ADAM SUCCEEDED
(In Adam ALL Died – 1 Corinthians 15:22)

ADAM SUCCEEDED WILL CHRIST?

It seems Adam was very successful in fulfilling the Scriptures spoken about him. They declare, “In Adam all died.”

“Church tradition,” Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant contradicts the above Scripture verse. Tradition says Enoch and Elijah escaped the curse of Adam. But what do the Scriptures say:

In Adam ALL died (1 Cor. 15:22); ALL committed to disobedience (Rom. 11:32); Men of faith ALL died (Hebrews 11:13); ALL made sinners through Adam's transgression (Rom. 5:12-21); NONE righteous. (Rom. 3:10); ALL have gone astray (Isaiah 53:6).

Church Tradition says that the verse “Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him” means Enoch didn't die and went straight to heaven. But this would contradict the above verses and many more. Dr. George Lamsa, in “Idioms in the Bible Explained and a Key to the Original Gospels,” explains that the expression “God took him away” is a Semitic language idiom which means “He died painlessly.” It does not mean Enoch went to heaven without dying.

As for Elijah's chariot ride into heaven (2 Kings 2:11), Paul speaks of at least three heavens. Elijah was caught up in the air and taken to another location on earth. We know this because in 2 Chronicles 21:12, Elijah wrote a letter to King Jehoram which was twenty years AFTER his famous chariot ride! These explanations agree with “In Adam ALL died;” the traditional explanation does not.

Some point to Elijah being on the Mount of Transfiguration as proof he went to heaven. But Jesus contradicts such a notion. He told His disciples to tell this “VISION” to no one. The figures of Moses and Elijah were symbols of the law and the prophets, which were to pass away to be superseded by the Living Word of the Son of God.

So then, we can be quite confident that when the scriptures declared “In Adam all died” (or more technically true, “All are dying”), we may be confident that Adam succeeded perfectly. Not only are the dead “dead,” but even many of those who are convinced they are alive are quite dead. Jesus speaking to a potential disciple wanting to bury his father said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead.” Paul, the apostle speaking to Christians said “to be carnally-minded is death!”

Not only is the traditional church wrong about who is in heaven, it's totally wrong about death. The Bible states that the wages of sin is death. (Rom. 6:23) But the church says all those not in heaven will be eternally ALIVE either physically being tortured in physical bodies in literal fire or eternally consciously in torment and separated from God. The Bible says God removed Adam from the Tree of Life for his own good so that he wouldn't eat of the Tree of Life and remain in a fallen condition forever. (Gen. 3:22) But church tradition has defined death as an eternal life of perpetual torment unless they find a way of escape. The nebulous methods of escape greatly vary from denomination to denomination. Most begin with accepting Christ and joining the right church. But then many other laws, rules, rituals, regulations, qualifications, etc are added which leaves the average honest Christian in doubt regarding their own salvation.

Just as “church tradition” has been wrong about Enoch and Elijah and the state of the dead, it has been equally wrong on its teaching of the second part of the verse: “…even so in Christ shall all be made alive.” (1 Cor. 15:22) Jesus rebuked the religious leaders of His day stating they “made the word of God of no effect by their traditions”. (Matt. 15:6) Furthermore, He rebuked them for putting burdens upon the people's backs which the religious leaders said were from God when, in fact, they weren't. (Matt. 23:4) Today, not only false Jewish tradition prevents us from seeing the truth, Christian denominations have added even more lying traditions upon the backs of God's people putting them in a state of unbelief. The average Christian (and Jew) can no longer see what is plainly written because of the thousands of false Jewish and Christian traditions that have put scales over our eyes preventing us from seeing the truth. The time has come to deal with these lying traditions. This tract reveals how the mistranslation of a few small Greek words can radically change our concept of God's nature and plan of redemption.

Some Small But Significant Translation Errors

1 Cor. 15:22 is like an equation with both sides being equal. It is like a set of scales or an hour glass. Look at the hourglass on the front of this tract. Paul, in 1 Corinthians chapter 15, Romans chapter 5 and other places in the Greek language made it very plain that every human being died in Adam and every human being will be made alive in Christ! Every grain of sand (a human being in Adam) in the top of the hour glass who died in Adam will surely fall into the bottom part and receive the gift of life in Christ Jesus. That is what the Greek plainly states. But the translators of many English Bibles have passed on some “traditional” errors making it difficult to see this huge truth: “Jesus is the Savior of all mankind, especially of those who believe.” (1 Timothy 4:10)

Two significant errors in Romans chapter five in many English Bible translations contribute towards hiding this glorious and hope-filled fact.

In Romans 5:19, the King James translators, the Geneva Bible translators and other reformation period translations did not translate the definite article before the word “many” — they left it out. This was wrong. New translations like the New International Version and the New American Standard Version have corrected this error. Placing “the” in front of “many” in Rom. 5:19 makes it plain that “the many” who died in Adam is the very same “the many” who will be made alive in Christ. They are the very same group. Leaving out the definite article opens the door to the possibility that “many” in Christ does not mean “all.” The definite article precludes that possibility. Surely, “the” many who died in...
Adam ARE the same “the many” who will be given the gift of life in Christ Jesus despite what tradition and error-laced Bible translations have to say.

