

# Two Wonders I Confess

## The Wonders of Redeeming Love and My Unworthiness

Elder Dwight Burford

April 28, 2019

# Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand –  
The shadow of a mighty Rock  
Within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat,  
And the burden of the day.

# Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Upon that cross of Jesus  
    Mine eye at times can see  
The very dying form of One,  
    Who suffered there for me;  
And from my stricken heart with tears,  
    Two wonders I confess –  
The wonders of redeeming love,  
    And my unworthiness.

# Beneath the Cross of Jesus

I take, O cross, thy shadow  
For my abiding place.

I ask no other sunshine  
than the sunshine of His face;

Content to let the world go by,  
To know no gain nor loss,

My sinful self my only shame,  
My glory all, the cross.

# Access to the Tree of Life: Access to the Love of God

Tree of Life  
in Genesis

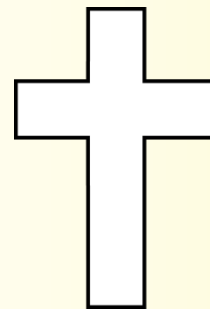


Free Gift Promised

- Creation
- Commands
- Transgression

My glory all, the cross

Anticipation of  
Promises Fulfilled



Free Gift Manifest

- Obedience of faith
- Line upon Line
- Experiment on Word

Celebration &  
Making Ready

Free Gift Redeemed

- Grafting into True Vine
- Bearing Fruit of Spirit of Truth
- Endurance to End

Tree of Life  
in Revelation



**Note:** By creating us in His image and likeness, God gave us the capacity to love and to live in the light. The question is what we love and whom we love.

# Whosoever believeth...

## John 3

14. And as Moses **lifted up** the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up;
15. That whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life.
16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him **should not perish**; but have everlasting life.

**“that all should come to repentance...”**

## II Peter 3

9. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise and coming, as some men count slackness; but long-suffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish**, but that all should come to repentance.

# willing to have all men saved

## I Timothy 2

3. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior;
4. Who is **willing to have all men to be saved**, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth which is in Christ Jesus...



## dead in sin / forgiven all trespass

13. And you, being **dead in your sins** and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;
14. Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, **nailing it to his cross**;

# O the wisdom of God! His mercy and grace!

## II Nephi 6

- 14 And because man became fallen, they were **cut off from the presence of the Lord**;<sup>\*</sup>
- 15 Wherefore, it must needs be an infinite atonement;
- 16 Save it should be an infinite atonement, this corruption could not put on incorruption.
- 17 Wherefore, the first judgment which came upon man, must needs have remained to an endless duration.

<sup>\*</sup>cut off from the tree of life

# O the wisdom of God! His mercy and grace!

## II Nephi 6

- 18 And if so, this flesh must have lain down to rot and to crumble to its mother earth, to rise no more.
- 19 O the wisdom of God! his mercy and grace!
- 20 For behold, if the flesh should rise no more, our spirits must become subject to that angel who fell from before the presence of the eternal God, and became the devil, to rise no more.

# O the wisdom of God! His mercy and grace!

## II Nephi 6

- 21 And our spirits must have become like unto him, and we become devils, angels to a devil, to be shut out from the presence of our God, and to remain with the father of lies, in misery, like unto himself;
- 22 Yea, to that being who beguiled our first parents;\*

\*remember how our first parents were cut off from the tree of life

# Access to the Tree of Life: Access to the Love of God

Tree of Life  
in Genesis

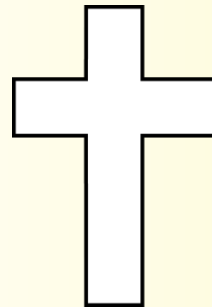


Free Gift Promised

- Creation
- Commands
- Transgression

My glory all, the cross

Anticipation of  
Promises Fulfilled



Free Gift Manifest

- Obedience of faith
- Line upon Line
- Experiment on Word

Celebration &  
Making Ready

Free Gift Redeemed

- Grafting into True Vine
- Bearing Fruit of Spirit of Truth
- Endurance to End

Tree of Life  
in Revelation



**Note:** By creating us in His image and likeness, God gave us the capacity to love and to live in the light. The question is what we love and whom we love.

