

Romans 5:18-21

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.

*¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, **so by** the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. ²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹ **so that**, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Contrast #1

- One trespass → all under condemnation.
- One act of righteousness → all can have life and justification.
 - 5:18 *Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.*

Contrast #2

- One man's disobedience → many were made sinners.
- One man's obedience → many will be made righteous.
 - 5:19 *For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.*

Contrast #3

- God's Law → Intensified the severity of sin.

"The law was never intended to provide salvation but to convince people of their need for it." – Robert Mounce¹

- God's Grace → Super-abounded even more.
 - 5:20 *Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,*

Contrast #4

- Sin reigned in death but grace reigns through righteousness.
 - 5:21 *so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*
 - Is God's grace reigning in your life?

¹ Robert H. Mounce, *Romans*, vol. 27, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995), 145.