Another key translation error in the fifth chapter of Romans is found in Romans 5:12:

“But in Adam all sinned and therefore we die.  But that is NOT what the Greek says.  The Greek says that death was imputed to mankind, not a sin-nature.  We sin because of our mortality inherited from Adam, not because we have inherited a “sin-nature.” Aborted babies are proof that human beings are subject to death apart from sin.  Paul was trying to make it plain that our death is not our fault and equally plain that our “eternal life” was not because of anything we did either — both were “imputed” to us in God's wisdom.

This error in theology had its beginning with Jerome in the fourth century AD. Jerome translated the Hebrew and Greek into Latin near the end of the fourth Century which would become the famous “Latin Vulgate.” This Latin translation held sway over the church throughout the Dark Ages and beyond. In many respects its many errors haunt us to this day. He was the first to translate “epi oí” into “because.” The early English Bible translations were translations of the Latin Vulgate, not the Hebrew and Greek.  So Jerome's errors were transferred into the first English translations. But even after translators had access to Hebrew and Greek manuscripts, they still relied heavily upon previous English translations of the Latin Vulgate. The King James translators saw their duty as “not that of trying to make a new translation, but out of the several good ones then existing to make one principal one to which exception could not be taken.” (The English Bible: From KJV to NIV, page 36. Jack P. Lewis) These translators were even forbidden by King James from changing wording in their translation which might contradict church traditions even if the Hebrew or Greek warranted it! Most modern English translations are as much slaves to Reformation period translations as Reformation period translations were slaves to the Latin Vulgate.

It was the religious leadership that perpetuated these errors in Jesus' day even as they do today. Unfortunately, our modern English translations are still riddled with errors stemming from a slave mentality towards “tradition.” It will take an honesty that is presently not in the Bible publishing industry to root out all these errors. May the Lord raise up Bible translators in the years to come who will root out the many errors in our translations which remain due to Church leaderships love of traditions of men which make the word of God of no effect. (Matt. 15:6-9) Modern Christianity is in the very same condition the Jews were in 2,000 years ago.

The verdict has been Scripturally declared for over 1900 years and most of mankind has still not heard the pronouncement that… “In Adam ALL died, even so shall ALL be made alive in Christ.”

God will have all saved (1 Tim. 2:4, KJV); Salvation of all testified (1 Tim. 2:6); Jesus came to save all (John 12:47); All come into Him (Eph. 1:10); All reconciled unto God (Col. 1:20); Mercy on all (Rom. 11:32); God will be all in all (1 Cor. 15:28); Jesus is Heir of all things (Heb. 1:2); All families blessed (Gen. 18:18); All flesh will come to God (Psalms 65:2-4); Jesus will draw all mankind to Himself (John 12:32); Jesus is Savior of all (John 4:42); (And dozens of other scriptures.)

“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the SIN of the world.” (John 1:29)

Now what on earth is the “SIN” (singular) of the world? The Bible frequently speaks of our own sins in plural form. But here we find the Savior of the world has come to take away the SIN of the world.

Once again, the true meaning of the SIN of the world has been hidden from us due to faulty Bible translations. The singular “sin” of the world is Adam's single act which brought death to the whole human race. Death was imputed to us through Adam, not a sin-nature or his sin. And Jesus came to take this imputed death from all of Adam's progeny which is every human being that was ever born into this world of death.

Tradition says that Satan, through Adam's offense, has locked up all of mankind in death (with the exception of perhaps Enoch and Elijah), but Jesus' righteous act on the cross will only bring life to a small part of all those who were condemned because of Adam's transgression. This view contradicts Rom. 5:20 which states that grace would “much more abound” over the result of Adam's offense. According to church tradition, MOST of the world will be eternally separated from God.  That is NOT what Scripture correctly translated states. It plainly states that the gift of righteousness came to ALL who died in Adam.  Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men.  For just as through the disobedience of one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.” (Romans 5:18-19, NIV)

The traditional religious mind, quick to condemn, will say, “Ah, it is true that the gift came to all men, but one has to choose to receive it and most do not.” But this verse does NOT give one the right to make this limitation. Were each of us given the opportunity to “choose” to enter death and condemnation? No, we were not! Our corporate plunge into death was imputed to us all through Adam.  Likewise, corporate mankind's entry into the life of Christ will be Christ's decision, not our own despite what the traditional church says.  Even our faith is a gift from God. (Heb. 12:2) We can't confess with our mouth nor believe in our heart until He deposits and activates HIS faith in us.

This is another error found in some English translations.  We are saved by the “faith OF Christ” in us, NOT by “our faith IN Christ.” (Gal. 2:16; Phil. 3:9, KJV) The KJV, in this case has it right, the NIV is wrong.  Once we have been given the gift of the “faith of Christ, then faith belongs to us and we then can have “faith IN Christ,” but not before we receive the gift of faith from Christ. Our ability to believe is a gift from God so that we do not become prideful because of “our” decision to follow Christ. There is a world of difference between the word “of” and “in” in Gal. 2:16 and Phil. 3:9. “Of” gives all the glory and responsibility of salvation to Christ — “in” puts the burden upon man.  This produces pride which brings about spiritual blindness — a disease plaguing the church. (Write for “Who Chooses Who” for further info, also see John 1:12-13)

So then, “God WILL have all men be saved” whether most Christians believes it or not. “Ye of so little faith, why do you doubt?” (Matthew 14:31)

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