

Romans 5

June 22 & 29, 2008

Benefits of Salvation

Romans 5:1-8

- Peace with God (cf. Eph 2:14)
- Access to God (cf. Eph 2:18, 3:12)
- Rejoicing in the hope of the glory of God
- Rejoicing in sufferings that produce perseverance, character and hope (cf. Ja 1:2-4)
- The love of God poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (cf. Jn 7:37-39)

Saved by His Life!

Romans 5:10

- For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be ***saved through his life!*** (Ro 5:10)
- He was delivered over to death for our sins and was ***raised to life for our justification.*** (Ro 4:25)
- Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because ***he always lives to intercede for them.*** (Heb 7:25)
- Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. ***Because I live, you also will live.*** (Jn 14:19)

It's not just Christ's death and burial that are significant, but also His resurrection and life (1Co 15:2-4)!

Adam's Problem Is Our Problem

Romans 5:12-14

- Sin and death entered the world through Adam (v.12)
 - Prior to the fall, the world was drastically different than it is now
 - It is problematic to believe both in this doctrine and in the notion of millions of years of death and decay before Adam

Death and a Young Earth

The idea of millions of years came from the belief that the fossil record was built up over a long time. As soon as people allow for millions of years, they allow for the fossil record to be millions of years old. This creates an insurmountable problem regarding the Gospel. The fossil record consists of the death of billions of creatures. In fact, it is a record of death, disease, suffering, cruelty, and brutality. It is a very ugly record.

The Bible is adamant though, that death, disease, and suffering came into the world as a result of sin. God instituted death and bloodshed because of sin so man could be redeemed. As soon as Christians allow for death, suffering and disease before sin, then the whole foundations of the message of the Cross and the Atonement have been destroyed. The doctrine of original sin, then, is totally undermined.

If there were death, disease and suffering before Adam rebelled — then what did sin do to the world? What does Paul mean in Romans 8 when he says the whole of creation groans in pain because of the Curse? How can all things be restored in the future to no more death and suffering, unless the beginning was also free of death and suffering? The whole message of the Gospel falls apart if one allows millions of years for the creation of the world.



Evolution and Jesus

“Christianity has fought, still fights, and will continue to fight science to the desperate end over evolution, because evolution destroys utterly and finally the very reason Jesus’ earthly life was supposedly made necessary. Destroy Adam and Eve and the original sin, and in the rubble you will find the sorry remains of the Son of God. If Jesus was not the redeemer who died for our sins, and this is what evolution means, then Christianity is nothing.”



G. Richard Bozarth, The Meaning of Evolution, *American Atheist*, 20 September, 1979, p. 30.

Adam's Problem Is Our Problem

Romans 5:12-14

- Adam was a type (*typos*) of Christ (v.14)
 - *For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (1Cor 15:22)*
 - Since we were born in Adam, we could say that whatever happened to Adam happened to us (Heb 7:9-10)
 - Adam is head of the human race; Christ is head of the spiritual race (1Cor 15:45-49)
 - This typology between Adam and Christ hints at God's larger purposes

God's Ultimate Purpose

- “It is not good for man to be alone”
 - In the creation account, the man is Adam
 - In God's larger purpose, the man is Christ
- “I will make a helper suitable for him”
 - In the creation account, the helper is Eve
 - In God's larger purpose, the helper is the church

God's ultimate purpose is to create—in the church—an eternal companion for His Son.

Consequences of The Fall

The Fall and Death

- Death means separation
 - Spiritual--Relationship with God (Isa 59:1-2)
 - Physical--Separation of Body and Spirit
 - “Her spirit returned” Luke 8:53-55
 - “the body without the spirit is dead” James 2:26
 - Eternal--The Second Death (Rev 20:14)
- If death means separation, what is life?
- Was God lenient with Adam in delaying his death hundreds of years (Gen 5:5)?

Consequences of The Fall

...the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men...