# whosoever

## John 3

14. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up;
15. That whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life.
16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him **should not perish**; but have everlasting life.

# whosoever

1. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. But if any man sin and repent, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;
2. And he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also **for the sins of the whole world.**

## the Savior of all men...

### I Timothy 4

9. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation.
10. For therefore we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is **the Savior of all men**, specially of those that believe.



# the Savior of all men...

D&C 76

4g And this is the gospel, the glad tidings which the voice out of the heavens bore record unto us, that he came into the world, even Jesus to be crucified for the world, and to bear the sins of the world, and to sanctify the world, and to cleanse it from all unrighteousness;

# the Savior of all men...

D&C 76

4h that through him all might be saved, whom the Father had put into his power, and made by him; who glorifies the Father, and saves all the works of his hands, except those sons of perdition, who deny the Son after the Father has revealed him;

# the Savior of all men...

D&C 76

- 4i **wherefore he saves all except** them; they shall go away into everlasting punishment, which is endless punishment, which is eternal punishment, to reign with the Devil and his angels in eternity, where their worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched, which is their torment, and the end thereof, neither the place thereof, nor their torment, no man knows;

# the Savior of all men...

- 6g and they who remain shall also be quickened; nevertheless, they shall return again to their own place, to enjoy that which they are willing to receive, because they were not willing to enjoy that which they might have received.
- 7 For what doth it profit a man if a gift is bestowed upon him, and he receive not the gift? Behold, he rejoices not in that which is given unto him, neither rejoices in him who is the giver of the gift.

# The Gospel

- The gospel is truly good news
  - Christ the Savior was born into the world
  - He took away the sins
  - He gives us power to become the children of God
  
- So what's the problem?

# The Conflict / The Choice

- There a conflict between the Free Gift manifest in Christ and our wills.
- We must take up our own crosses and follow Christ into all truth, that is, back into the presence of God.
- In other words, we must die to ourselves and live unto Christ.

# Know ye not...?

## Romans 6

15. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace: God forbid.
16. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
17. But God be thanked, that ye are not the servants of sin, for ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

# Free to choose...

## II Nephi 1

- 119 Wherefore, men are free according to the flesh; and all things are given them which are expedient unto man.
- 120 And they are free to choose liberty and eternal life, through the great mediation of all men, or to choose captivity and death, according to the captivity and power of the devil:
- 121 For he seeketh that all men might be miserable like unto himself.



# Access to the Tree of Life: Access to the Love of God

Tree of Life  
in Genesis

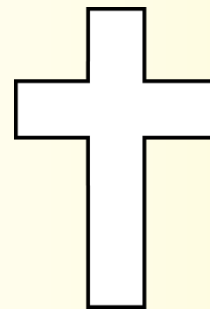


Free Gift Promised

- Creation
- Commands
- Transgression

My glory all, the cross

Anticipation of  
Promises Fulfilled



Free Gift Manifest

- Obedience of faith
- Line upon Line
- Experiment on Word

Celebration &  
Making Ready

Free Gift Redeemed

- Grafting into True Vine
- Bearing Fruit of Spirit of Truth
- Endurance to End

Tree of Life  
in Revelation



**Note:** By creating us in His image and likeness, God gave us the capacity to love and to live in the light. The question is what we love and whom we love.

## having subjected the flesh to the will of the Father

- 28 And now Abinadi said unto them, I would that ye should understand that God himself shall come down among the children of men, and shall redeem his people;
- 29 And because he dwelleth in flesh, he shall be called the Son of God:
- 30 And **having subjected the flesh to the will of the Father**, being the Father and the Son; the Father because he was conceived by the power of God: and the Son, because of the flesh; thus becoming the Father and Son:

# the flesh becoming subject to the Spirit

- 31 And they are one God, yea, the very eternal Father of heaven and of earth;
- 32 **And thus the flesh becoming subject to the Spirit,** or the Son to the Father, being one God, suffereth temptation, and yieldeth not to the temptation, but suffereth himself to be mocked, and scourged, and cast out, and disowned by his people.

# Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?

