

Cornerstone     Why a Literal Adam Who Literally Sinned?     Jan 2026

**Thesis: A literal salvation requires a literal Adam in Genesis 1-3.**

1) The NT assumes a literal Adam (cf. Mark 10, Rom 5, 1 Cor 15)

Romans 5:12-19 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned – <sup>13</sup> for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. <sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many. <sup>16</sup> The gift is not like *that which came through the one who sinned*; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification. <sup>17</sup> For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. <sup>19</sup> For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

1 Corinthians 15:21-22 For since by a man came death, by a man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

2) A literal Adam is essential for a literal salvation, justification, & eternal life

To reject a literal understanding of Genesis 1-3, along with a literal Adam and Eve (who sinned), is to reject the following:

1. The existence of sin and death.
2. A literal Jesus who died on the cross and rose from the dead.
3. The reality of justification, salvation, & heaven.

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1 Corinthians 15:21-22 For since by a man came death, by a man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

2) A literal Adam is essential for a literal salvation, justification, & eternal life

To reject a literal understanding of Genesis 1-3, along with a literal Adam and Eve (who sinned), is to reject the following:

1. The existence of sin and death.
2. A literal Jesus who died on the cross and rose from the dead.
3. The reality of justification, salvation, & heaven.

Cornerstone      Why a Literal Adam Who Literally Sinned?      Jan 2026

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