

Connect Group Notes

Sermon: Why your Family Matters more than you Think

Reading: Romans 5:12-21

Date: 10th March 2024 (AM)

- What is the point of Paul's comparison of Adam and Christ?
- Imputation is when something is attributed to us, or counted as ours. (Look at Rom. 4:8, 11, 22, 23, 24; 5:13 in the King James.)
- What does it mean and why is it important that Christ's righteousness is imputed to Christians?
- Is it unfair that Adam's sin is imputed to his descendants? Why would God set it up this way?

Read the following case studies and think how Rom. 5:12-21 might help:

Case Study One – Angela became a Christian at university. She quickly became involved in the Christian Union organising missions and other Christian events round the campus. She just loved Jesus so much at that time. She felt a closeness that still feels vivid now she thinks back on it.

Today, she still comes to Church every week, but it's not the same. Ever since having children she's tired. Bible study has slipped right back and when she prays it tends just to be a quick, "Help me now!"

She's worried that her days of enjoying her relationship with the Lord are over. Perhaps they were more because she was surrounded by excited students than real affections for Jesus. These doubts have been increasing recently and she wonders whether she was ever really a Christian at all. After all, if she's saved by faith, what happens when her faith fails?

Case Study Two – David used to be the pastor of a Church. He toiled for many years and retired late, and then only after he had been diagnosed with Dementia. His wife Cynthia has always looked to him for support, often his faith seemed enough for both of them.

Cynthia is increasingly worried. David not only often forgets who she is, he is now not only forgetting his years as a pastor but he seems to forget anything about being a Christian. There are certainly joyful moments of remembrance but the scales are tipping and it seems to be getting worse.

Cynthia confides to you that she's worried what will happen when Christ returns. After all, Scripture says that "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Rom. 10:13). What if he doesn't call on the Lord in that day? What if he's forgotten? Will he lose Christ at the last day?