

Lent Day 9: Thursday, March 2

Romans 5:17-19

MUCH MORE SURELY

"... much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

There is a game called Dominion. It is a long-haul game, and you don't know who wins until the very end. All you must do is play the best you can and hope you collect enough points at the end.

Sometimes in life, we get overwhelmed by circumstances. We see things working against us, and sometimes we are the ones working against ourselves. We don't always know what the right move is. We make mistakes. We don't know how things will turn up in the end.

The Scripture passage today is a helpful reminder from Paul that the end is not up to us. The work of the cross redeems us all: Jew and Gentile, man and woman, wealthy and rich, etc. We live in the hope of that which was accomplished by our Lord Jesus Christ. Even though we miss the mark in our human condition, we are not abandoned to live out these consequences. "Much more surely" we receive "the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness" because of Christ's obedience.

While the trespass of man led to death's dominion, Jesus answered with an abundance of grace and righteousness.

When trespassing led to condemnation, Jesus' act of righteousness led to justification and life.

When disobedience led many to exist as sinners, Christ's obedience allowed many to be made righteous.

For today, remember that the end is not up to you. We get to live in the "much more surely" state because our King Jesus is the true victor.

Prayer:

Almighty God, thank you for this gift of life. Help me to remember that the end is not up to me. All I have I give to you with thanksgiving and praise. Amen.