

G R O W

Get focused, Read, Observation, Worship

Sin and Death – Romans 5:12

No one had to teach you to sin; it comes naturally. There's just a part of us that likes to break the rules and push the limits. We don't do what we should and we what we shouldn't. So, what do we make of this? Where did it come from and what's the consequence?

GET FOCUSED

Our goal is growth. We go to the scriptures because we want to grow in faith; we want to know God and His will more. If we're going to grow, we must get focused. It seems like our world is full of distractions, so take a few moments and quiet any distractions. Do what is necessary for you to focus on fully hearing from God in His Word.

READ

There are many translations of the Bible, but not all translations are the same. Some translations paraphrase the original message, trying to convey the meaning in modern language. Some translations carefully include every original word and what they mean. The different translations all serve a good purpose and can be helpful to study. But it's recommended that you use a good literal translation of the Bible for study, like the KJV, ESV, or NASB. Reading the scripture in a literal translation will help you receive the original message as much as possible, and then reading in other translations will help you further understand it's meaning and message.

OBSERVATION (COMB through the text)

In this step, we want to investigate the passage, to understand its message and meaning. In addition to reading our main passage, read the verses around it to understand the **context**. Romans 5 focuses on the sacrifice of Christ to reconcile us to God. This passage shares the why of reconciliation. Why are we at odds with God? We are estranged from God because of sin.

Next, we want to **observe** the key words and phrases in Romans 5:12. What stands out to you? You will see that the words "sin" and "death" are repeated and they are focus on this verse.

To help understand the **meaning** of these words and phrases, invest in a good study Bible or utilize online tools like netbible.org. Where did sin come from? It came into the world through one man, Adam. In Genesis 3, we read about sin entering the world. Satan posing as a serpent cast doubt in our

first parent's minds about God's command and the consequence of sin. God told Adam and Eve to not eat of a certain tree, but they did so anyway (Genesis 3:6). Wayne Grudem states that "sin is any failure to conform to the moral law of God in act, attitude, or nature." Sin is rebelling against God, not taking Him, His commands, or His restrictions seriously. And this sinful nature is passed down to every person. We all sin and come up short of God's standard (Romans 3:23).

And with sin, there came death. God is completely holy, and He must punish sin. The consequence of sin was death, both physical and spiritual. All of creation was subjected to futility because of sin (Romans 8:20). The reason we have death, decay, and disaster is because of sin. The world and people are broken because of sin. The Bible also teaches about spiritual death, where we are estranged from God and at odds with Him because of sin (Eph 2:1-3). And for all those that die in their sin, there will be eternal death, where we are eternally separated from God and under His divine punishment of sin (Rev. 20:14-15, Luke 13:28). So, because all have sinned, all are under the penalty of sin. But fortunately, there is hope for all in Christ Jesus (Romans 6:23).

So, what's the **bottom-line**, how would you sum all this up? Sin brought death to all people.

WORSHIP

So, what does it mean for our lives? How can we worship God based on this passage? We can rejoice that there is hope for sinners. Jesus has made a way for us to be forgiven and free from sin and its consequence (Romans 3:23-24). But we know that we also still battle sin in this life. We still live in a fallen world and still have our fallen bodies, so until the Lord returns, or we go to the Lord, we will battle sin. So we need to deal with sin so that we can live in the fullness of life that God has for us in Christ (Romans 8:13, 1 John 3:9). Sin gets in the way of all that God has for us, so we must continue to put sin to death, so that we can fully hear from God and fully experience His life. When we do this, we worship God, and show the world that He is our hope and life.

