

FEDERAL AUTHORITY STUDY GUIDE

- **Share Carl Siegfried teaching on federal authority or federal headship with new believers and those who may not have heard it before.**
- **Encourage new Christians to listen to the teaching to build their faith and provide them with tools to answer questions about the death of Jesus and substitution atonement.**
- **Focus on the concept of the law of sin and death and how it originated from Adam's disobedience in the garden.**
- **Discuss the consequences of Adam's sin, including the loss of authority, separation from God, and the introduction of sickness, disease, and ultimately physical death.**
- **Clarify the concept of being "born of water and spirit" and its implications for salvation.**

TRANSCRIPTS

I find the best place to start in this teaching is in the beginning, not to genesis one, but to pretty close. We're gonna go to Genesis two. And what I wanna do is I wanna go to Genesis two. And this is where Adam and Eve in the garden and God is speaking to them about the trees and what they can eat and what they can't. And we're gonna look at the Brian Standard Bible for right now.

And it says, and the Lord God, this is Genesis 2 16 and the Lord God commanded Him, you may freely eat from every tree of the garden, but you must not eat of the knowledge of good and evil. For in the day that you eat it, you will surely die. Now, we see in this God is giving the command right in the garden. There isn't the 10 commandments. If you will, it's not been given yet until Moses.

But there is this command of all the trees of the garden you may freely eat. And I love this idea of how God the style of it that not only is man able to eat of the garden, but the Bible says, he may freely eat sort of the passion and the style that there is no burden on Adam and Eve to pay for anything or to do anything. God's put them there and they may freely eat as much as they want.

But he does restrict it right in the tree, in the of the knowledge of good and evil is a restriction. God tells him don't eat. And what we're gonna focus on is what is the, what is the penalty, right? And he's gonna say, if you eat this fruit and the day that you eat it, you will surely die. Now, in here, we may not, it may not be obvious to us, but herein lies the law of what the Bible calls sin and death, right?

If they eat it and they break that law, we would call that sin. And the repercussion for that sin would be death. If we go to Romans 8:1, Christians love this verse. I love this verse. It says, if you don't know it, you should memorize this verse. It's a good one to have in your heart. It says there is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Now check this out. The next part is gonna say for the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death.

What is the law of sin and death? Here? It is in Genesis 2:16 in the day that you eat of it, you shall surely die. Now, the question that we should ask is, does Adam immediately die? We know they take of the fruit.

We've heard this scripture before about how their eyes are opened and we're gonna talk about what is lost in a, in another program here. But for right now in seeing how this this both this disobedience and this sin is gonna lead to death. We should ask ourselves, does he die now? He doesn't seem to die physically for quite some time. The Bible says he lives 990 odd years later.

But something does happen, something happens between God and Him and they become separate. We know the scripture is gonna say that Adam and Eve are expelled from the the garden, they're kicked out of the garden. There's an expulsion is the right way to say it, right? If we go to Genesis three and we're gonna look at the curse. after that, God is gonna call them to an account, right?

And Eve is gonna be asked about the, the the eating of the fruit and she's gonna blame the serpent. Adam is going to be asked about it and he's gonna blame his wife and God is going to curse all three. He's gonna, if you will, he's gonna add a judgment. And I wanna look at Genesis three verse 17 and we're gonna read the judgment that comes to Adam and it says to Adam.

He said, because you have listened to the voice of your wife. Now, men, I always make this, it's kind of in humor because he listened to the voice of life. Do you know what it doesn't say? Because he ate of the fruit there? It doesn't say that. Now I make fun and I, I tell my wife, I tell man, you gotta put this in your pocket, man. Every time your wife comes to you and says, why don't you listen to me?

And I always tell everybody, well, I tell my wife when she says that, I say, oh, how did that work out for Adam? You know, it was so bad. God himself had to come to the earth to undo it. And normally that gets a laugh and the reason I always put that in there is not because it's some masculine, toxic masculinity issue, but rather it's that it shows that Adam who has been given this law by God.

Number one, he can't blame anyone, right when he blames his wife, but he's doing more than eating from the tree. He is giving up his authority, whether he gives it to his wife who ultimately gives it to the serpent or the other way around. It doesn't matter. Adam has left this position of authority, something bigger has been lost than just his separation with God.

Now, he's separate from God. That's true. He's kicked out of the garden. He's lost his position. God would tell him to take the minion of the whole world have seize it and take authority over it. He's lost his standing in the garden. He's lost his standing in his position to interact with God personally. Daily, it seems something is lost, but more than that is lost.

This death has entered into Adam in the Hebrew, it says dying, you shall surely die, dying, you shall. So there's a process of dying. And we know that as sickness, disease, old age degradation and ultimately death in a way, if we could think about it and be honest, it would have been easier for Adam. If he had just died in that moment, if he had just died, he would have never experienced all the degradation and humiliation and separation from God.

