

Rejoicing in God

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 5:11-21.

B. Christians always have a ground for rejoicing.

II. Everything that comes to us comes through Jesus Christ. (John 14:6)

A. When one sees the greatness of Christ, he sees the greatness of God. (John 1)

B. Paul gives the record of the greatness of Christ in achieving reconciliation.

III. Where man is in Adam.

A. Sin and death are universal.

B. It is clear that something has gone wrong with man.

C. Sin is something man is born with.

D. It is self evident that death reigns.

E. Death and sin gained control through one man--Adam.

F. Death is a punishment for breaking a command.

1. In order to have death there had to be a command to break.

2. The whole race sinned when Adam did.

IV. What man is brought to if he is in Christ.

A. Adam pictured and contrasts Christ.

1. Adam brought a single experience of death to all men, but Christ brought a repeated experience of life to all men.

2. Christ died once and brought justification for all despite thousands of trespasses, while Adam died once bringing death to all. One cannot out-sin the grace of God.

3. Death reigns because of Adam's sin taking away vitality and power, but Christ gives life in the midst of death now.

V. Summary: in Christ, worth and love are a gift.

VI. Explanation of the relationship of the law to all of this.

- A. The law was given to make men sin more.
- B. This is to prepare people to hear the gospel of grace.
- C. Jesus is the one who breaks through.

Application questions:

1. If Christians should always have ground for rejoicing, should they rejoice in suffering? Explain.

2. In what ways is Christ superior to Adam in the work He does for us?

3. Should believers disregard the law if it was only to make men sin more? Explain.
