this hopeless, situation comes Jesus in a blaze of glory. Jesus was good, righteous, perfect in God's sight. And, just as all humans sinned in Adam, all humans can be included in Jesus' righteousness. Think about it, just as Adam's sin was the cause of death, Jesus' goodness, His righteousness, conquers death and gives us eternal life. The solidarity works both ways. Humanity was solid with Adam and so all died. But, we can be solid with Christ, and be forever alive.

Jesus, by how He came, by what He did, by who He is, by what is available through Him, by what He has yet to do, becomes the second Man. This Man also has a tribe. Joining His tribe erases the curse of sin. Gloriously, miraculously, effectively and eternally Jesus saves us from the curse of sin, and places in us new life. The spiritual future of all willing humanity is life. Think about it this way: You go to the doctor and the doctor says, "You have cancer." She says, "You have two choices, you can live with it, but it will kill you soon. However, if

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you will give your permission, I will perform surgery and remove the cancer and you will suffer no long term bad effects. You can be cancer free!”

Now, you must decide. You can look at the cancer as something that is native to your body. It became part of your body naturally. And because it came naturally, you decide that you are just going to leave well enough alone and let your body deal with it.

Or, you can say, “Doctor, cut it out. I want to live!” Jesus does that. He takes away our sin.

Two men walked on this earth. The first Adam, ruined it for all of us. The second Adam, Jesus, stepped from eternity, humbled Himself and became a servant, died to pay the price for sin, and offered that salvation to everyone...everyone...everyone, even you and me.

**Scripture Memory: “For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.” Romans 5:19**

\*Underlined statements in this Teacher’s Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher’s Guide.

### **For the Teacher:**

***Lesson Goal: To help students follow Paul’s logical argument about Adam, sin, and Jesus, salvation.***

1. In this passage two sides of human relationship with God are represented by two men: (William R. Newell)

One man, Adam:

Was the source of sin in the world, verse 12a

When he sinned, death passed to all his heirs, verse 12b

By his sin, many died, verse 15

Through this one man, judgment for one sin brought condemnation, verse 16

By his sin, the sin of one, death had control, verse 17

Through this one sin, condemnation came upon all humans, verse 18

Because this one man sinned, many became sinners, verse 19

On the other hand, one man, Jesus:

Became the second Adam, verse 14

Though many were condemned as sinners by the act of Adam, the free gift of grace through Jesus “overflow(ed) to the many.” Verse 15

Though Adam’s sin caused condemnation to all his heirs, the sacrifice of Jesus brought justification to all, verse 18

Was obedient. His sacrifice on the cross, brings righteousness to many, verse 19

Is the one who makes God’s grace abundantly available, and lifts believers up to reign as kings in life, verse 17

2. Parallel Passage: I Corinthians 15:21, “As by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.”

3. For “tribal responsibility” (Solidarity) review the story of Achan in Joshua, chapter seven

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### *Student Worksheet*

## Two Men

=There are two Jewish concepts which shed light on this: First there is \_\_\_\_\_.

Second is Paul's reference to the Jewish idea, *death is the direct consequence of* \_\_\_\_\_.

=Because of solidarity, all of us are part of the \_\_\_\_\_...humanity... and all of us are \_\_\_\_\_ because of Adam.

=Just as all humans sinned in Adam, all humans can be included in Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_.

=Solidarity works both ways. Humanity was solid with Adam and so all \_\_\_\_\_. But, we can be solid with Christ, and be forever \_\_\_\_\_.

=Two men walked on this earth. The first Adam, \_\_\_\_\_ it for all of us. The second Adam, Jesus, stepped from eternity, humbled Himself and became a \_\_\_\_\_, died to pay the price for \_\_\_\_\_, and offered that \_\_\_\_\_ to everyone, even \_\_\_\_\_ and me.

**Scripture Memory: "For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous." Romans 5:19**

#### **A Roman Road to Salvation:**

**Romans 3:23** "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Everyone is a sinner and needs salvation.

**Romans 6:23a** "For the wages of sin is death." The law of God is unchangeable. If someone sins the penalty must be paid, the payment is death.

**Romans 5:8** "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us." God loves us so much, according to John 3:16, that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins.

**Romans 6:23b** "But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." The penalty for sin is spiritual death, but God, through the death of Jesus on the cross, took the penalty for the sins of all people, and now everyone can have eternal life. See also, II Corinthians 5:21

**Romans 10:9, 10** "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." To personally receive the gift of God, eternal life in Christ Jesus, you trust God to be what He says He is. Believing that "God raised Him (Jesus) from the dead" is to accept all that the Bible says about God and His Son, Jesus. Then you speak (confess) the words, "Jesus is Lord," as a statement of faith. Believing "with your heart" means that you believe with your mind and with everything that you are.

**Romans 10:13** "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." You have the promise of God Himself that if you do what Romans 10:9, 10 says, you will become God's child and have eternal life.

**Romans 12:1, 2** "I urge you brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will." Becoming a Christian is a life-long act of faith and worship.