He wouldn't have slowly become an old man and died one day in the day that he had eat it. If he had just died, it would have been different than dying. You shall surely die. The process of death became part of Adam. So forgive the toxic masculinity. There, there's verses about how men should treat their wives and we should love them and take care of them and they're a great resource to us.

The, the truth of this scripture is because he listens to the voice of his wife. He has given up his position before God. That's what I want you to understand because you have listened to the voice of your wife. You have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat. Cursed is the ground because of you. I want to stop here just for a second.

Do you notice it says cursed is the ground for your sake. In the King James cursed is the ground here we have a substitution atonement. He could say cursed are you because of what you did right here, we see a shadow of Christ and the shadow of the gospel of the gift that's coming. And even though we can't stay here for long, I wanna, I want to point it out and here's the curse.

Curse is the ground through toil. You will eat of it all the days of your life, both thorns and thistles, it will yield to you. And by the sweat of your brow, you will eat your bread until you return to the ground.

Because out of it, you were taken for dust, you are and dust, you shall return. There's the death. The curse of death is that one day God will allow him to return back to dust and that only happens in death.

It's a very physical death, right? If if dying, you shall surely die. The very last part of this dust you came and dust you shall return is the actual physical death. The very end of this curse, something is happening. A law has come into effect the law of sin and death. And this law of sin and death as we all know, doesn't just pass to Adam and then his sons have a new start.

No death would enter the whole world and this process of sin and death would take place in every descendant of Adam and Eve throughout eternity, right? Until the coming of the Lord. As far as mankind, as far as long as there are Children being born, it was never God's intention for men to die. There was never an intention for babies to die and for people to get old and to suffer disease.

Yet it happens because of Adam's sin. In Adam's sin, the whole world would die. And we're gonna look at a couple of scriptures that are gonna bear that out. Let's look at them. Let's go to Romans 5 12 and I love Romans because Romans really is. You've heard it called maybe the Romans road. But romance has a way of sort of laying out a foundational truth about how God saves and how God works.

If we look at Genesis, we see that Adam is the federal head of all men by flesh. Why? Because he would pass down an inheritance to his sons and they would continue to pass down that inheritance. Now, that's a very physical idea because we know when grandpas and grandmas die, they pass their inheritance, their property, but they pass more than that, right?

They pass physical traits, they pass financial things, of course, but they may pass bad habits, maybe good ones, hopefully. And we're all a product of that. We are a product of inheritance and when they pass it to their parents and then their Children and then to us, and we see this inheritance. Now this can grow wealth in many families, it can take away wealth.

Sometimes our parents don't leave us anything of benefit. Sometimes we're paying off our parents' debt. Sometimes we have to pay to take care of them. There's nothing left at the end of their life. But we understand this idea of a physical inheritance. So when we look at 12, we're gonna talk about how sin and death is passed down and why it's passed down.

How do it kind of works? So if we look at 12, it's gonna say therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin. So also death was passed to all men because all sinned there, it is, the inheritance of death would be passed to all men. For sin was in the world before the law was given. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law.

Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who did not sin in the way of Adam's transgression. What does this mean? It means that you are not a sinner because you sin, but rather you sin because you have an inheritance of sin and death that's passed to you. And we would believe this is true in most Christian circles, we would say all men have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

All men, whether you're a relatively good man, whether you're a rich man, it doesn't matter why, why have all men sinned? Because Adam's sin was passed in inheritance down. Adam is the federal head of all those who would be born of the flesh, meaning of, of the bones of the blood and every son would inherit death and not just death. He would also inherit sin.

And because all would sin based off this inheritance, all would enter into the law of sin and death. Now, this is good news, believe it or not, it's good news because God sets up this system of federal authority and Adam is the federal head. We're gonna find out that when we talk about salvation and as much as there's an individual response to salvation by faith, every man must individually take that position of faith in order to receive the gift of God.

This gift of righteousness that comes by faith. We see that in the inheritance of salvation through Christ is going to be just as available as the sin of Adam became available to all men through inheritance. This is where we get these terms of being born again. This is where we get this idea of inheritance that we have a great inheritance in Christ.

But Christ does not come to die once individually for every single person, but rather he dies once for all, for all mankind. And in fact, if we continue, and I'm gonna go back to 14 and we'll read down to the next verse says, nevertheless, death reigned from Adam until Moses even over those who did not sin in the way that Adam transgressed. He is a pattern of the one to come.

And of course, we know that one is Christ, meaning this Adam in his sin was a mere representation of God's ultimate plan of bringing the one man to be a new federal head. And we would all be if you will born again of that family, when you were physically born, you were physically born of flesh and blood. And if Adam is the apex man, the man at the number one man, then we are all, no matter how that line is drawn in an upward direction, we will all end up at Adam and Eve.

