

here and suffer as he did suffer. In the short space of time that he labored upon earth He suffered everything that a human soul could suffer; and after having endured such agony that he sweat great drops of blood, He was crowned with thorns, and then was crucified, thus pointing out the path for all his followers to take, giving them the example. Now, those who would reign with Christ, those who would have the glory that Christ has attained unto, must be equally willing to endure all things for the sake of the Gospel that He has revealed. These are the sons of God, the daughters of God, who will attain unto this great exaltation in the presence of the Lamb.

But there is another class who, though they may be honorable, will not attain unto this same glory, for the reason that they are not willing to make the sacrifices required of them in order to receive it. They have not the strength, they have not the will, they have not the disposition to do these things. They bend to popular favor. They love the world and the applause of the world. God has provided a glory for them. There are millions of honorable people in the earth, who have lived lives of honor and integrity, and in their associations with their fellows have deported themselves in a most moral and upright manner; yet they have not attained unto the power and the greatness of soul of this other class to whom I have referred. But there will be a glory given to them which Paul likens to the glory of the moon.

Then there are other classes, that are vile, differing in degrees in their villainess; men who, instead of exercising their agency for the performance of good, are ready to do evil in every direction. The glory that they will receive is likened to the glory of the stars, and, as the Apostle says, as one star differeth from another in glory, so also is the resurrection. The resurrection of these individuals differs in glory, just as their conduct in life does, one being better than the other. There are degrees of sin in which this class indulge; and according to their sins they will be punished. But they will be redeemed by the blood of the Lamb after they have endured the wrath of God for a certain time, and they will receive a greater glory than ever it entered into their hearts to conceive. No human being can conceive of the glory that even these people will get, though they are so low and degraded; but it will be after they have been punished for their sins. There is connected with every crime and every sin that man commits, a penalty. This is an inexorable law, an unchangeable law, and the effect of it cannot be avoided. We must endure the penalty of our sins. If I violate the laws of my body; if, for instance, I take into my stomach food that is not congenial, or eat to excess, or drink to excess, I have to endure the penalty of that. This is inevitable. We have to suffer the penalty of our transgression of physical laws. In like manner, we have to endure the

penalty of the violation of the laws of God. There is only one way in which the punishment can be avoided, and that is by obeying the law that God has given. That law is a superior law. He says:

Believe in my Son Jesus Christ, repent of your sins, be baptized by one having authority, and you shall have the remission of your sins. This is the only way by which we can escape the penalties of violated spiritual laws.

The Lord has made this exceedingly plain in these days, so that we can understand it. Those who take a wrong course must endure the consequences of their wrong. Those who are fighting the work of God today—much as we may dislike them, much as we may be opposed to them, and much as we may feel in our hearts wrought up concerning their wicked conduct—will receive benefit sooner or later, if they do not shed innocent blood, or become accessory thereto. They will get a glory far greater than they ever anticipated. But it will be after they have paid the penalty of their sin. Therefore, when we commit sin we should understand that we have to expiate that sin. We cannot transgress the laws of God with impunity; and if we commit certain sins we are debarred from entering into the presence of God, and into that glory that He has in store for His faithful children.

I suppose that there is not a soul, who professes to be a Latter-day Saint, within the sound of my voice today, who does not, when he or she offers prayer to God, entreat Him, in the name of Jesus, that they may be aided in attaining unto celestial glory. Celestial glory is the prayer, celestial glory is the desire, celestial glory is the animating motive that prompts us in our lives. We desire this with all our hearts. For this the Latter-day Saints have left their homes. For this they have endured privations without end. For this they have suffered the burning of their houses, the expulsion from their homes, and robbery in every form. For this they are now enduring persecution. They have in view the celestial glory. They want to be where God and Christ dwell. They want to be in the presence of the sanctified and pure who have lived in all the ages when the truth has been upon the earth, to have their companionship throughout eternity. They want to enter upon a career of never-ending progress, until they shall be like God our Father, and like our Lord Jesus Christ. They believe that there is truth in what the Apostle Paul says when he speaks of the Saints as being heirs of God. Remember the word. If we are heirs, we may hope some day to inherit; and if we are heirs of God, why then we shall inherit the power and the blessings and the glory of God our Eternal Father. This is what the Latter-day Saints ought to have constantly in view: How can I live so as to become an heir of God, and a joint heir with Jesus Christ? What course can I take to secure to myself celestial glory—a never-fading

crown? not an empty bauble, not a barren sceptre, but a sceptre of power, a sceptre of dominion, a crown that means something real, a throne that means the kingly and queenly authority. This is what the Latter-day Saints have in view, when they have their hearts fixed as they should be and their eyes open to the glory that God has in store for the faithful.

And having these glorious promises made to us and these grand prospects before us, shall we stoop to do those things that are beneath us and beneath our dignity? Shall we be guilty of sin? Shall we do those little petty things that disfigure our character and make us ashamed of ourselves in the presence of our fellows, and how much more in the presence of our God and of the holy angels which surround His throne? Let not these sacrifices that we have already made be lost through any unfaithfulness or neglect upon our part, or through our hardening our hearts and not allowing His Spirit to plead with us and to lead us in the path that He desires us to walk in. Would you be satisfied today with a glory such as Paul says the stars are typical of? Would you be satisfied with the glory of which the moon is typical? No, you would not; although it may be beyond your powers of imagination to conceive of the greatness and the glory to be received by those who attain unto that glory of which the moon is typical. You say to yourself:

Oh, weak as I am, faulty as my character may be, imperfect as I am, I pray God to bear with me; I pray God not to take away from me the promise of celestial glory; help me, O God, to contend with the weaknesses of my nature; help me to keep Thy commandments day by day, that I may be worthy to receive the fulfillment of the promises which Thou hast made unto me!

This, I know, is the feeling of Latter-day Saints. It is for this that temples are reared. God has foreordained you, He has predestined you to be saved. Do not allow any other thought to enter your hearts. When I hear of poor wretches committing suicide, or doing other acts that are sinful, and being filled with despair, because of the weaknesses of their natures, I feel to pity them from the bottom of my heart. I would that I could save them. I would that I could pour into their wounded and crushed souls the balm of gladness; that I might awaken within them the happiness that God has inspired in those who have received His Spirit. For there is hope for every human soul. God does not desire the destruction of any man or any woman. He wants to save every one of us. No matter how low, how degraded, or how sinful we may be, God loves us, though our sins may be hateful to Him; we are His children, and He desires our salvation. His arms of mercy are extended continually unto us. He entreats us in loving mercy, in tender compassion, to come unto Him, and He will give unto us every blessing that we are worthy of. He will strengthen