

Freedom From Death Through the Second Adam

Key idea:

Adam's sin brought us slavery to death, but Jesus, the Second Adam, has conquered and gives freedom from death to His people through the resurrection.

Key text:

1 Corinthians 15:21-28

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸ When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

Key points:

- 1. Humans were created to be the free rulers over creation, bringing it all into submission and its full potential for God.
- 2. Adam's sin brought slavery and death to all humans.
- 3. Jesus is the Second Adam, Who became human to fulfill our obligations to God and to restore the original purposes of all creation and especially humanity.
- 4. Jesus' resurrection guarantees our resurrection in the future.
- 5. Jesus is now bringing everything into submission to God so that God's original intent for creation will be fulfilled.

Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?

- 2. Paul begins 1 Corinthians 15 with a definition of the Gospel and then launches into a discussion of the resurrection of the body. Why is the resurrection of the body an essential element of the Gospel?
- 3. In 1 Corinthians 15, Paul is dealing with the resurrection of the body. Why would he bring up the idea of Jesus as the Second Adam in this discussion?
- 4. How is the truth of Jesus as the Second Adam related to the story of Scripture creation, fall, redemption, and consummation? How does it carry forward and resolve the plot of the Bible?
- 5. Paul says "As in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive." Does this mean that everyone will be saved? If not, what is the difference between the "all" in Adam and the "all" in Christ?
- 6. A favorite self-designation used by Jesus was "the Son of man". How is this related to the idea of Jesus as the Second Adam? Why do I think Jesus used this title for Himself?
- 7. Paul says that Jesus' resurrection is the firstfruits of our own resurrection. What is a firstfruit, and how does Jesus' resurrection guarantee that all who are united to Christ by faith will be raised?
- 8. This passage says that Jesus is now reigning and bringing all things into submission. When I consider the current state of the world, does it seem like Jesus is bringing all things into submission? Why or why not?
- 9. How can the doctrine of the resurrection help me live in hope now?
- 10. Who will I call or see to encourage this week?

For Further Study:

Matthew - The Man (March 1, 2015)

Christ the True Man (December 26, 2010)

Our Redeemer - Christ the Second Adam (June 10, 2007)

Christ - Ruler Over God's Creation (September 5, 2004)

Living Conqueror (April 16, 2017)

The Resurrection of the Body - Part 1 (July 22, 2007)

The Resurrection of the Body - Part 2 (July 29, 2007)

Preview of next week: Psalm 1