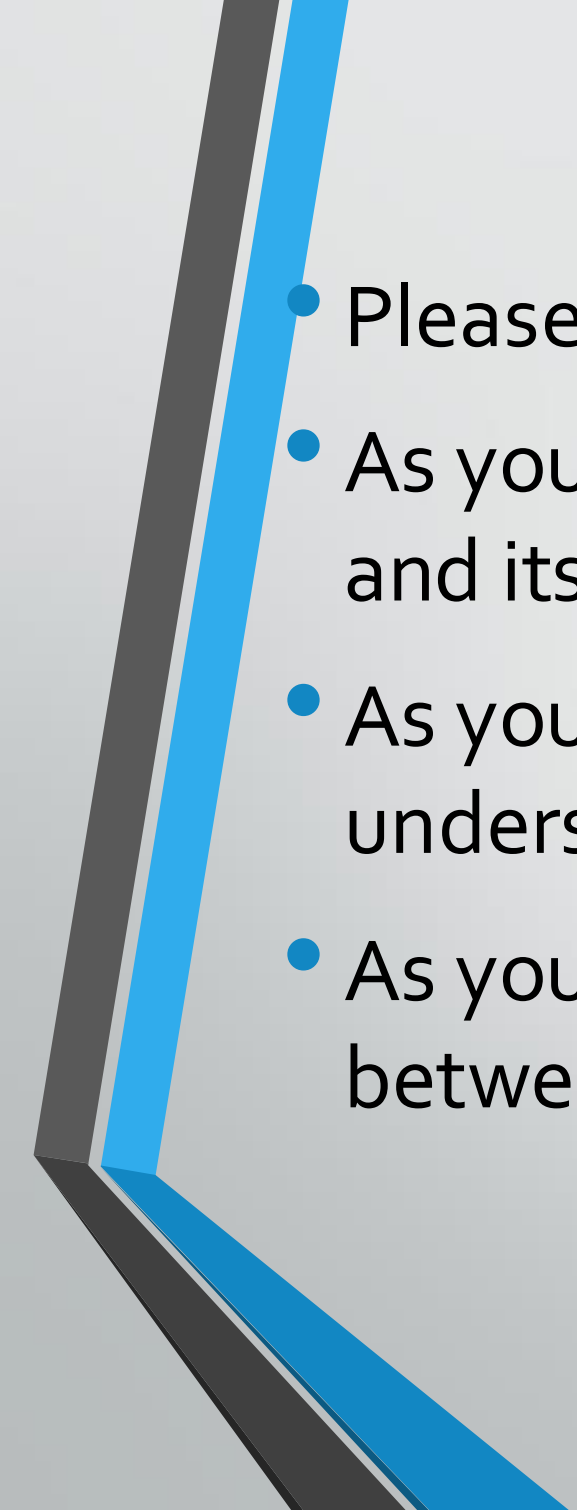
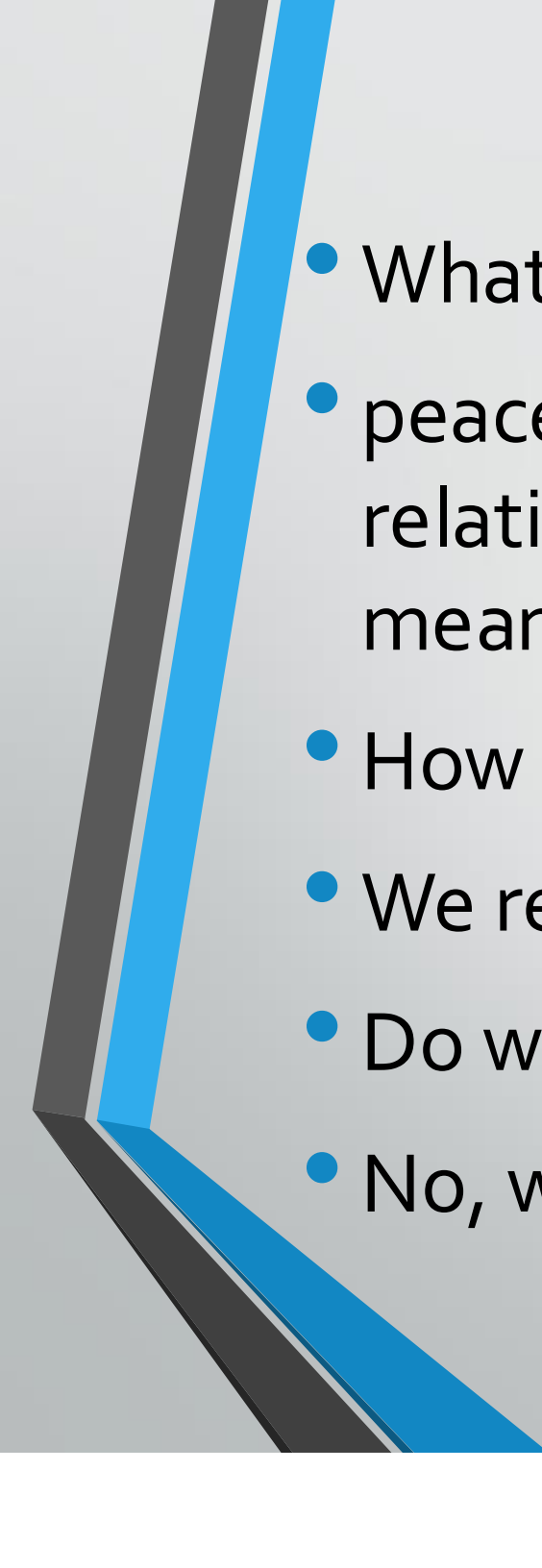
