

## Facts of the Faith (2)

### Romans 5:12-20

#### Intro—Evolution

- Although presented as fact it still remains a theory.
- Science has utterly failed to produce a missing link.
- Science can not explain the origin of life.
- Science can not give purpose to life.
- Evolutionists state that the process of evolution is one of mutation, but that fails to explain the higher complexities of man.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Thermodynamics states that the natural tendency is for things to move from a more ordered state to a less ordered state, thus, nullifying evolutionary claims that things move from less ordered state to a more ordered state.

Last week: Identified that God is the Ultimate Creator and a Sovereign Creator.

#### I. **Death can not be Avoided.**

**Vs 12** “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.”

Death is a result of the Fall of Man.

**Question:** What is the Fall of Man?

- Where both Adam and Eve willingly sinned & disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden.

**Question:** How does sin affect mankind?

Vs 12 “Death through sin [entered the world]”

**Two types of death are in play here:**

#### **A)** Physical Death.

God could have killed Adam and Eve on the spot. He did not, but every person will one day die (Hebrews 9:27).

#### **B)** Spiritual Death.

Spiritual death occurred the moment they disobeyed. “Disconnection from God.”

**(Key Point)** Every aspect of a person’s being and existence suffers because of sin.

Prior the Fall, man had a special relationship with God.

- Man had perfect communication and fellowship with God.
- Life was literally perfect.
- The earth was perfect.
- The climate was perfect.
- The first human relationship (couple) was perfect.

After the fall the relationship between God and man was broken.

#### **A) Physical Suffering.**

**Body**—Perfect health was replaced with disease and death (Physical suffering). Imperfections—deformities, sickness, aging process, birth defects, etc.

**Soul**—Non-physical part of both humans and animals (Mind, will, emotions). Illustration—Haas and Sophie, Jady

**Mind**—Focused on God, now focused on self (Mental suffering). Mental disease, Alzheimer’s

disease, Parkinson's disease, Mental retardation

**Will**—Desired to please God, now desires to please self (Internal suffering). Dominance, selfish desires—husband and wife relationship damaged, mother and child relationship damaged.

**Emotions**—Openness and trust were replaced with fear, guilt, and shame (Psychological suffering).

- Man now fears God, and often despises God.
- Man still instinctively recognizes the reality of God.

#### **B) Spiritual Suffering.**

Spirit—spiritual dimension: Ability to communicate with God. Before the fall man had perfect communication and fellowship with God, after the fall, broken communication and separation from God! (Spiritual suffering)

- Open communication with God was now replaced with self-centered desires (Distorted view or reality).
- “God-shaped vacuum”

What does this mean?

Illustration: Baseball scholarship, Playing professional baseball, meeting the girl of my dreams, --I thought could fill that void.

**(Key Point)** God is the only one who can fill that void because He put it there!!!!

- II. As a result of the Fall of man there is no such thing as a good person.**

**Vs 12** “Death spread to all men, because all sinned.”

**Mark 10:18**—Rich young ruler—Jesus said, “No one is good but One, that is, God.”

**Romans 3:12** “There is none who does good, no, not one.”

**Vs 12** “Through one man sin entered the world.”

Why is no one good? We all have sin nature (Tendency to do evil).

**Because of that all humanity stands guilty before God for two specific reasons:**

**A)** God's Creation holds us guilty.

**Romans 1:19-20** “....what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them...**20**...For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.”

Mankind can not say I didn't know because even creation points people to God and bears witness that God exists.

What about those who have never heard the gospel? This passage identifies that they are guilty.

**Acts 17:26** “And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,...**27**...so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they may **grope** for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.” To manipulate, to verify, to search.

Illustration: Phillip supernaturally sent to the Ethiopian Eunuch. Acts 8:26-40

**B)** God's Law holds us guilty.

**Romans 2:14-16** "for when Gentiles who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, ...**15**...who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them)...**16**...in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

**Humanism**—culture/ man will define what is right and wrong as we develop. "Define something without a standard."

We do not make up the rules as we go!

Christianity only religion that preaches forgiveness of sins.

Why? No one wants to admit their wrong!

If I do enough good works I will get to heaven.

**C)** Our wickedness proves our guilt.

**Ecc. 9:3b** "Truly the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil; madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead;"

**Jeremiah 17:9** "The heart is deceitful above all things, and **desperately wicked**; who can know it?"—Incurably sick.

**Question:** If man is getting better as we evolve, why does the evidence suggest we are getting worse?

**D)** Every person will have to answer because of their guilt.

**Acts 17:30,31** "Truly these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

Judgment day is going to be a lonely day!!!  
Face the Creator.

**III. In our hopeless state of sin, God extended Grace.**

**Vs 15** "But the free gift is not like the offense."

**Vs 16** "And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses **resulted** in **justification**."

One sin plunged the human race into slavery of sin and guilt before God, but the countless sins that were committed against God resulted in justification.

**Resulted**—past tense.

**Justification**—equitable deed, decision or a statute.

**Vs 18** "Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life."

"God's decision was made, and Christ's deed was done, He said yes to grace, and provided pardon for the human race."

**Pardon**-- kind indulgence, as in forgiveness of an offense; a release from the penalty of an

offense; a remission of penalty, as by a governor.

As far back as Genesis 3:15 we see evidence of God's plan of redemption for humanity!!!!

"Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within,

Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin."

When a person works an eight-hour day and receives a fair day's pay for his time, that is a wage. When a person competes with an opponent and receives a trophy for his performance, that is a prize. When a person receives appropriate recognition for his long service or high achievements, that is an award. But when a person is not capable of earning a wage, can win no prize, and deserves no award—yet receives such a gift anyway—that is a good picture of God's unmerited favor. This is what we mean when we talk about the grace of God.