This is a truth that we cannot deny except for one that we can think of, none of us will get out of here alive. If the Lord doesn't come back before we die, death is virtually 100% sure because of the sin of Adam. And yet he's just the type of the one to come because Christ would come and be established as a new federal head. Those born of the spirit that is the born again.

And we're gonna look at John 3 16 for a second and the verses that are before it and around it. And to see how God is going to do this, how, how God is gonna make a way for man to both be saved of Christ of the spirit and yet still live on the earth. And somehow we keep sort of part of this flesh. Let's look at it. Let's start in John three verse one. There's a man that comes to Jesus in the night.

We're gonna read that through the scripture. His name is Nicodemus. Let's start in John one. Now, there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, the leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus at night and said, rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come down from God for no one could perform the signs that you were doing if God was not with him.

And Jesus replied, truly, truly, I tell you no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again. How can a man be born when he is old? Nicodemus asked, can he enter his mother's womb a second time to be born? And Jesus answered, truly, truly, I tell you no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water, but spirit is born of the spirit.

Now, what is this water and spirit thing? Now, when you were born, we may not think of it as being born of the waters, but you were in, in the, in the sack that you grew in as you were a baby and your mother's womb was filled with a fluid of water. And in, in today's terms, we say when a woman is going to have her baby that her water has broken. So unless a man be born of the water and the spirit, he cannot be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of heaven.

Now, this is an interesting idea one that sometimes we gloss over when we talk about what it means to be born again. But what he's saying is that you must be born of both. This limits salvation, doesn't it? The Bible makes it really clear that salvation is for mankind, that it is not for heavenly beings. If you must be born, both of the water, Jesus would come and be born of the water of his mother and yet he would offer salvation.

Therefore, all of those who would, he's, he's a type, right? Adam was a type of the one to come. He was he was born of flesh, right? But all of those that would be saved after him would also be born in the pattern and the type of the flesh born of the water. This conflict if you will remains in every person who is born, both of the water and the spirit.

Sometimes we might ask the question if I'm born of the spirit and I'm born again, why does God keep are allowed to remain the flesh in me? Well, it is because you still have a physical inheritance of Adam. Yet it is that physical inheritance of Adam, the law of sin and death that is operating and working in your flesh. It entitles you if you will to

the rebirth of the spirit, unless you've been born that way, no angel has been born that way.

No demon has been born that way, right? The devil is not born. These are created beings yet we were born in an inheritance of sin and death and that entitles us to be born of the spirit. We must be born of both. You might say, well, that doesn't, that seems weird. That seems odd. But does the scripture bear it out? It does. So if we go to First Corinthians 15, and we're gonna start in 45.

These verses here have been debated and are confusing to some people because they are not applying the law of federal authority to them. And we're gonna, we're gonna venture to do that first Corinthians 15 and 45. This is what it says. So it is written the first man, Adam became a living being. The last Adam referring to Christ is a life-giving spirit.

46 the spiritual however, was not first but the natural and then the spiritual, the first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven as was the earthly man. So also are those who are of the earth and as is the heavenly man. So are those who are of heaven and

just as we have born, the likeness of the earthly man. So shall we bear the likeness of the heavenly man?

Now, what is this scripture saying? This scripture is really clear if we apply it with the federal authority that it says the first man, Adam became a living being, all his descendants, us would also be living beings. We would be born living beings. But of the earth. The last Adam Christ, there won't be another one past him. The last Adam is a life giving spirit.

If you will, there is the nature of the flesh and there is a new nature of the spirit. And in us as believers, we have both things. One was passed to us by a physical biological method of human birth, born of the water and one is passed to us through a rebirth of the spirit and in and in that rebirth of the spirit, we have those same things at work where there's a passing of an inheritance of life to us through Christ.

So it isn't that we're able to separate ourselves from this law of sin and death with Adam. But rather the natural comes first and then the spiritual and the spiritual is where we have life. We know that there is nothing good on us that is in our flesh and this flesh will one day die. The hope of Christ through this federal headship, this exchanging of

families if you will being born again under and in Christ of the spirit entitles us to life and a life of inheritance that is passed from

Christ into every believer who would believe in Him. Therefore, we go back to this idea of federal headship. How is it that one man who died 2000 years ago can save all mankind through faith? Well, because through faith, if we enter into this covenant promise with God, that He is the new Adam, the last Adam, and we receive an inheritance of sonship through Him.

When you became a believer, you may not realize this. But the reason God calls you a son is because you must enter this new line of federal authority, federal headship into a new family if you will. But we will never completely lose this touch with Adam because we are still earthly. And he says it in here, the natural comes first and then the spiritual, that's how we were.

When we were born, we were born naturally first and then we were born again spiritually. And he's gonna go on to say the first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven as was the earthly man. So are those who are of the earth? If you were born of Adam and you were born from on the earth, you will have this flesh

that's in you and this curse of death that will always remain until you die.

