

## The Sin of Adam

Ensign, March 2008, Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, Quorum of the Twelve Apostles  
<https://www.lds.org/ensign/2008/03/the-atonement-of-jesus-christ?lang=eng>

### The Gifts of Christ's Atonement

Some gifts coming from the Atonement are universal, infinite, and unconditional. These include His ransom for Adam's original transgression so that no member of the human family is held responsible for that sin.<sup>8</sup> Another universal gift is the Resurrection from the dead of every man, woman, and child who lives, has ever lived, or ever will live on earth.

Other aspects of Christ's atoning gift are conditional. They depend on one's diligence in keeping God's commandments. For example, while all members of the human family are freely given a reprieve from Adam's sin through no effort of their own, they are not given a reprieve from their own sins unless they pledge faith in Christ, repent of those sins, are baptized in His name, receive the gift of the Holy Ghost and confirmation into Christ's Church, and press forward in faithful endurance the remainder of life's journey. Of this personal challenge, Christ said,

Joseph F. Smith, (Teachings of Presidents of the Church, chapter 10, p. 89)  
[https://www.lds.org/bc/content/shared/content/english/pdf/language-materials/35744\\_eng.pdf?lang=eng](https://www.lds.org/bc/content/shared/content/english/pdf/language-materials/35744_eng.pdf?lang=eng)

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#### **The Atonement of Jesus Christ overcomes temporal death through the resurrection of all people.**

Death came upon us without the exercise of our agency; we had no hand in bringing it originally upon ourselves; it came because of the transgression of our first parents. Therefore, man, who had no hand in bringing death upon himself, shall have no hand in bringing again life unto himself; for as he dies in consequence of the sin of Adam, so shall he live again, whether he will or not, by the righteousness of Jesus Christ, and the power of his resurrection. Every man that dies shall live again.<sup>12</sup>

Ensign, November 1998, Elder Dallin Oaks

<https://www.lds.org/ensign/1988/11/what-think-ye-of-christ?lang=eng>

Jesus Christ is the Only Begotten Son of God the Eternal Father. He is our Creator. He is our Teacher. He is our Savior. His atonement paid for the **sin of Adam** and won victory over death, assuring resurrection and immortality for all men.

Ensign, November 1979, President Marion G. Romney

<https://www.lds.org/ensign/1979/11/faith-in-the-lord-jesus-christ?lang=eng>

It anticipated the need for a Savior to win the victory over death, atone for the **sin of Adam**, which brought death, and provide the means whereby men, through repentance, may receive forgiveness for personal sins and be readmitted into the presence of God.

Ensign, November 1974, Elder Joseph Anderson, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve

<https://www.lds.org/ensign/1974/11/a-testimony-of-christ?lang=eng>

God was willing that his Beloved Son should take upon himself the responsibility of that mission, namely, to atone for the **sin of Adam and Eve** which brought about the fall, and, also, that mankind might receive forgiveness for their individual sins, provided they would keep the commandments upon which salvation and exaltation were based.

(The Atonement, page 87). Also, Appendices 3 and 4.

whereby all men are redeemed from the effects of Adam's transgression both with respect to the death of the body and inherited sin, there is application of the same great sacrifice as a means of propitiation for individual sins through the faith and good works of the sinner. This twofold effect of

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4. **"Original Sin"**—Our first parents disobeyed the command of God by indulging in food unsuited to their condition; and, as a natural consequence, they suffered physical degeneracy, whereby bodily weakness, disease, and death came into the world. Their posterity have inherited the resultant ills, to all of which we now say flesh is heir; and it is true that these human imperfections came through disobedience, and are therefore the fruits of sin. But as to accountability for Adam's transgression, in all justice Adam alone must answer. The present fallen status of mankind, as expressed in our mortal condition, was inaugurated by Adam and Eve; but divine justice forbids that we be accounted sinners solely

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7. **The Fall Foreknown**—"Mormonism" accepts the doctrine of the fall, and the account of the transgression in Eden, as set forth in Genesis; but it affirms that none save Adam shall ever have to account for Adam's disobedience; that mankind in general are absolutely absolved from the responsibility for that 'original sin,' and that each shall answer for his own transgressions alone; that the fall was foreknown of God—that it was the accepted means by which the necessary condition of mortality should be inaugurated; and that a Redeemer was provided before the world was. That general salvation, in the sense of redemption from the effects of the fall, comes to all without their seeking it; but that individual salvation or rescue from the effects of personal sins is to be acquired by each for himself, by faith and good works through the redemption wrought by Jesus Christ.—*The Philosophy of "Mormonism,"* by the present author.

8. **The Fall a Process of Physical Degeneracy**—For a concise treatment of this topic see *Jesus the Christ*, by the present author, pp. 19 and 29.

**2. Redemption from the Fall Universal and Unconditional—**  
“We believe that through the sufferings, death, and atonement of Jesus Christ all mankind, without one exception, are to be completely and fully redeemed, both body and spirit, from the endless banishment and curse to which they were consigned by Adam’s transgression; and that this universal salvation and redemption of the whole human family from the endless penalty of the original sin, is effected without any conditions whatever on their part; that is, they are not required to believe or repent, or be baptized, or do anything else, in order to be redeemed from that penalty; for whether they believe or disbelieve, whether they repent or remain impenitent, whether they are baptized or unbaptized, whether they keep the commandments or break them, whether they are righteous or unrighteous, it will make no difference in relation to their redemption, both soul and body, from the penalty of Adam’s transgression. The most righteous man that ever lived on the earth, and the most wicked wretch of the whole human family, were both placed under the same curse without any transgression or agency of their own, and they both alike will be redeemed from that curse, without any agency or conditions on their part.”—Apostle Orson Pratt in *Remarkable Visions*.