



St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
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# The Epistle of Romans

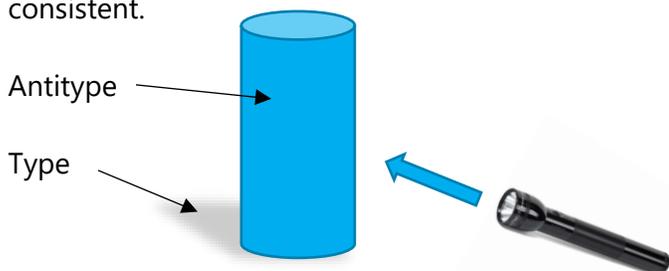
The Justification of the Ungodly

Chapter 5 Verses 12-17

We have all heard the phrase, "That is just typical!" What this phrase means is that something is to be expected – it is something that we anticipate to happen because a pattern has been laid forth.

With this in mind, in Romans 5, verses 12-17, the Apostle Paul discusses what is called typology. With typology, we have what is called the 'type' and the 'antitype.' And with 'types' and 'antitypes' things are quite typical.

Let's think about typology with the following illustration. Imagine a flashlight, an object, and the object's shadow. The shadow is the 'type.' The object is the 'antitype.' And how the shadow and object interact is typical – it is consistent.



Let's look at some examples of typology – antitypes and their types:

OT Type	NT Antitype
Egyptian Exodus of Hebrews	Jesus comes out of Egypt
Hebrews Pass Through Red Sea	Jesus Baptized in Jordan
40 Years in Wilderness	40 Days in Wilderness
12 Tribes of Israel	12 Disciples
Choose Lamb – 10 <sup>th</sup> Nisan	Entered Jerusalem – 10 <sup>th</sup>
Lamb Killed – 14 <sup>th</sup> Nisan	Crucifixion – 14 <sup>th</sup> Nisan
Death Passes Over	Eternal Death Passes Over

There are dozens up dozens of typological illustrations in the Bible just like the ones listed above.

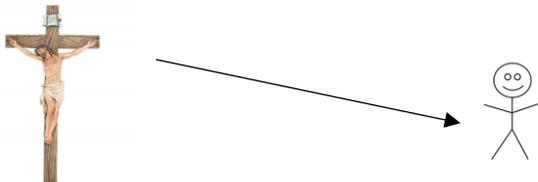
Back to Romans 5, though. In Romans 5, verses 12-17, the Apostle Paul lays forth the antitype – Jesus – and the type – Adam. In other words, there is a consistent relationship between the two of them; however, there are some big differences too. That is to say; there are some very consistent patterns between both of them and the events that surround each of them.

More specifically, Adam and Jesus are like 'lords' over two different situations. Adam stands at the head of sin/death. Jesus stands at the head of forgiveness/life. Through Adam, sin and death came over all of humanity. Through Jesus, forgiveness, and life are accomplished for all of humanity.

What the Apostle Paul is attempting to do is show the 'universality' of sin and grace. All die in Adam; all live in Christ.

This is where we get our doctrine of 'original sin.' All of humanity dies in Adam. We are all sin-sick. As our head, Adam plunged everyone into darkness. BUT, in Jesus Christ, our hope is found. In other words, the hope of the sinful condition is found 'outside' of humanity in the Christ. It is Christ – and only Christ – where the consequences of Adam are resolved/forgiven/put to an end.

Paul, though, is very careful in how he articulates this. In Christ, salvation is accomplished; however, that which is accomplished 'must' be delivered as a free gift. Therefore, what Christ has done (accomplished) is the source, zeal, and reason why we proclaim! We are gift-givers. We announce what has been objectively and universally done for humanity in Christ! We don't say, "You can be forgiven," but we say, "You are forgiven, believe it!" Consider the following diagram:



'Objectively' Accomplished

'Subjectively' Delivered