But he's gonna say, and as is the heavenly man. So are those who are of heaven Well, you are a heavenly man now because you have entered the family of Christ and you are a heavenly man. And just as we have become the likeness of the earthly man. When we were born, we became the likeness of earthly man. So also shall we bear the likeness of the heavenly man?

What does that mean? It means that we will bear his likeness in us, the character, the quality of our inner man, our new nature, our new family has a past and inherence. We said in the very beginning that Adam passed more than sin and death. He passed an inheritance, a quality the way we look, the way we act, maybe it passes money, maybe he passes debt, but whatever is in that line of inheritance we receive as it is the same with the heavenly inheritance as Christ has died on the cross and

created an opportunity for a new birth and we receive it by faith. This born again experience is not something we necessarily feel or we may have some sensation physically to it. Rather, it is a spiritual rebirth.

And from that rebirth, now, we are born in this family and an inheritance is passed on to us. It is more than money or our eventual goal of heaven.

But rather it is the quality and the likeness of Christ. This is his characteristics, his love, his kindness that is passed to us. And we image that man So in the flesh we image. Unfortunately, we have struggles of health and sin and death that will always remain until we leave this body. But the good news is we also have the inheritance of the spirit, the quality, the character that is developed in us, the perseverance, we might call it the fruit of the spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, right? All of those things are also an inheritance to us. The end result is this when you get saved or we're explaining to someone who's looking at the gospel and we're, we're whether we could say we're persuading them, but we want to explain the gospel to them if we believe somehow that I got saved and Christ died for me.

Individually, there's some insecurity that can abound there and it may not make sense to someone who has never understood the gospel to think that somebody that died thousands of years ago. It, it can seem

unreal. But if when we put it in terms of a federal authority and federal headship, what we realize is that Christ died for the sins of the whole world.

And I'm a partaker by faith, God is not making an exception for me, but rather he is applying this idea of taking the place of Adam and as undeniable as sin and death is for Adam. For example, if you ran into somebody who you told them, listen one day you're gonna die and there will be a judgment and you will stand accountable for your deeds, not saying that's the greatest way to, make Christians.

It may not be, but it's, it's a reality and that person came to you and said, you know what I'm, I, I reject that system. In fact, I don't identify at all with Adam. I, I reject that system altogether. Well, inwardly, we would maybe chuckle and think, well, you might want to do that. But we know from experience and from the gospel that every man who is outside of Christ will die for his sins.

You might say you want to reject it, but you cannot if once we are born again and we understand this new federal headship just like the one we understood with Adam that Christ died for all men. And once I take part in it, I become secure and safe as a son. Inheritance of

Christ is, is owed to me. If you will, it's given to me. I said it in a respectful way.

But all the promises of Christ are yes for me because of my son, my position in the family then comes the question. Well, what happens if I reject it? If I say I was saved once. But I go through a hard time.

Maybe a death, something, something I lose my job. My marriage falls apart and all of a sudden I feel like I'm, I'm, I'm not part of this family.

Maybe I don't reject it willfully. But, but in every sin, in every moment of contemplation of sin, don't we reject Christ for that moment? Sure we do. Now, Christians are worried about how much time there is in there. Is it for a moment? Is it for a week? Is it for a month?

Sometimes we have hard times with God and sometimes it produces insecurity with us.

Sometimes we start to think that I don't belong there. But yet we know that we could never reject our sinner through Adam. What makes us think we could somehow fall out of my inheritance with Christ is the, is the, is the work of sin stronger, is the bond of sin stronger than the bond of grace and son ship through Christ may never be. That's not how God works.

So we need to stand tall in this idea that we are safe in Christ, not because He came to die individual. And I have this individual relationship with God that can be broken and I can fall out of fellowship and all this bad doctrine that's come to the church over time. But rather that this system that God set up God set it up. We didn't set it up. God made Adam, but he was always the type of the one to come.

When God saw Adam sin in the garden, it was already God's plan to bring Christ in redemption for us. It is inescapable. Christ would come, we would take part and we are in that family and we are safe and secure in him. If you're, if you're a new believer and you think that your deeds, your acts create insecurity with you in Christ. Now, it's always good to pursue self betterment and to be a better form of, of, of a Christian.

It's true to be a better man, to be a better wife, to be those are good things. But we can never let it affect our inner security and think that somehow we've fallen out of fellowship or worse, fallen out of the family of God. The goodness of God will draw man back to him. That's

how it works. God's love and his kindness as a good father draws his sons back to him.

And sometimes that takes a little time. This, this message really isn't so much about eternal security, but rather understanding God's faithfulness in passing an inheritance to his son. That's it for today.

We'll pick up where we left off, in the next segment. Have a good week. I pray a blessing on all those who have listened.