

# Imputation and Identity

## **Intro:**

The gospel is not: "I once did this now I do that"  
It is: "I once was this now I am that"

In other words the gospel is about who we are not what we do. It is ontological. It is about identity.

## **Problem:**

Notice the state of being verbs from last week...

Rom 5:6 We were weak. Why?

Rom 5:7-8 We were sinners. Why?

Rom 5:9-11 we were enemies but now we are reconciled. why?

The gospel is about more than our actions. It is about our identity.

So here is the problem:

You will never know who you are IN Christ until you know who you are IN Adam

## **Main Idea:**

If you do not understand your relationship to the first Adam

You will not understand your relationship to The Second Adam

If you do not understand that Imputation is about identity

You will not understand that Imputation is about you

## **Implication A:**

Sin and death are merely symptoms of our identity IN Adam

## **Implication B:**

Righteousness and life are merely symptoms of our identity IN Christ

## **Application:**

Federal headship and Imputation are not technical impersonal terms - just the opposite. They are intensely personal - it places you in the garden IN Adam. It places you on the cross, in the grave and then out of an empty tomb IN Christ.

Federal Headship and Imputation mean that the story of Adam and Christ is the story of you personally. Believer, this is your origin story.

You could not out-work sin because you were IN Adam.

Now you cannot out-sin grace because you are IN Christ.

## **Outro:**

Falling plates

## **Articles for further study:**

<https://carm.org/adam-our-federal-head>

<https://www.gty.org/library/blog/B150227/evangelical-syncretism-seeker-vs-sinner>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/in-Christ.html>

<http://www.barabbas.com/messages/the-gospel-in-our-genes/>

<http://www.barabbas.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/gen-5-1.pdf>

## Imputation and Identity

Text:

### If you do not understand your relationship to Adam

Rom. 5:12 ¶ Therefore, just as sin came into the world through **one** man, and death through sin, and so death spread to **all** men **because** (*with the result that*- consecutive conjunction) **all sinned** (aorist -one act)

Rom. 5:13 for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law.

Rom. 5:14a Yet **death reigned from Adam to Moses**, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of **Adam**,

*1 Tim 2:13-14 (why are we never called sons of Eve? Adam is our representative Head)*

*Gen 2:15-17 (because he commanded Adam before Eve was born)*

*Gen 18:32-33; Josh 7:1; 1 Cor 5:1-8; 7:12-14; Heb 7:7-10 (corporate (federal/seminal) identity important)*

*Genesis 5:1-32 (Sin/death are merely symptoms of the sin of our Federal Head)*

*When Simon and Garfunkel (in the 60's) sang: "I am a rock, I am an island and I feel no pain." They were wrong. You are not a rock nor are you an island and we have been feeling the pain of Adam's sin since the beginning of Creation. a family of death)*

### You will not understand your relationship to The Second Adam

Rom 5:14b **who was a type of the one who was to come.**

Rom. 5:15 ¶ But the **free gift is not like the trespass**. For if (since) **many** died through **one** man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the **free gift** by the grace of that **one** man **Jesus Christ** abounded for **many**.

Rom. 5:16 And the **free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin**. For the judgment following **one** trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following **many** trespasses brought justification.

Rom. 5:17 For if (since), because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that **one** man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the **free gift of righteousness** reign in life through the **one** man **Jesus Christ**.

*Matt 3:13-4:1 (baptism and then temptation)*

*Mk 1:9-13 (thrown into the wilderness to be tempted)*

*Luke 3:21-4:1 (why a genealogy - federal headship)*

*Luke 4:2-13 (three times submitting to the Word of God unlike Adam)*

*Phil 2:1-11 (our obedience, humility, righteousness is merely a symptom of His)*

### If you do not understand that Imputation is about identity

Rom. 5:18 ¶ Therefore, as **one** trespass led to condemnation for **all** men (all in Adam die), so **one** act of righteousness leads to justification and life for **all** men (all in Christ live).

Rom. 5:19 For as by the **one** man's disobedience the **many were made sinners (identity)**, so by the **one** man's obedience the **many will be made righteous (identity)**.

*Jn 3:1-8 (implication A)*

*2 Cor 5:14-21 (implication B)*

### You will not understand that Imputation is about you

Rom. 5:20 Now the law came in to increase the (symptoms of the) trespass, but **where sin (the symptom) increased (pleonazo - increase numerically you can never out-work death), grace (the root cure) abounded (hyperperisseuō - superabound, overflowed still more - you can never out-sin grace) all the more,**

Rom. 5:21 so that, as **sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness** leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Rom 3:19-21 (the Law came to prove we are sons of Adam- to prove our nature)*

*1 Cor 15:20-22 (The gospel the story of two men representing all men)*

*1 Cor 15:45-49 (two men representing you- His story is our story. Application B)*