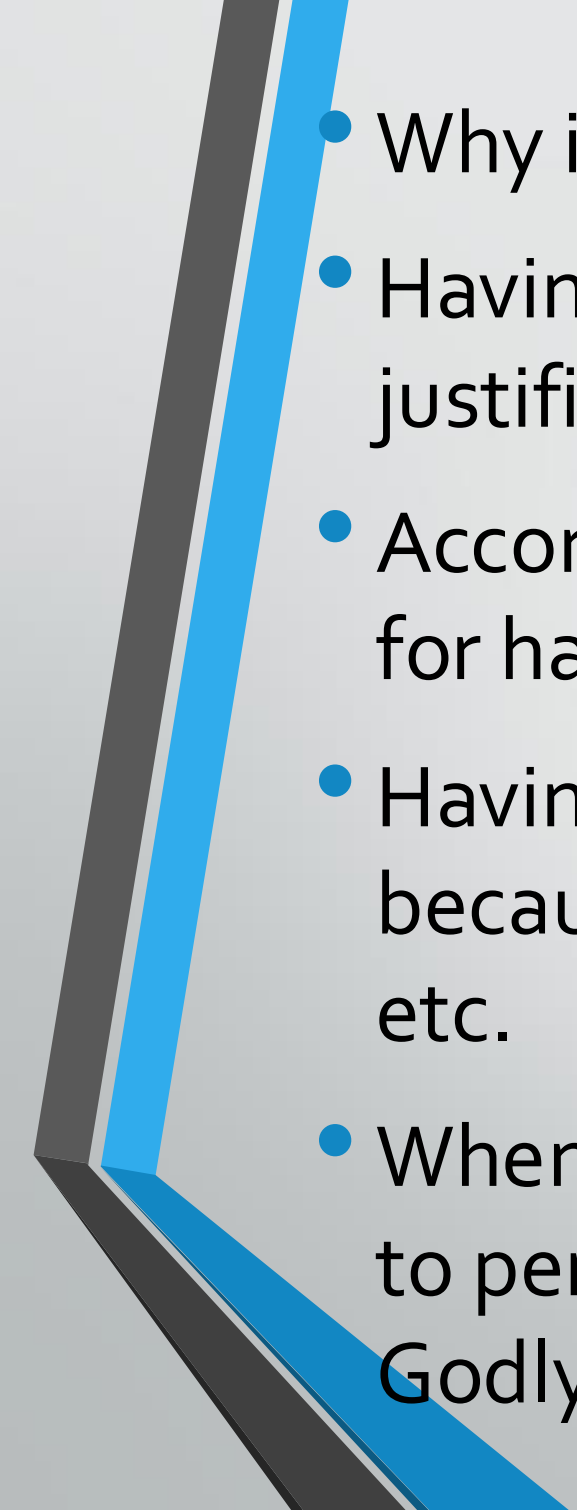




