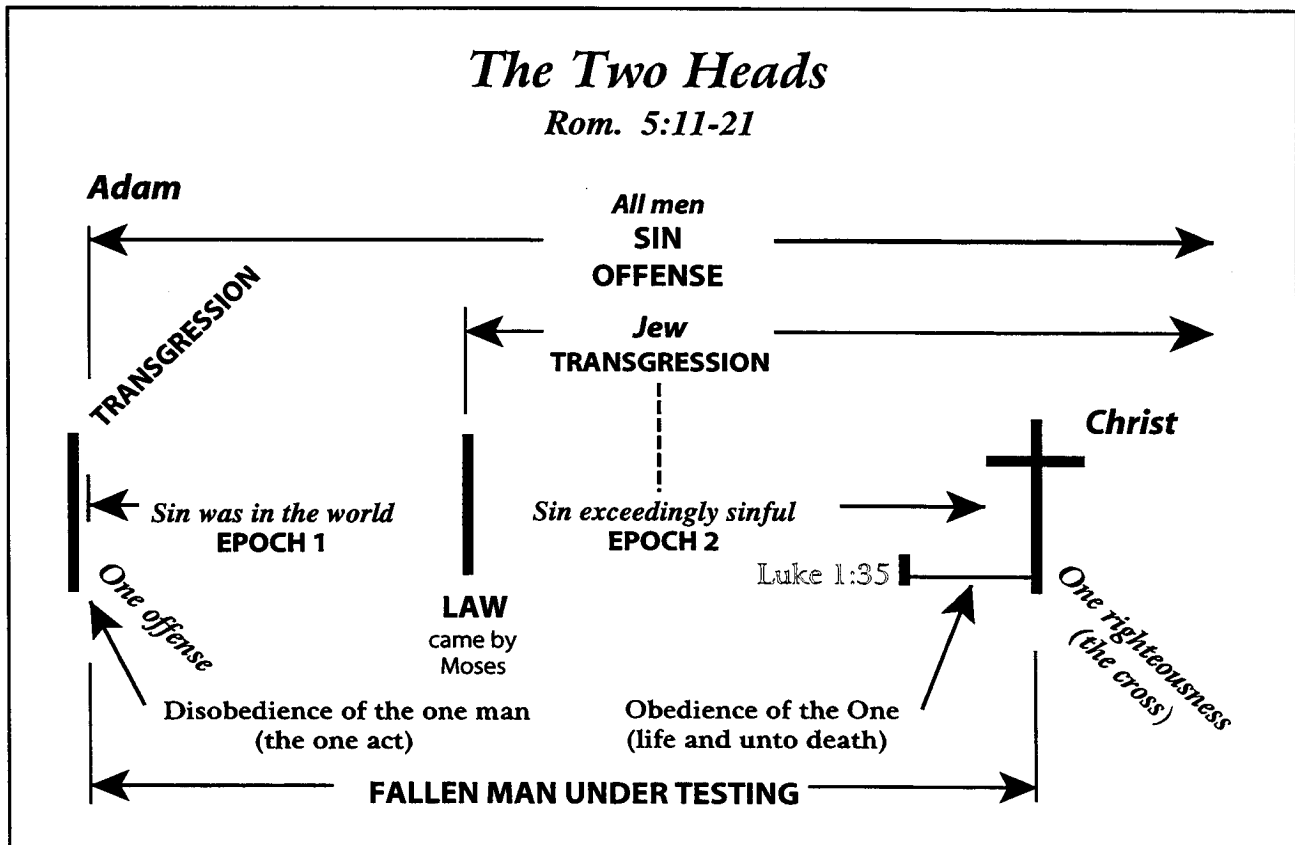


## Chapter 3.4

## Romans 5:12-21: The Christian Under a New Head



Adam-innocent is not viewed in Scripture as the head of a race; Adam-fallen is the head of a race. The testing of man began after the fall. It is *the testing of fallen man*, the first man as fallen, to see if he could be reclaimed. The one command under which Adam innocent stood in the garden of Eden was not part of the testing of fallen man. Adam had a law; and Adam-innocent stood under that law. That law for Adam-innocent is not part of the testing of fallen man. Rom. 5:13 says: "for until law sin was in the world; but sin is not put to account when there is no law." *World*, here, refers to the world under the headship of Adam-fallen. "Until law," without the definite article *the*, means – *until* God brought fallen man under testing by law, law as a principle of relationship and standing before Himself for fallen man. The fact that Adam had a law before he fell from innocency does not alter the fact that:

from the time of the expulsion from Eden, "until law," fallen man was not, during that period, under test on the principle of law as a basis of relationship and standing, with God.

Under Moses, fallen man, in the persons of the Jews, were dealt with on the basis of law. This was a new character of *standing* for man in the flesh. The standing for (fallen) man in the flesh, and the testing of (fallen) man in the flesh, ended at the cross. The law did not then 'die,' was not "nailed to the cross," and was not abrogated. The testing and standing of the first man, fallen man, man in the flesh, ended at the cross. That did not change the fact that each individual is responsible to God, and now all men everywhere are responsible to repent. The believer now is dead with Christ and dead to the law.