

## The Basis of Justification (Representation) Romans 5:12-21

At this very moment, each member of humanity is represented before God by one of two men - Adam or Jesus Christ. Adam's one sin in the Garden brought death to himself and to all of humanity. No one can escape the verdict of condemnation because we are related to him. It may not seem fair, but because we were represented by one man, Adam, in death, we can also be represented by one man, Jesus, in life. And the one great hope for all of humanity is that the gracious act of Jesus completely overcomes the deadly act of Adam...and this gift is available to all who believe.

- Dead "in Adam" by default
  - Adam brought sin
  - Sin brought death
  - Death spread to all

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God....

- Physical death
- A sentence of "condemnation"

These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.... —2 Thessalonians 1:9

- "Made sinners"
- A lifetime of death

<b>Before the Fall</b>	<b>After the Fall</b>
innocent	guilty
free to choose	enslaved to sin
capable of good	incapable of good

"Total depravity"

- Alienated relationships – Gen 3
  - Intellect darkened – Eph 4
  - Emotions degraded – Eph 2
  - Conscience desensitized – 1 Tim 4
  - Spiritual perception dulled – Acts 28
  - Body degenerating – 2 Cor 4
- How did this happen?

Adam = "man"

1 Corinthians 15:22

...in Adam all die...

- This doesn't seem fair

"It is impossible for me to be held jointly responsible as though I were a joint cause for an act that another did many generations ago and in a situation radically different from mine." —Wolfgang Pannenberg

- Alive "in Christ" by faith

"At the sight of this last conflict, I felt a sensation never known to me before: a confusion of passions, an awful stillness of sorrow, a gloomy terror without a name."  
—Samuel Johnson

The weariest and most loathed worldly life that age, ache, [poverty] and imprisonment can lay on nature is a paradise [compared] to what we fear of death.  
—Shakespeare, *Measure for Measure*