## Romans 6

- 1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?
- 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
- 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

# as Christ was raised up from the dead...

## Romans 6

- 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, **we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection;**

# the flesh becoming subject to the Spirit

## Romans 6

- 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
- 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin; **but yield yourselves unto God**, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

# the flesh becoming subject to the Spirit

- 14 For in so doing sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
- 15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace: God forbid.
- 16 Know ye not, that to **whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey**, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

# the flesh becoming subject to the Spirit

- 31 And they are one God, yea, the very eternal Father of heaven and of earth;
- 32 **And thus the flesh becoming subject to the Spirit,** or the Son to the Father, being one God, suffereth temptation, and yieldeth not to the temptation, but suffereth himself to be mocked, and scourged, and cast out, and disowned by his people.



# If ye continue in my word...

## John 8

- 31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;
- 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
- 33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man; how sayest thou, ye shall be made free?

# If the Son therefore shall make you free...

- 34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.
- 35 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever, but the Son abideth ever.
- 36 **If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.**

# If the Son therefore shall make you free...

## Mosiah 2

- 2 And they had viewed themselves in their own carnal state, even less than the dust of the earth.
- 3 And they all cried aloud with one voice, saying, O have mercy, and apply the atoning blood of Christ, that we may receive forgiveness of our sins, and our hearts may be purified:
- 4 For we believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who created heaven and earth, and all things, who shall come down among the children of men.

# If the Son therefore shall make you free...

## Mosiah 2

- 5 And it came to pass that after they had spoken these words, the Spirit of the Lord came upon them, and they were filled with joy,
- 6 Having received a remission of their sins, and having peace of conscience, because of the exceeding faith which they had in Jesus Christ who should come, according to the words which King Benjamin had spoken unto them.

# If the Son therefore shall make you free...

## Mosiah 3

- 2 And they all cried with one voice, saying, Yea, we believe all the words which thou hast spoken unto us;
- 3 And also, we know of their surety and truth, because of the Spirit of the Lord Omnipotent, which has wrought a mighty change in us, or in our hearts, that we have no more disposition to do evil, but to do good continually.

# Access to the Tree of Life: Access to the Love of God

Tree of Life  
in Genesis

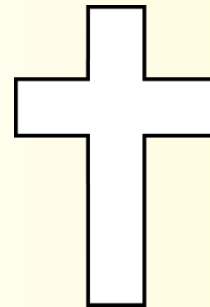


Free Gift Promised

- Creation
- Commands
- Transgression

My glory all, the cross

Anticipation of  
Promises Fulfilled



Free Gift Manifest

- Obedience of faith
- Line upon Line
- Experiment on Word

Celebration &  
Making Ready

Free Gift Redeemed

- Grafting into True Vine
- Bearing Fruit of Spirit of Truth
- Endurance to End

Tree of Life  
in Revelation



**Note:** By creating us in His image and likeness, God gave us the capacity to love and to live in the light. The question is what we love and whom we love.

# Whosoever believeth...

## John 3

14. And as Moses **lifted up** the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up;
15. That whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life.
16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him **should not perish**; but have everlasting life.