- The knowledge of good and evil (Gen 3:7a)
- The invention of religion (Gen 3:7b)
 - Man trying to deal with his own sin
 - Notice, however, how God reaches out
- Walking in darkness (Gen 3:10)
- Fearing God (Gen 3:10)
 - Fear has to do with punishment (1 John 4:18)
- The Blame Game (Gen 3:12-13)
 - Blaming Eve
 - Blaming God
 - Blaming the Serpent

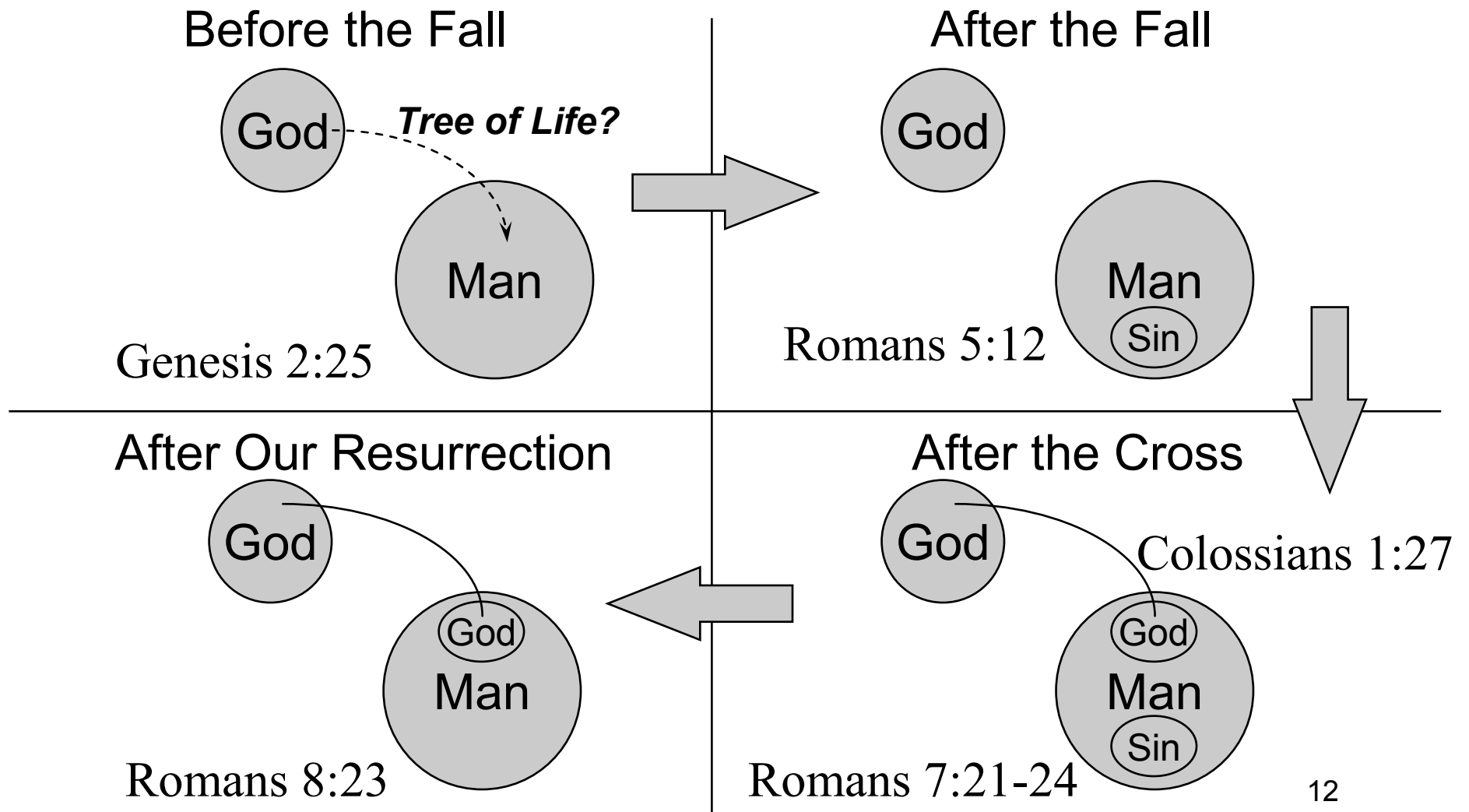
The Two Trees

Speaking of the Knowledge of Good and Evil...

