

"THE TWO ADAMS CONTRASTED"**Introduction**

1. This passage is a summary of the Bible
2. It is a digest of all human history
3. To understand it is to see many gospel-truths clearly

1. THE HARM WHICH CAME TO THE LORD THROUGH ADAM

- 1) v.12: sin entered the world by Adam
- 2) The sin of Eve and that of Adam:
ILLUSTRATION: a dear lady: "no wars if women ruled"!
- 3) Death came on the heels of sin (Gen. 2:17)
OBSERVE: Three forms of death
- 4) "For that all have sinned". Explain.
- 5) The universality of sin in the world
- 6) "Until the law": how sin relates to law
ILLUSTRATION: No sin among beasts
- 7) Death even to infants.
APPLICATION: Let us realise how serious God is

2. THE GOOD WHICH HAS COME TO THE WORLD BY CHRIST

- 1) Christ is the Last Adam: He has the cure
- 2) We refer to two Covenants: Explain
- 3) v.14: Adam = "the figure of him..." (Christ)
- 4) The same teaching is in 1 Cor. 15

- 5) Christ is a covenant-head like Adam:
 - (i) where Adam failed, Christ prevailed
 - (ii) the sin of Adam dealt with
 - (iii) death also put to death by Christ
OBSERVE: "The death of death": Owen
APPLICATION: 1 Cor. 15 shows this more fully.
- 6) So Christ is the One who puts right all that Adam put wrong:
 - (i) disobedience to God
 - (ii) sin imputed to all mankind
 - (iii) all (even babies) liable to death
APPLICATION: See why Christ calls himself a "Doctor" (or Physician). He heals and puts right all our miseries.

3. THE GOOD WHICH CHRIST BRINGS IS GREATER THAN THE HARM WHICH ADAM BROUGHT

- 1) Christ has done us more for good than Adam did us for harm:
 - (i) We must not think they are equivalent
 - (ii) Christ's work exceeds Adam's as Paul says
- 2) There are here 3 points of difference:
 - (i) v.15: one sin put many to death; but God's grace abounds to many sinners
 - (ii) v.16: one sin brought condemnation; but God's grace brings to many justification
 - (iii) v.17: by one sin death reigned; but by God's grace all believing Christians shall reign in grace + go to glory
- 3) Paul's conclusions:
 - (i) v.18: Christ has reversed Adam's sin
 - (ii) v.19: many now are made righteous

CONCLUSION

1. See how essential it is to get into Christ + out of Adam.
2. **Illustration**: a sinking ship
3. The only way to live + die safely is in Christ.

PSALM**106: 1 – 6****69: 5 – 11****116: 13 – 19**