



Scriptures and Doctrine :: The Second Adam

The Second Adam, on: 2007/4/18 13:58

When people refer to Jesus Christ as the 'Second Adam', what do they actually mean? I also remember Ravenhill calling Him the 'Last Adam' instead.

Thanks for your help.

Re: The Second Adam - posted by RobertW (), on: 2007/4/18 14:15

And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. (I Cor. 15:45)

There are two Adam's here both of which were born human beings in the sense God intended. The first Adam lived for a time in obedience to God and in keeping with God's will; but in time the first Adam *fell short of the glory of God*. Sin entered the human race through Adam (Romans 5) as Adam was the figure head of the human race. We are all born into Adam at physical birth. Adam was a slave to Sin through the fall and had been corrupted in his nature (Eph. 2). He was ruled by the spirit of disobedience and governed by the law of Sin that was in his members. This was the Adam of the Garden who fell into Sin and took the whole human race with him.

Christ was born in due time of a virgin by the Holy Spirit. He was the second and last Adam. He was not born into Sin. He did not have a Sin nature. He was not an enemy in His mind of God by wicked works or by nature a child of wrath (Eph. 2). His nature was to do the will of the Father.

We are born 'in' Adam. When a person is born again they are born 'into' Jesus Christ the last Adam. This is important because we take on the history of Christ as opposed to the history of Adam. No longer are we slaves to Sin. No longer do we have the spirit of disobedience- we have the Holy Spirit. Only Christ fulfilled what God intended human beings to be. He did not fall short of the glory of God as did all other human beings. It is only when we abide in Him that we also can fulfill what God intends in creating man. Christ was the express image of God's person. He is the Word of God. When we are in him we are living epistles read of all men. Our life is an expression of God's word. Christ lived in perfect obedience to the Father and demonstrated what God intended in creating man. When we are in Him we are partakers of that glory with Him and become lights in the world.

Just a few starting thoughts...

Re:, on: 2007/4/18 15:19

So does the Bible ever make a direct reference to the 'Second Adam'? Or does it refer to Jesus as the 'Last Adam'? Basically, did these two names originate from the Bible?

Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2007/4/18 15:45

The NT uses of Adam are:

Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God. (Luke 3:38)

Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. (Romans 5:14)

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. (I Cor. 15:22)

And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. (I Cor. 15:45)

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For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. (I Tim. 2:13, 14)

And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, (Jude 14)

I think the reason that comes about is the following passage:

The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven...

Re:, on: 2007/4/18 15:49

Thanks for your help so far.

So the phrase or name 'Second Adam' isn't explicitly mentioned in the Bible, however it is still an accepted biblical doctrine?

Almost like the Trinity, which isn't actually explicitly mentioned in the Bible, but it is still a sound and true doctrine?

Re: The Second Adam, on: 2007/4/18 16:07

Hi Richard,

I believe Charles Wesley used the phrase 'second Adam' in more than one of his hymns, and this may have inspired the use of the term in Christian circles.

Right now, I don't have a book to hand, and can't remember any of the relevant first lines, but, maybe someone else will be able to pin them down.

Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2007/4/18 16:15

Quote:
-----So the phrase or name 'Second Adam' isn't explicitly mentioned in the Bible, however it is still an accepted biblical doctrine?

Probably because second man was used it has stuck. I think it's important just to realize that there were only ever two men that were 'men' in the sense God intended. There was the first and the last. There will not be a third by natural birth- but many by second birth.

Re: The Second Adam - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2007/4/18 20:07

Here's a case where our local pedant, Philologos, would be able to help but since he hasn't responded yet I will post something from Watchman Nee that may shed some light on this matter...

The death of the Lord Jesus is inclusive. The resurrection of the Lord Jesus is alike inclusive. We have looked at the first chapter of I Corinthians to establish the fact that we are "in Christ Jesus". Now we will go to the end of the same letter to see something more of what this means. In I Corinthians 15:45,47 two remarkable names or titles are used of the Lord Jesus. He is spoken of there as "the last Adam"; and He is spoken of too as "the second man". Scripture does not refer to Him as the second Adam but as "the last Adam"; nor does it refer to Him as the last Man, but as "the second man". The distinction is to be noted, for it enshrines a truth of great value.