ROMANS 5:1-21

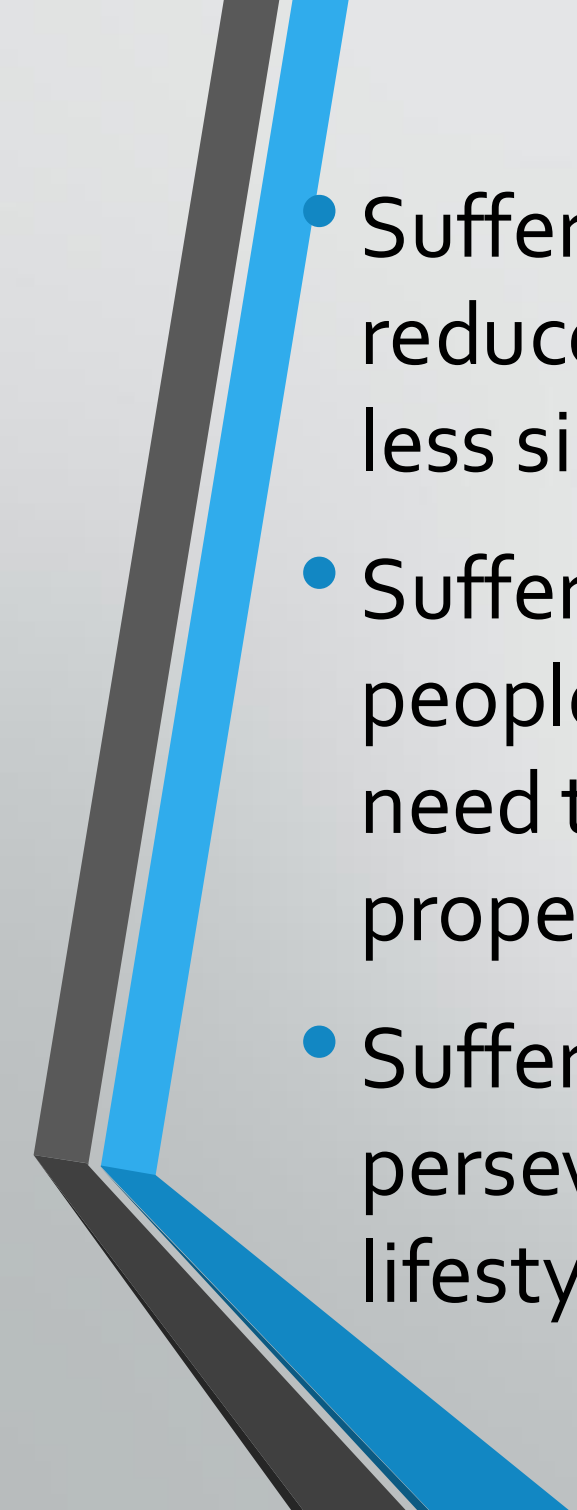
- 
- Please read Romans 5:1-21
 - As you read verse 1-5, please think about the peace of God and its significance.
 - As you read verses 6-11, please focus on verse 9 and try to understand God's wrath from the context of verses 7-11
 - As you read verse 12 -21, please think about connection between the original sin and the works of Christ.

