

“The Last Adam”

Genesis 5:1-5; 1 Corinthians 15:35-49 (text: v. 45)

There used to be a TV program called “The Adams Family.” The Bible also deals with two “Adams” families. In this message I will contrast these two families under their representative heads—“*The FIRST Adam*” and “*the LAST Adam*.”

- One is the **Adam of Eden** and the other is the **Adam of Bethlehem**.
- Both these “Adams” received their body by direct creation of God. The first Adam was created directly by the hand of God. The last Adam came via the virgin birth.

| The first Adam | The Last Adam |
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| Created in “ <i>the image of God</i> ,” but lost it (Gen 1:26 cf. 5:3). | Restores “ <i>the image of the God</i> ” (2 Cor. 4:4 cf. 3:18; 1 Cor. 15:49) |
| Natural head of the human family— The first Adam was the representative head of the old creation (Gen. 1:26). He was commissioned to produce an offspring like himself (Gen. 1:28). All men are born sons of Adam. Hence, Adam’s experience is ours. | Spiritual head of the heavenly family— Representative head of a new race (2 Cor. 5:17). All the old things I was the first Adam are passed away— Everything that was associated with the first Adam has been done away and all things are become NEW. Christ’s experience is now my experience. |
| Made a “ living soul ” (1 Cor. 15:45). He received his life from the life giver. | Made a “ a quickening spirit ” (1 Cor. 15:45). He is the Life Giver (John 14:6). |
| Of the earth (1 Cor. 15:47 cf. Gen. 2:7—“ <i>Adam</i> ”=red earth. Animated dirt ball) | Of heaven (1 Cor. 15:47 cf. Luke 1:35; John 3:13; 6:51) |
| His offense is emphasized | His obedience is emphasized (Phil. 2:8) |

BOTH ADAMS TESTED

Both Adams were subjected to a test (**temptation**). Unless there is the opportunity to do wrong, you cannot do right. Unless there is an opportunity to not love God, you cannot love God. For love to be real, there must be a choice. Without man having a free-will, love has no meaning.

| The first Adam | The Last Adam |
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| Tested a perfect environment (the Garden of Eden). All his needs were met. However, he failed the ONE TEST God placed before him (Gen. 2:17; 3:6-7). | Tested in an imperfect environment— The wilderness (Luke 4:1-13). Nothing to eat. |
| Men are made sinners (Rom. 5:19) | Men may be made saints (2 Cor. 5:21) |

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| Brought ruin upon the human race (Rom. 5:17-18) | Brought redemption to the human race |
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Pastor Bill Prater (Fellowship Baptist Church) tells this story:

“When I was 5 years old, before factory-installed seat belts and automobile air bags, my family was driving home at night on a two-lane country road. I was sitting on my mother's lap when another car, driven by a drunk driver, swerved into our lane and hit us head-on. I don't have any memory of the collision. I do recall the fear and confusion I felt as I saw myself literally covered with blood from head to toe.

Then I learned that the blood wasn't mine at all, but my mother's. In that split second when the two headlights glared into her eyes, she instinctively pulled me closer to her chest and curled her body around mine. It was her body that slammed against the dashboard, her head that shattered the windshield.

She took the impact of the collision so that I wouldn't have to.”

➡ Just like Bill Prater's mother, Jesus took the impact of our sin at Calvary. All who accept Him are covered completely by His blood.

| The <i>first</i> Adam | The <i>Last</i> Adam |
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| Partook of a tree while naked and ends in death (Rom. 5:12, 14, 17; 1 Cor. 15:22 cf. Gen. 5) | Partook of a tree while naked and ends in life (Rom. 5:17; 1 Pet. 2:24). |
| Creation is cursed | Creation will be cleansed . (Rev. 22:3) |

SUMMATION:

- In the First Adam we see the TRAGIC **REALITY** OF SIN.
- In the Last Adam we see the TRUE **REMEDY** FOR SIN.
- Everyone belongs to one of these two “Adams.” All are born “sons of Adam,” but only those who are “born again” are “sons of God.”
- Everyone of us has been born physically into the FIRST Adam's family. But only those who have been “born again” are part of the SECOND Adam's family.

For 19 years, I was a member of the first Adam's family—His nature was my nature... His fate was my fate... His curse was my curse. Then I heard the Gospel about “*the Last Adam*” dying for my sins and raising again. I repented and trusted Him as my Lord and Savior. I was born again and became part of His family. **Now I am in “*the Last Adam*.”**

The first Adam is still in me, but I'm not in him! Now whatever is said of Jesus Christ can also be said of me—Christ's death is my death... Christ's life, is my life... Christ's righteousness is my righteousness.

What about you, to which Adam's family do you belong? Do you belong to “*the first Adam only*”? Or have you been born again into “*the last Adam*”?