

THE TRUE CATHOLIC

...he is the true and genuine Catholic who loves the truth of God, who loves the Church, who loves the Body of Christ, who esteems divine religion and the Catholic Faith above every thing, above the authority, above the regard, above the genius, above the eloquence, above the philosophy, of every man whatsoever; who set light by all of these, and continuing steadfast and established in the faith, resolves that he will believe that, and that only, which he is sure the Catholic Church has held universally and from ancient time; but that whatsoever new and unheard-of doctrine he shall find to have been furtively introduced by some one or another, besides that of all, or contrary to that of all the saints, this, he will understand, does not pertain to religion, but is permitted as a trial, being instructed especially by the words of the blessed Apostle Paul, who writes thus in his first Epistle to the Corinthians, 'There must needs be heresies, that they who are approved may be made manifest among you:' as though he should say, This is the reason why the authors of Heresies are not forthwith rooted up by God, namely, that they who are approved may be made manifest; that is, that it maybe apparent of each individual, how tenacious and faithful and steadfast he is in his love of the Catholic faith.

St. Vincent of Lerins died c. 450AD

www.AgapeBibleStudy.com

Handout: Romans Chapter 5

Paul will use the word “boast” = *kauchaomai* [kow-khah'-om-ahee] 5 times in Romans 2:17, 23; 5:2, 3, and 11 [see Strong’s Greek Lexicon # 2744]. Prior to chapter 5 “to boast” is used in a negative sense but not in chapter 5. Why? [Chart uses New American translation]

1. Romans 2:17	<i>Now if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast of God and know his will are able to discern what is important..</i>
2. Romans 2:23	<i>You who boast of the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law?</i>
3. Romans 5:2	<i>...through whom we have gained access [by faith] to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.</i>
4. Romans 5:3	<i>Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope...</i>
5. Romans 5:11	<i>Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.</i>

Jesus, the “second Adam”, triumphed over the same temptations to which the first Adam fell into sin. St. John identified these temptations as the lusts of the flesh, the eyes, and the pride of life in 1 John 2:16. [See Romans 5:12-21; 1 Corinthians 15:45; CCC 411 & 504].

TEMPTATION: The First and Second Adams Contrasted:

1 John 2:16	Genesis 3:6	Luke 4:1-13
<i>“If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father finds no place in him...”</i>	<i>The First Adam: Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees...?</i>	<i>Second Adam = Jesus of Nazareth: Then the devil said to Him...</i>
<i>the lust of the flesh: disordered bodily desires</i>	<i>The woman saw the tree was good to eat...</i>	<i>...tell this stone to turn into a loaf</i>
<i>the lust of the eyes: disordered desires of the eyes</i>	<i>...and pleasing to the eye, and...</i>	<i>...the devil...showed Him all the kingdoms of the world</i>
<i>the pride of life: pride in possession</i>	<i>...that it was enticing for the wisdom that it could give.</i>	<i>If you are the Son ...throw Yourself down from here</i>

Question: In 5:15-19 how does Paul contrast Adam and Christ as “alike” but “unlike”?

ADAM AND CHRIST ALIKE	ADAM AND CHRIST UNALIKE
Both Adam and Christ had an affect upon the whole human race	Sin and death came from Adam while righteousness and life came from Christ
Both endured the temptation of Satan	Adam failed and Christ was victorious
Through both Adam and Christ humanity receives an “inheritance”	Through Adam’s failure humanity inherits death, original sin and personal sin becomes a plague on mankind. Through Christ’s victory humanity inherits adoption into God family and the promise of eternal life.
Both were human men	Jesus was both human and divine
Both the acts of Adam and Jesus invoke a divine verdict	Satan stood behind the act of Adam while the grace of God stood behind Christ; the verdict behind Adam’s act is judgment while the verdict behind Jesus’ is acquittal
Both Adam and Jesus exercised their free will.	Adam willingly fell from grace; Jesus willingly laid down His life in sacrifice for all mankind
Both were born into the world as sinless and immortal beings	Adam lost his immortality when he fell from grace; Jesus made God’s gift of immortality once again available to man