



## THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS "The Four Monarchs" Romans 5:12-21

No. 286

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It may have occurred to Paul that he had written much about sin in individual lives without describing either the vast extent of sin's domination or how sin came to be such a problem in the first place. He used the word "reign" to describe sin's domination but balanced the expressions by talking about four monarchs.

### I. The Reign of Sin.

- A. Sin entered. v. 12
  - 1. Through one man—Adam.
    - a. Breaking a command. v. 14
    - b. Trespass. v. 15
    - c. Disobedience. v. 19
    - d. Judgment. v. 16
    - e. Condemnation. v. 16
- B. Sin increased. v. 20
  - 1. Through adding the law. v. 20 (Also vv. 13-14)
  - 2. The many were made sinners. v. 19
    - a. Federal headship—Adam acting on behalf of all.
    - b. Natural headship—Adam was the race—the race is Adam.

Note: Corporate personality.  
e.g. Einstein's "Nuclear Age"; Donne's "No Man Is an Island."
- C. Sin reigned. v. 21
  - 1. Dominating all people. 2. Permeating all things.

### II. The Reign of Death.

- A. Death entered.
  - 1. Through sin. v. 12
  - 2. Physical.
  - 3. Spiritual.
  - 4. Eternal.
- B. Death reigned.
  - 1. Before the law. v. 14
  - 2. Came to all men. v. 12

### III. The Reign of Grace.

- A. Grace entered.
  - 1. Adam contrasted with Christ. v. 14
  - 2. Trespass contrasted with gift. v. 15
  - 3. Death contrasted with life. vv. 16-17
  - 4. Condemnation contrasted with justification. v. 16
  - 5. Disobedience contrasted with obedience. vv. 18-19

Note: Contrast Einstein, Fleming.
- B. Grace reigned.
  - 1. Sin increased, grace increased all the more. v. 20
  - 2. Grace overflowed to the many. v. 15

### IV. The Reign of Life.

- A. Those who receive abundant provision...
- B. ...And the gift of righteousness...
- C. ...Reign in life by Jesus Christ.

**Conclusion:** Powerful forces are at work, but believers through Christ triumph.