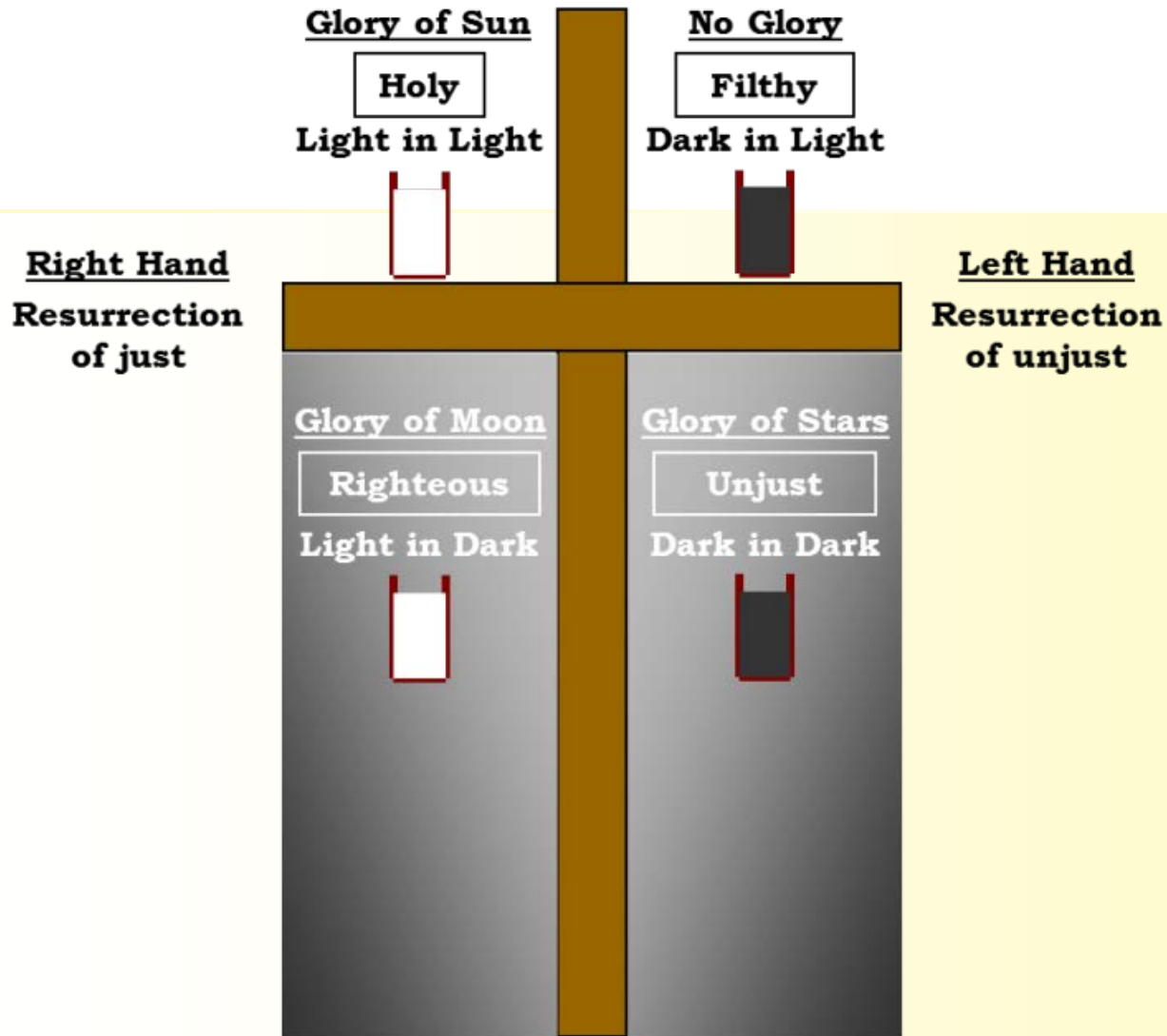
# Whosoever believeth...

## John 12

- 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world be cast out.
- 32 And I, if I be **lifted up** from the earth, will draw all men unto me.
- 33 This he said, signifying what death he should die.



# Four Stations Around the Cross of Christ



## Plan of Salvation

Note: By creating us in His image and likeness, God gave us the capacity to love and to live in the light. The question is what we love and whom we love.

# Whosoever believeth...

## John 12

- 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world be cast out.
- 32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.
- 33 This he said, signifying what death he should die.

# Access to the Tree of Life: Access to the Love of God

Tree of Life  
in Genesis

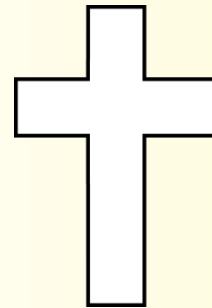


Free Gift Promised

- Creation
- Commands
- Transgression

My glory all, the cross

Anticipation of  
Promises Fulfilled



Free Gift Manifest

- Obedience of faith
- Line upon Line
- Experiment on Word

Celebration &  
Making Ready

Free Gift Redeemed

- Grafting into True Vine
- Bearing Fruit of Spirit of Truth
- Endurance to End

Tree of Life  
in Revelation



**Note:** By creating us in His image and likeness, God gave us the capacity to love and to live in the light. The question is what we love and whom we love.

# The Gospel

- Jesus Christ is our “free will”
- Without Him we can do nothing
- Without Him we will remain captive to the devil
- With Him we can do all things according to the will of the Father, because, greater is He who is in us than he who is in the world.
- So what’s the problem?