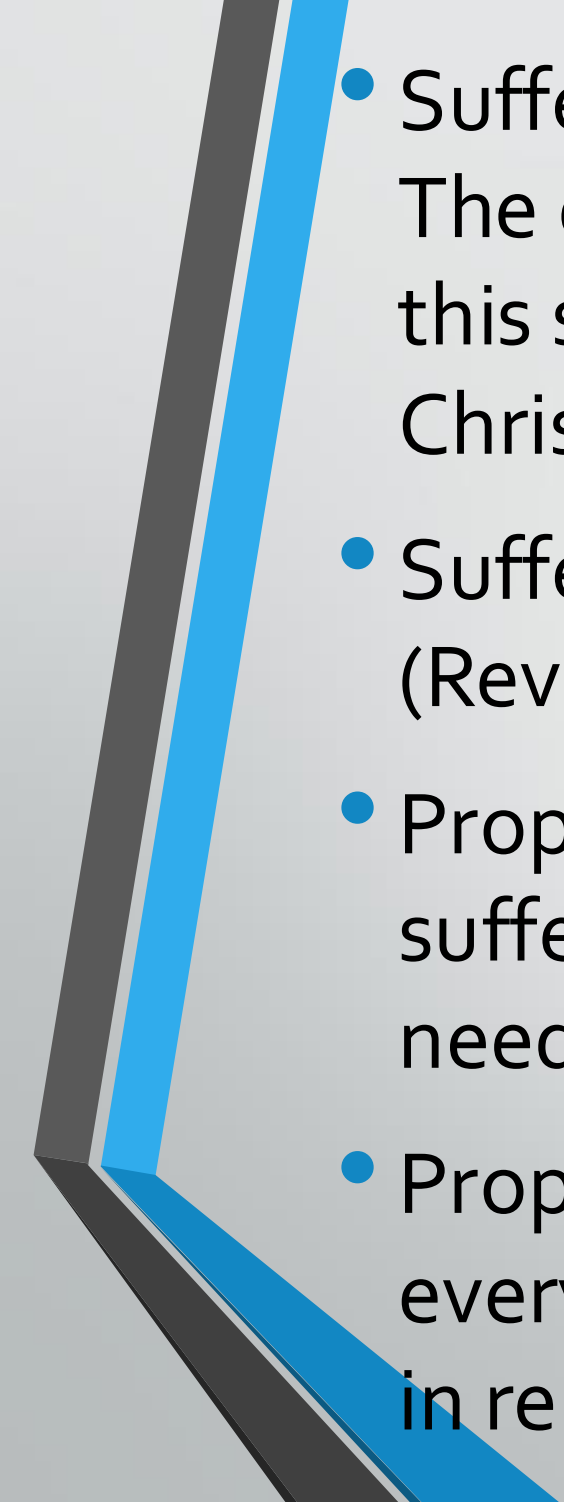
- 
- What does peace of God means in verse 1,2?
 - peace means lack of conflict or hostility. It deals with relationship with another person/being. Peace of God means having no conflict with God.
 - How do we receive or get peace of God?
 - We received peace of God through justification by faith.
 - Do we have to work for it?
 - No, we received it by faith through grace (verse 2)

- 
- Why is it important to have peace of God?
 - Having peace of God enable us to go to heaven through justification by faith.
 - According to verse 3-5, What is the consequences on earth for having the peace of God?
 - Having peace of God will help us in times of suffering. This is because we have access to God's power, love, intervention, etc.
 - When God helps us in times of suffering, this will enable us to persevere in our suffering. And perseverance leads to Godly character, which leads to hope.

- Does this mean when we have peace of God, we will automatically (without any effort on our part) able to persevere in our suffering ?
- No. Just because we have peace of God, it doesn't automatically that we will persevere in our suffering (Many Christians do not persevere in their sufferings).
- To persevere in suffering, we need to understand suffering. When we understand the source or cause of the suffering, then we are able to take steps (actions) to persevere through the peace of God.

All sufferings on earth come from several sources:

- 
- Sufferings can come from our own sin. So, if we want to reduce the sufferings from our own sin, then try to commit less sin by living proper Christian lifestyle.
 - Sufferings can come from the sin of others (actions by sinful people). To persevere the sufferings from sin of others, we need to depend on God's protection (prayers) and live a proper Christian lifestyle.
 - Sufferings can come from serving God (spiritual attack). To persevere this sufferings we need to live proper Christian lifestyle and prayers

- 
- Sufferings can come from God's wrath on the sinners. i.e. The exile of Israel in the OT, natural disasters. To persevere this sufferings we need God's protection through proper Christian lifestyle and prayers.
 - Sufferings can come from God's sovereign plan on Earth (Rev 13:7, Rev 11:7).
 - Proper Christian lifestyle is key to persevere and overcome sufferings. In order to live proper christian lifestyle, you need peace of God.
 - Proper Christian lifestyle is dependency on God in everything we do, and show love, grace, mercy, forgiveness in relating to others.