As the last Adam, Christ is the sum total of humanity; as the second Man He is the Head of a new race. So we have here two unions, the one relating to His death and the other to His resurrection. In the first place His union with the race as "the last Adam"; began historically at Bethlehem and ended at the cross and the tomb. In it He gathered up into Himself all that was in Adam and took it to judgment and death. In the second place our union with Him as "the second man"; begins in resurrection and ends in eternity; which is to say, it never ends; for, having in His death done away with the first man in whom God's purpose was frustrated, He rose again as Head of a new race of men, in whom that purpose shall be fully realized.

When therefore the Lord Jesus was crucified on the cross, He was crucified as the last Adam. All that was in the first Adam was gathered up and done away in Him. We were included there. As the last Adam He wiped out the old race; as the second Man He brings in the new race. It is in His resurrection that He stands forth as the second Man, and there too we are included. "For if we have become united with him by the likeness of his death, we shall be also by the likeness of his resurrection"; (Romans 6:5). We died in Him as the last Adam; we live in Him as the second Man. The Cross is thus the power of God which translates us from Adam to Christ.

In Christ,

Ron

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2007/4/19 17:04

Hi Ron

It may be Cardinal Newman who has muddied the waters rather than Charles Wesley...

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise;
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways!

O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive, and should prevail;

The scripture refers, as has been said, to the Second Man. In that God's design for 'man' is expressed in Genesis "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." (Gen 1:26-27 KJVS).. we might say that only two men have ever fulfilled that specification; the first man and the second man. All other 'men' have never fulfilled the specification, so there have only ever been two 'real' men. However, Christ will not be the last 'man'... "For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings." (Heb 2:10 KJVS)... so it is appropriate to speak of Christ as the 'second' rather than the 'last' man.

However, He is the last Adam. Adam was the head of our race. Christ is the head of the new race. There will be no more

re 'races' and no more 'Adams'.

There, is that 'pedantic' enough for you? ;-)

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2007/4/20 15:54

There are only 2 man that God has dealt with in His Plan before the foundation of the world.

Ephesians 1:4-6 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, (God the Father) according to the good pleasure of His will, To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved.(Jesus Christ)

The first Adam (earthy) who is earthy, was created to be in the Last Adam (Heavenly) and live forever in God's House as son's. The first Adam (created) chose to be in Satan by who he believed. That is why God kicked created Adam out of the Garden, so he would not live forever in the nature of a created being, Satan and first Adam. All after Adam are now in Satan until the Last Adam (Christ) provided the only way of redemption to all that are in the first Adam. Now after the Cross, those who believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that is a birthed Son, not a created son, have the capacity to be born again and now live in the Heavenly realm in God's House,

1 Corinthians 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

The Garden of Eden being the representative of Our Heavenly Home with God, in Heavenly Places, Eph 1:3 Blessed t he God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly in Christ: Eph 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set at his own right hand in the heavenly ,

Eph 2:6 And hath raised up together, and made sit together in heavenly in Christ Jesus:

Eph 3:10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God:

where Satan will no longer have access to any of its blessings for the son's of God.

We will take up where innocent created Adam ended after the fall, and we will learn Christ and live forever with Who we were intended to be from the first. Now having the Holy Spirit of God in us we are learning to be what God intended us to be before the earth was ever created or created Adam. We are now the second man in the Second Man, Christ Jesus , born again of Spirit and Water of life in Christ Jesus.

So there are really only 2 "man" that God has dealt with to accomplish His Plan the Man Adam, created, (earthy). The Second Man Adam, birthed Of God in Mary, (Christ) and the First Adam created and the Last Adam birthed of God, His Only Begotten Son. We are son's by adoption into the Family of God by the Christ Nature that is born again in us. We are now new creatures, a New Creation Race of people in Christ with the Nature of God and leaving the nature of our old father Satan behind being dead to us who are now dead to sin. Birthed son's of God.

