

WALKING IN GRACE

Scripture: Romans 5:12-19

March 3, 2020

"If death ruled because of one person's failure, those who receive the multiplied grace and the gift of righteousness will even more certainly rule in life through the one person Jesus Christ."

~ Romans 5:17, CEB

I usually don't pay much attention to the section headings in Bibles, because I know that they aren't part of the scripture and just summarize passages and separate verses into more easily understood chunks. However, the section heading right before verse 12 in my Bible struck me, reading, "Grace now rules." I must admit the first thing that popped in my head was "Grace Rules!" with the slang definition of "rules" that's more like "awesome" or "cool."

This passage describes how the rule of death and sin was ended by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Just as the Judgement of Adam was multiplied to all of humanity, the gift of grace through Christ was multiplied and made freely available to all. Grace doesn't just rule in the sense that it's awesome and cool, it has transformed our relationship to God in a way we didn't deserve and can never earn on our own. Grace acquits us, despite the ways we fail and fall short.

Imagine how it would feel to sit in a courtroom where grace is the judge. Imagine walking out of that courtroom, gaining freedom from death and sin. Do we live as though we have been set free? Are there aspects of ourselves we have not given over to grace and forgiveness? As we walk with Jesus, may the gift of grace rule in our lives, inviting others to join us along the way.

Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, let us never take your grace for granted. Strengthen us to share the good news with all those who long to hear it. In your name we pray. Amen.

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