- What is God's wrath in the context of verse 6-11 and the whole chapter or the theme of the book?
- God's wrath means God's judgment or punishment for our sins.
- God's wrath has two dimensions or affect two separate realms: the physical and spiritual.
- What is God's wrath on us spiritually?
- Genesis 2:17, Rev 20:11-15. we will go to hell for eternity.
- What is God's wrath on us physically?
Genesis 3:16-19, Deuteronomy. We will suffer on Earth.

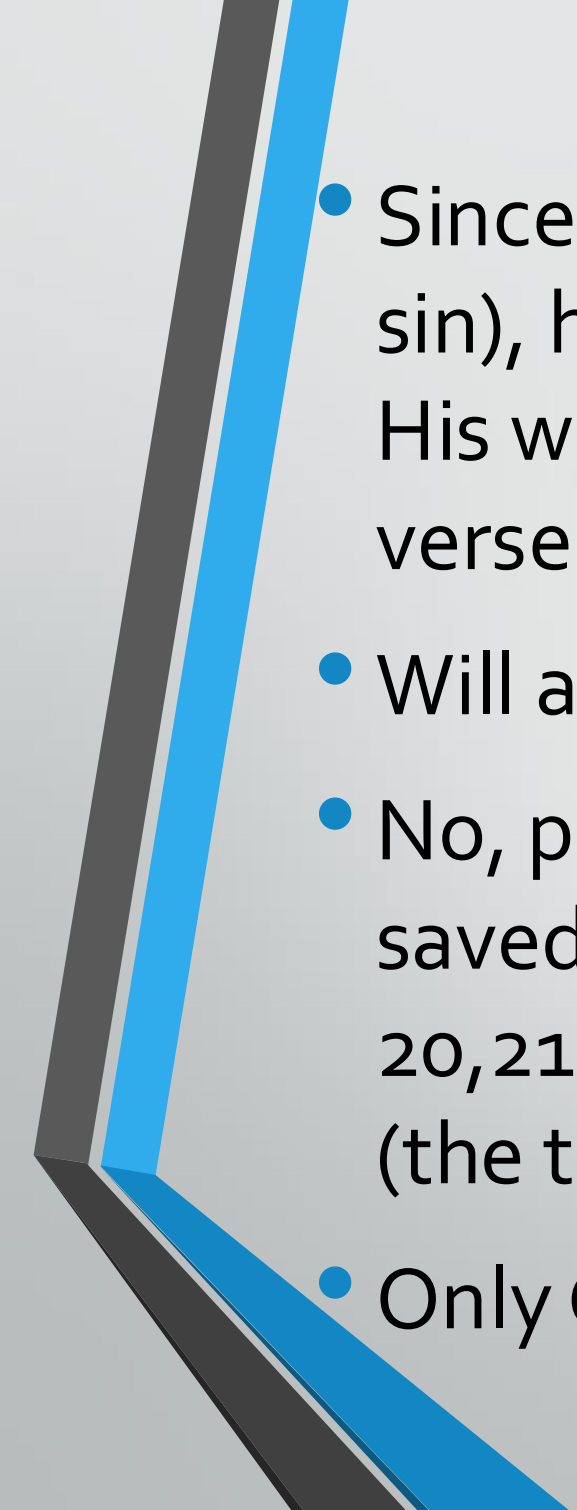
- Does God's wrath in Verse 9 refer to God's wrath on us physically, spiritually, or both?
- Verse 9, "Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him". Justified by His blood always means going to heaven (saved from spiritual wrath or sufferings).
- Justified by His blood never means saved from physical wrath or sufferings on earth. For example, when you are justified by His blood and chooses to commit sin, you will suffer God's wrath on earth due to your sins. But you will not suffer God's wrath of going to hell (spiritual).

