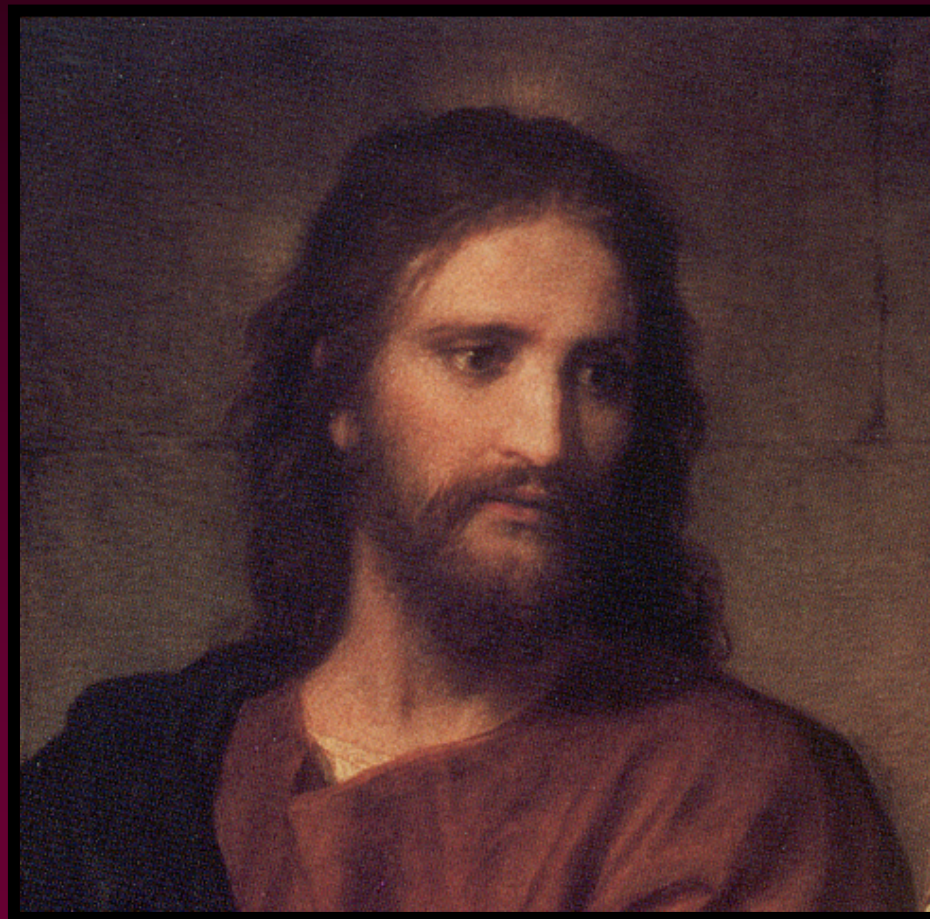


"For there is one God, and one
mediator between God and men,
the man Christ Jesus"



What is sin?

- Sin is when we violate a law (1 John 3:4)
 - Sin - a person violates a law deliberately
 - Transgression - a person violates a law unknowingly
 - Unaware of law (ignorance)
 - Non sufficient maturity to understand (Lack of accountability)

Law of Justice

- For *every* violation of law there is a punishment
(Alma 42:22)
- For *every* obedience of law there is a reward
(D&C 130:20-21)
- We are punished *only* for what we are guilty of
(Articles of Faith:2)

There is no escaping Justice!

The Fall of Man

- "Free gifts" of the fall of Adam
 - Physical death - all die
 - Spiritual death - all separated from God



- "Free gifts" of the Atonement
 - Physical life - All resurrected (1 Cor 15:22)
 - "Spiritual life" - All brought back to the presence of God for judgement (2 Nephi 9:38, Alma 40:11)

"Fall of Me"

- All born separated from God because of Adam's transgression (spiritual death)
- We remain separated because of our own "fall" ("fall of me")
 - Because of our sins

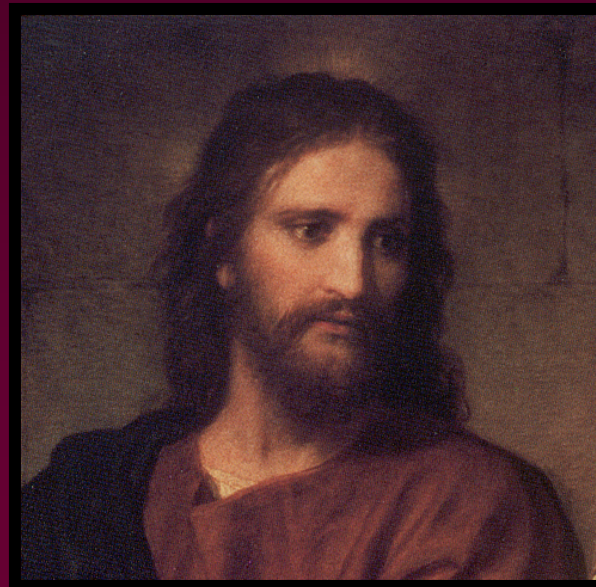
Can we overcome the "Fall of Me" on our own?

NO!

- Only takes one violation to be in debt (James 2:10)
- Only two ways to meet the demands of Justice
 - Keep the law perfectly and never get in debt
 - Pay the debt of suffering

The Need for a Mediator

- Only Christ kept the law perfectly!
 - Everyone else is in debt (Rom. 3:23)
- A Mediator is required to meet the demands of justice and provide mercy



How does Christ mediate for us?



- Christ (son of God) kept laws of God perfectly
 - He avoided the debt
 - He qualified himself to return to the Father
 - Only he could "pay the price of sin" (Hymn 194)
- Through the atonement Christ meets the demands of Justice
 - He "paid the price of sin"
 - He is able to mediate for us and extend mercy
 - Unconditionally for those not accountable

But what about me?

How do I "earn" Mercy?



- It is free – we can not "earn" or "buy" mercy
 - 2 Nephi 26:25, 2 Nephi 9:50
 - "His was a great vicarious gift in behalf of all who would ever live upon the earth" ("The Living Christ," 2)
- "It is not that we earn these gifts, but rather that we choose to seek and accept" (D. Todd Christofferson, "Justification and Sanctification", Ensign, June 2001, pg 18)

How do I "seek and accept" Mercy then?



- Faith, repentance, baptism, & receipt of the Holy Ghost (2 Nephi 31:13)
- Broken heart & contrite spirit (2 Nephi 2:7)

The Mediator

