

The Gospel Series
Bad News, Pt. 1

Why talk about the Gospel?

Two aspects: Bad news and good news

The Fall

Death

Gen 2:15-17, 3:17-19

How should we understand death from these verses? Did Adam die the day that he ate the fruit?

The clock on Adam and Eve's life started ticking the day that he ate the fruit. Their separation from God sealed their fate. For man to be separated from God causes death to occur on multiple levels – physical and spiritual.

Romans 5:12-19

What does this passage say about how we are affected by Adam?

-We inherit death (v. 12+15)

-We inherit sin (v. 12+19). To be "made sinners" is very strong language. The passage is clear that Adam's choice had more effect than to simply give us a bad example to follow. The Church has historically taught that we die in Adam (1 Corinthians 15) in that we have been born into a state separated from God (thus the need to be born again in John 3). While we choose to be sinners, the language here rules out the possibility that we could make any choice on our own to please God without the redeeming work of Christ. What man has earned through Adam is death. What man is

given through Christ is life. Men did not follow in the example of Adam from the language of this passage. It teaches both that all men voluntarily sinned and that all men were made sinners by Adam's act. *This* is why Christ's death was necessary. Sin goes beyond our choices to our very being. It has affected the entire human race. Death has been passed down from generation to generation due to a corrupted nature.

Does the inheritance of sin and death bother you? What are some other things we inherit without a choice?

How does God respond to what we have inherited in Romans 5?

Effects of the Fall

Gen 6:5 – How did men get this way? Adam did not just set an example, but caused a corruption of nature within the soul.

Wickedness grips the heart and causes great darkness

Jer 17:5, 9 – What do these verses say about a person's heart? With this in mind, how should we react to this knowledge?

Romans 1:21-32

How do we respond to our understanding of what the Lord has told us about ourselves? How does this impact you (not just those around you)?