- The two trees in the Garden of Eden represent two principles of living
 - The principle of knowledge
 - The principle of life
- We must live by the principle of life

“Do you realize that the conduct of many a non-Christian is governed by the principle of right and wrong? Wherein does the Christian differ from the non-Christian if the same principle governs them both?” --Watchman Nee

Innocence, The Fall and Redemption



From Death to Life By Grace

Romans 5:15-17

- What Adam did, Christ undid, and more!
- There are four “how much mores” in Romans 5
 - Verse 9: **how much more** shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!
 - Verse 10: **how much more**, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!
 - Verse 15: **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!
 - Verse 17: **how much more** will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Connecting Identity and Behavior

Romans 5:19

- In Adam, we were made sinners (cf. Ps 51:5); in Christ, we are made righteous!
- ***We didn't become sinners because we've sinned; we've sinned because we were born sinners!***

Verse	Identity	Behavior
JOH 8:39 "Abraham is our [natural] father," they answered. "If you were Abraham's [spiritual] children," said Jesus, "then you would do the things Abraham did."	If you were Abraham's [spiritual] children,	then you would do the things Abraham did.
JOH 8:40 As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things.	<i>Not spiritual children of Abraham</i>	you are determined to kill me
JOH 8:41 You are doing the things your own father does	Sons of their father the devil (cf. v.44)	You are doing the things your own father does
JOH 8:42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me"	If God were your Father	you would love me
JOH 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire.	You belong to your father, the devil	you want to carry out your father's desire
JOH 8:47 He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."	He who belongs to God	hears what God says
JOH 8:47 He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."	you do not belong to God.	you do not hear

Italics denote that an inference has been made.

Connecting Identity and Behavior

Romans 5:19

- Jesus is reasoning in John 8 that behavior follows from identity.
 - We don't do in order to become
 - We become in order to do
- It's important to understand spiritual identity as we study Romans
 - In order to have changed (sanctified) behavior, we first needed a changed identity!
 - This is why Romans 6:1-10 says so much about death and new life

Law, Sin and Grace

Romans 5:20-21

- The law was added so that the trespass might increase (v.20)
 - Through the law we become conscious of sin (Rom 3:20)
 - I would not have known what sin was except through the law (Rom 7:7)
 - If righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing (Gal 2:21)
 - No one is justified before God by the law (Gal 3:11)
- Grace reigns in righteousness and brings eternal life (v.21)
 - What is grace?
 - What is eternal life?

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You Can't Make This Stuff Up!



Spanish Parliament To Extend Rights To Apes

Wed Jun 25, 2008 4:27pm EDT

By Martin Roberts

MADRID (Reuters) - Spain's parliament voiced its support on Wednesday for the rights of great apes to life and freedom in what will apparently be the first time any national legislature has called for such rights for non-humans.

Parliament's environmental committee approved resolutions urging Spain to comply with the Great Apes Project, devised by scientists and philosophers who say our closest genetic relatives deserve rights hitherto limited to humans.

"This is a historic day in the struggle for animal rights and in defense of our evolutionary comrades, which will doubtless go down in the history of humanity," said Pedro Pozas, Spanish director of the Great Apes Project.

Spain may be better known abroad for bull-fighting than animal rights but the new measures are the latest move turning once-conservative Spain into a liberal trailblazer.

Spain did not legalize divorce until the 1980s, but Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero's Socialist government has legalized gay marriage, reduced the influence of the Catholic Church in education and set up an Equality Ministry.

The new resolutions have cross-party or majority support and are expected to become law and the government is now committed to update the statute book within a year to outlaw harmful experiments on apes in Spain.

"We have no knowledge of great apes being used in experiments in Spain, but there is currently no law preventing that from happening," Pozas said.

Keeping apes for circuses, television commercials or filming will also be forbidden and breaking the new laws will become an offence under Spain's penal code.

Keeping an estimated 315 apes in Spanish zoos will not be illegal, but supporters of the bill say conditions will need to improve drastically in 70 percent of establishments to comply with the new law.

Philosophers Peter Singer and Paola Cavalieri founded the Great Ape Project in 1993, arguing that "non-human hominids" like chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans and bonobos should enjoy the right to life, freedom and not to be tortured.

(Reporting by Martin Roberts; Editing by Richard Williams)