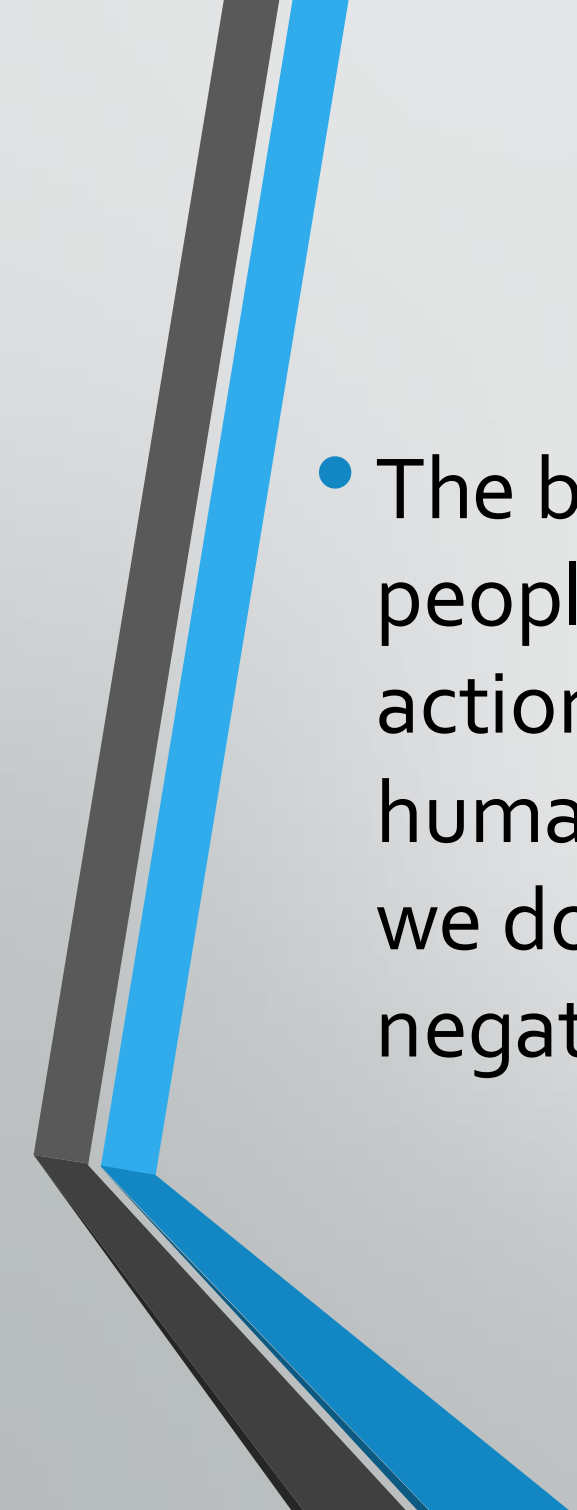
- When other people sin and God's wrath comes on them, you will experience some sufferings, but God will protect you if you live a proper Christian lifestyle. What bible verse that support this?
- Noah and the flood, Daniel and Jeremiah during the exile.
- The bottom line is while we are saved or do not experience God's spiritual wrath by putting our faith in Jesus, we can still experience God's wrath on earth (on our physical beings) (refer to previous discussion on sufferings).
- When we live proper Christian lifestyle, we will have limited experience of God's wrath on earth due to His love, grace and protection.