What a wonder our God is.

In Christ: Phillip

Re: The Second Adam - posted by letsgetbusy (), on: 2007/4/21 0:46

Adam means "man". The Scripture uses the terms "the last Adam" and "the second man". While both are used, the word "last" was preferred by Bro Ravenhill because it wipes out the idea that other possible Saviours will rise up in the last days. There are many claiming to be the last days "Prophet" of the Lord. Much of the New Age movement focuses on this possible "Christ" being in India or elsewhere today. There are many who are totally bought into this.

Both terms are used in the Bible, but are not interchangeable. Jesus was the second and the last. Adam was made alive , Jesus makes others alive, and no one after Him can do this. That is the reason for the use of "last".

Re:, on: 2007/4/21 8:11

I am not satisfied with that interpretation of why Jesus is called the "last Adam". I can't put my finger on it, but I have a *feeling* that it has something to do with being, the "Son of God" as both the first and last Adam were called.

Jesus said, "I am the FIRST and the LAST".

As I was just pondering this now, I feel that that statement that Jesus made was that he became the FIRST Adam (robbed in sinful flesh), and also the LAST Adam (made a quickening spirit). The LAST denotes (this is coming to me slowly, so bare with me) that this ADAM (Jesus Christ) would be the one that will overcome the tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil. The LAST is that there will be no need for another because Jesus Christ would have done what no other man could possibly do.

Please re-read this before replying and grasp what was said.

I could add more, but I do not sense anymore information to give, it would only be my thoughts on it.

God Bless

Feeling, I use this word because I don't know what other word to use when a person is feeling after God by faith. That is why I use the word, 'feel'. Acts 17:27

Re: The Second Adam, on: 2007/4/21 15:33

Matthew 3:10

"And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees..."

Hi Compliments,

I believe this word from John the Baptist (above) refers to the tree(s) of the knowledge of good and evil... that is, that each of us represent its *plantings*.

This horticultural thought ties in with our having been grafted into Christ's death and resurrection (Rom 6).

Psalm 1

2 But his delight in the law of the LORD,
And in His law he meditates day and night.

3 He shall be like a tree

Planted by the rivers of water,

That brings forth its fruit in its season,

Whose leaf also shall not wither;

And whatever he does shall prosper.

Re:, on: 2007/4/21 17:51

Quote:
-----I believe this word from John the Baptist (above) refers to the tree(s) of the knowledge of good and evil... that is, that each of us represent its plantings.

Linn, I love it!! These thoughts on these opens up a whole new world in biblical knowledge. Not just for knowledge sake, but information that we can use against the enemy. How? It reveals what Christ has done and what the enemy can no longer do.

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If we just keep our attention on the wording of the bible and it's letters, we'll constantly be ever learning and never coming to the knowledge of the truth. But if we allow the holy Spirit to let these words sink down into our ears, by faith the word is quickened and made alive to our spirit thus creating a knowledge that supercedes that of the carnal mind which can not receive the things of God.

Now that just flowed out of me, if that makes any sense, let me know.

God Bless

Re: The Second Adam, on: 2007/4/22 13:04

I confess this was not my personal revelation, but it came from the Lord to someone I know, who shared it with me... and I've been passing it on...

Compliments said

Quote:
-----If we just keep our attention on the wording of the bible and it's letters, we'll constantly be ever learning and never coming to the knowledge of the truth. But if we allow the holy Spirit to let these words sink down into our ears, by faith the word is quickened and made alive to our spirit thus creating a knowledge that supercedes that of the carnal mind which cannot receive the things of God.

Now that just flowed out of me, if that makes any sense, let me know.

Don't you worry.... it was good, brother. 8-)

I love that sentence (from Jesus)

Quote:
-----... let these words sink down into our ears ...

GW North used them often.