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From Day One, God gave Adam a choice and everyone after him still has to choose. That choice is to obey God or to disobey Him—Adam chose to disobey and live his own way, and that changed everything—now everyone is born with a nature that is prone to sin. Fortunately, the Last Adam chose to *obey* God, so everyone can be *delivered* from a nature that would destroy them.

Romans 5:12 "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: 13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed [not taken into account] when there is no law."

Genesis 2:7 Says "Man became a living soul;" 1 Corinthians 15:45 "So it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [Jesus] was made a quickening [life-giving Spirit]." We should not be held accountable for the first Adam's sin, yet we give evidence of our rebellion and sin-nature by going our own way, doing as we please, and trusting our own decisions.

God gave Adam specific instructions as He gives us instructions: Genesis 2:16 "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest

*thereof thou shalt surely die.*" Just one command—but this included severe consequences for disobeying it.

Believing in Jesus as our Savior, and persevering in faith on the divine power of God, enables us to be *confident* and *assured* of entering His kingdom. It is a promise that cannot be cancelled or rescinded because God cannot be unfaithful to His promise. Hebrews 10:23 "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)."

The Father's love for us is proven—Romans 5:8 "God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Since we are *right* with the Father through the sacrifice of the Son, we can be *heirs* of the kingdom by a trusting in faith on the Blood of the cross.

Satan tempted Eve first, but the responsibility for the sin was Adam's, because the command was directed to him as head of the family. Adam should have insisted on them *obeying* God instead of allowing his wife to talk him into *disobeying* God.

Job's wife told him to blame God for his troubles, but Job replied, "'You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?' In all this, Job did not sin in what he said," Job 2:9-10. It is our own spiritual lack that allows the devil to attack.

Adam was given *one* restriction, but when he did not comply, his nature changed. Instead of *trusting* God in obedience, he *rebelled* against God in disobedience. That rebellious nature—so prone to rebel—was transmitted to everyone ever since. Romans 5:12 "*By one man sin entered into the world*."

We *all* have the propensity to disobey, disbelieve, and distance ourselves from God; we are *prone* to rebel; *form* our own plans; *make* our own decisions; and *follow* self to get what we want. Adam's *rebellion* corrupted his *nature*. That propensity to sin has become worse and worse over the centuries—perpetrating more wicked and evil acts.

During the last days, a time that is fast approaching, people will be Romans 1:29-30 "Full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, fighting, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful—inventors of evil things."

Knowing that the *first Adam* was the *first sinner* is important to our understanding the absolute *need* of a blood sacrifice by the *Last Adam*. Everyone *fell* into sin by the *fall* of the first Adam, but everyone can be *free* from that sin by *faith* in the last Adam—Jesus.

Romans 5:14-15 "Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come. But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!"

God gave the Law to Moses five hundred years *after* Abraham, so previous failures to obey the Law was not held against anyone. *Death reigned* because of the *sin nature* everyone inherits. 1 Corinthians 15:21-22 "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

We are made spiritually *alive* by trusting in faith on the shed *Blood* of Christ. *That* is *our* responsibility and *our* choice. The last Adam is a *life-giving spirit* 1 Corinthians 15:45 when we *believe* and *trust* on His resurrection power.

The *gift* we all need and the *forgiveness* all must have is given without any merit on *our* part. Jesus took our place on the cross—*that* was the

supreme act of divine love toward those under penalty of death. God's grace is offered to everyone who believes and trusts Jesus in faith for everything—health, healing, protection, money, forgiveness, and every other issue.

Romans 5:16-17 "And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but we have the free gift of being accepted by God, even though we are guilty of many sins. The sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over us, but all who receive God's wonderful, gracious gift of righteousness will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ."

To *transgress* means to *trespass* on prohibited areas—areas like self-trust. The *one sin* of Adam that was transferred to *everyone*, was a transgression of the *one command* not to eat from the *one* tree. Adam deliberately trespassed on the *path of disobedience* and brought spiritual death to everyone born since then.

Due to the fact that everyone begins life with a sin nature, everyone is under the penalty of death—prone to disobey God and to follow their own plans. Adam departed from the path of *obedience* and entered an area of *disobedience*. Instead of becoming *like God* he became *like Satan*.

Adam was the *first* to trespass on the prohibited territory of self-reliance. King David wrote Psalm 51:5 "In sin did my mother conceive me." That unbelieving nature must be replaced by a believing nature in order to meet God's one main requirement—John 6:29 "That you should be believers in Him whom He has sent."

The apostle wrote Romans 5:18-19 "Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. 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."

Now we have the choice to *believe* that Jesus made us right with the Father, so we can trust in Him for the forgiveness we need. Jesus not only *reversed* the curse, He also *provided* a way to be right before God—if we are willing to trust Him in *real faith* for *real life* issues—healing, protection, provisions, and every other concern.

The terrible result of the trespass was *spir-itual death*; but the marvelous result of the sacrifice was *spiritual life*—to all who believe; trust God; and keep that faith in God through every test. God's *grace* is *greater* than our sin, but we must trust Him in faith for that grace to be received—Galatians 3:7 "Only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham."

Sinners are justified through faith Romans 5:1-2 and we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand—if we believe God, and if we are trusting in the Atonement power of the cross. Romans 5:20-21 "The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

The Law shows us when we trespass on to forbidden areas outside the will of God. The Atonement Blood of Christ broke the *power* of sin, so the *effect* of Adam's sin is reversible through a *trusting* faith in the *resurrection power* of Christ.

The *result* of the transgression is *canceled* by the *sacrifice* of the Savior. We are now free from sin and able to follow Jesus. We will Romans 6:6 "No *longer be slaves of sin.*" The law is only a *pattern* of right living, but the cross has the power to *produce* righteous living.

Christ's *obedience* is much greater than Adam's *rebellion*. God's grace can cover every

sin ever committed. Where *sin* would *abound* God's *grace* would *increase*. No matter how many times or how seriously we have sinned, God's grace *multiplies* to compensate for those transgressions—if we will carry through with our responsibility to *repent*, *forsake* those sins, *believe* in Christ, and *trust* the divine power of God.

It is the desire of God to save us, but we have to believe Him, and put our faith in the shed Blood of Jesus—remaining *in* that position of trust by a deliberate *choice*. Acts 17:30 God *"Commands all people everywhere to repent,"* but very few do, and far less trust God in faith.

God's *promises* are for God's *children*, but His children *believe* in and *trust* on the One He sent. Acts 3:16 "It is His name—faith in that name being the condition—which has strengthened this man [given this complete healing]." Jesus repeatedly said: "Your faith has healed you" Mark 10:52.

Faith in the Atonement of *Christ* means to trust on the *power* of God—to heal our body—not trust prescription drugs or medical help. Faith in Jesus means to believe He will supply every financial need—when we remove every false place of trust. He says to *sell*, *give* to the poor, and *follow* His example Matthew 6:19 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth."

God sent His Son to forgive our sins, but we will have to *believe that in faith* and to *trust on His power* to heal, supply, protect, convert our heart, and save our soul. Jesus shed His Blood so that John 3:15 "Whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

That is our choice!

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