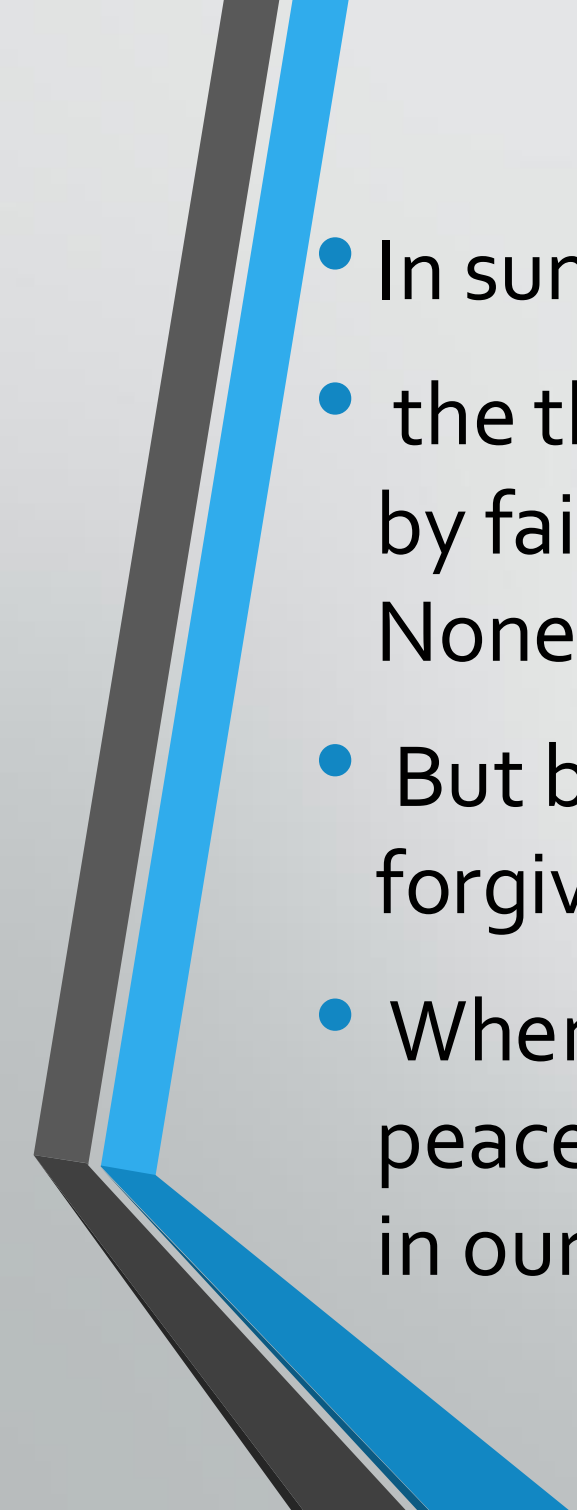
- The concept of “original sin” probably comes from verse 12-21. How do you define original sin from these verses?
- Verse 13 and 14 says that sin and death existed before the Mosaic law came into existence. How is this possible since “sin is not imputed when there is no law”?
- Verse 12, 17-19 provide the explanation by stating through the sin of Adam all of us are condemned to death. This means all of us will commit sin and hence condemned to hell.
- Original sin means we will commit sin. We no longer has the option of not committing sin, like Adam and Eve when they were in the garden of Eden, prior to sin.

Trivia question: would Adam and Eve live forever if they never commit sin (and all of us have the option to not commit sin)?

- Another trivia question: When a baby dies, would the baby go to heaven?
- My presupposition or assumption is there will be no baby and very old people in heaven. When we die and go to heaven, we will be given a new body, spiritual body. Any baby who goes to heaven will commit sin (verse 12-21). Only Christians will not commit sin in heaven because they are saved through Jesus.
- Therefore, all babies need Jesus just like any other normal human beings. All babies are condemned to hell just like all of us and must put their faith in Jesus just like all of us. Would all babies put their faith in Jesus? I don't know. No one knows who will go to heaven and who will not. But one thing for sure, all babies are descendants of Adam/Eve and will commit sin (verse 12-21) and need Jesus to go to heaven.

- 
- Since through Adam all are condemned to hell (will commit sin), hence through Jesus, all who put their faith in Him and His works, will receive forgiveness (justification) please read verse 15-16.
 - Will all people then be saved as stated in verse 18?
 - No, proper interpretation is all people are eligible to be saved because salvation is based on God's grace (verse 17, 20,21). But those who put their faith in Jesus will be saved (the theme of the book, Romans 1:17, 5:19).
 - Only God knows who will be saved and who will not.

- 
- The big lesson/application here is our actions affect other people. Adam's actions affect the whole humanity. The actions of the people in Noah's time affect the whole humanity until today. So, we need to be careful with what we do. What we do can affect our loved ones positively or negatively.

- 
- In summary:
 - the theme of the book of Romans, the righteous shall live by faith, means we are all sinners and condemned to hell. None of us are righteous.
 - But by the grace of God, through Jesus, we can receive forgiveness, justification and become righteous.
 - When we put our faith and live by faith in Jesus, we will have peace of God which enable us to go to heaven and persevere in our sufferings on earth.