

The Atonement of Jesus Christ
Week 12 – January 31, 2024
Notes and Quotes
Grace – Divine Help or Strength

Hebrews 12:1-4

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, 109-110

Only those who try to resist temptation know how strong it is ... You find out the strength of a wind by trying to walk against it, not by lying down. A man who gives in to temptation after five minutes simply does not know what it would have been like an hour later.... Christ, because He was the only man who never yielded to temptation, is also the only man who knows to the full what temptation means.

(Cf. Hebrews 4:14-16)

Alma 34:9-17

C.S. Lewis, *The Complete C.S. Lewis Signature Classics*, 411.

For God is not merely mending, not simply restoring a status quo. Redeemed humanity is to be something more glorious than unfallen humanity would have been, more glorious than any unfallen race now is. . . . And this super-added glory will, with true vicariousness, exalt all creatures and those who have never fallen will thus bless Adam's fall.

(Cf. Isaiah 1:18; 2 Ne. 2:25-27; Alma 42:6-23; Moses 5:9-12)

Working Definition

Grace – The power made available to us through the atonement of Jesus Christ which gives us the ability to accomplish all we can do. We access this power by turning and coming unto God with a humble and broken heart and contrite spirit, demonstrating by our actions a true and living faith in Jesus Christ. We receive grace from God not only to receive strength ourselves, but also that we may have the ability to do His work to bless the lives of others. We do not have to “do all we can do” to “earn” his grace. We receive grace so that we can do all that we can do to become like God.

Emily Dickinson, “*The Poems of Emily Dickinson: Reading Edition*,” (The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1998)

*Tell all the truth but tell it slant —
Success in Circuit lies
Too bright for our infirm Delight
The Truth's superb surprise
As Lightning to the Children eased
With explanation kind
The Truth must dazzle gradually
Or every man be blind —*

Embraced

The veil is parted allowing me in;
The light of God shows what is within.
This hallowed room within my soul,
Where Godliness dwells and I am whole.

From the world's call I am free
And I see the me I want to be.
On holy ground I ponder long
The path to which I truly belong.

Am I to be a celestial soul?
Or merely dream of a Godly goal?
Then He appears and I can see
To be like Him is what I should be.

But I see reflected in His eyes
What my soul cannot disguise.
The things I've done that marred my soul
I'm less than godly, incomplete – not whole.

There comes an ache into my heart –
He knows, He sees, my ugly part.
I begin to turn my face away –
What can I do, what can I say?

I've tried so hard to heed the call
To follow Him but still I fall.
With head bowed low I humbly plea,
“Please dear Lord, have mercy on me!”

Then I feel His love; I see His face
I feel His arms in warm embrace.
Healing light fills my soul
And once again I'm Godly – I am whole.

The Godly child that lies within
Is now pure, and free from sin.
Reconciled to God above
By atoning power and the Savior's love.