

The Atonement not just for Sinners

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Atonement not just for Sinners

- Tasting the bitter is a deliberate part of life
 - Moses 6:55 (Lord to Adam)
"and they taste the bitter, that they may know to prize the good"
 - What does that mean?
 - Just because you're good doesn't mean things won't happen to you!
- Source of bitterness in our lives (Beauty for Ashes: The Atonement of Jesus Christ," Ensign, Apr. 1990, pg 7.):
 - Sin
 - One end of the spectrum
 - Our fault
 - We have talked about this
 - Adversity
 - Other end of the spectrum
 - no fault of our own
 - Natural causes (earthquake, weather)
 - Actions of someone else
 - The man whose brakes on his truck failed
 - Unwise choices, hasty judgments, mistakes, disappointments
 - In between ends of the spectrum
 - some degree of fault, sometimes no fault

Beauty for ashes

- Isaiah 61:1-3
"to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness"
 - Scripture portrays the Atonement as not just for Sinners
 - Bruce Hafen (1st Quorum of 70):
"The Savior's atonement is thus portrayed as the healing power not only for sin, but also for carelessness, inadequacy, and all mortal bitterness. The Atonement is not just for sinners." (Beauty for Ashes: The Atonement of Jesus Christ," Ensign, Apr. 1990, pg 7.)

- Boyd K Packer:
"So many are like the immigrant woman who skimped and saved and deprived herself until, by selling all of her possessions, she bought a steerage-class ticket to America.
She rationed out the meager provisions she was able to bring with her. Even so, they were gone early in the voyage. When others went for their meals, she stayed below deck—determined to suffer through it. Finally, on the last day, she must, she thought, afford one meal to give her strength for the journey yet ahead. When she asked what the meal would cost, she was told that all of the meals had been included in the price of her ticket." (Grace Works. pg 95)
- Robert Millet:
"To put it simply, the Atonement does more than fix the mistakes. It does more than balance the scales. It even does more than forgive our sins. It rehabilitates regenerates, renews, and transforms human nature." (Grace Works. pg 95)

Sweeten the Bitter

- Bruce Hafen:
"The Atonement can heal the effects of tasting all of this bitterness. This healing power cleanses our spirits, upon condition of repentance, when our souls are soiled with sin. It can also compensate, "after all we can do," not only for the consequences of our sins, but also for the harmful effects of our ignorance and neglect." (Beauty for Ashes: The Atonement of Jesus Christ," Ensign, Apr. 1990, pg 7.)
- What Marci told me today
- Are there limits of the Atonement?
 - We set limits by our belief and action
 - Some things may not be
 - Hard to know where the line is drawn
 - My disappointment when BYU loses