

HOW THE LAW OF SACRIFICE, THE ATONEMENT AND FREE AGENCY CONNECTED

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16 Jan 2011

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Satan's plan was to take away our free agency. Under his plan, we would not be required to make any sacrifice. According to his plan, we would not become Christ like in our nature because of our going through life's trial and overcoming them by serving our fellow men. We would be good because he made us be good not because we proved under the trial of temptation that we could be because we wanted to be. We would never have known if we could be good because we overcame temptation and proved ourselves. We would never have known if we could stand in the mist of temptation and say no. We would never have known if we could be obedient by our sacrifice of self. We would never have known if we would be willing to sacrifice pleasure and carnal desire to demonstrate righteous living. We would ever be the same with no progression. We would never have known we had the character to be righteous against all odds. WE WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO BE EXALTED... ONLY HE WOULD BE THE EXALTED ONE AND HAVE ALL POWER OVER US. WE WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO BECOME ONE WITH GOD.

But above all, it would appear that the main point of Satan's plan was that he was not willing to make the sacrifice of himself for us in the Garden of Gethsemane. He was not willing to take upon himself our sins like Christ did. He was not willing to go through the pain and suffering of the Atonement.

He wanted the glory all to himself rather than to share it with each of us as we attained Exaltation. He wanted the glory but was not willing to make the sacrifice to earn it. He wanted to give us the easy way out and take that easy way out himself. That is why he wanted to take away our free agency so we could not sin. Isn't that an interesting thought? If there was no sin there would be no need for the atonement and he would be off the hook and not have to pay that price for our sins.

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