Teaching
The Merciful Plan of
the Great Creator

2 Nephi 9:6
A simple form of teaching and explaining the plan of salvation visually to students of the gospel of Jesus Christ
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The Plan of Salvation
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The great plan of salvation is a theme which ought to occupy our strict attention, and be regarded as one of heaven’s best gifts to mankind. No consideration whatever ought to deter us from showing ourselves approved in the sight of God, according to His divine requirement.”

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The Plan Is Like a Map
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“...we would do well to see that in administering the organizations of the church, all roads lead to the temple”

Christ Is Central in the Plan

The image of the Savior used by permission from Margie Burton
Christ Is Central in the Plan

The Creator

The image of the Savior used by permission from Margie Burton
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1. The Creator
2. The Redeemer

The image of the Savior used by permission from Margie Burton
Christ Is Central in the Plan

1 The Creator
2 The Redeemer
3 The Judge

The image of the Savior used by permission from Margie Burton
Christ Is Central in the Plan

1. The Creator
2. The Redeemer
3. The Judge
4. By His grace we are saved, after all we can do

The image of the Savior used by permission from Margie Burton
Pre-Earth Life

1. We lived with God.
Pre-Earth Life

1. We lived with God.
2. We were spirit children of God.
Pre-Earth Life

1. We lived with God.
2. We were spirit children of God.
3. We had personality and intellect.
Pre-Earth Life

1. We lived with God.
2. We were spirit children of God.
3. We had personality and intellect.
4. We lacked physical bodies.

The image of the Savior used by permission from Margie Burton.
Council in Heaven

1 All God’s children were there.
Council in Heaven

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2. God gave man agency to act for himself.
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3. The Savior volunteered to enact God’s plan.
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5. Two-thirds were valiant and followed the Savior, keeping their first estate.
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The Creation, Veil, and Birth
The earth was created spiritually then physically.
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1. The earth was created spiritually then physically.
2. Adam’s Fall brought sin and death.
The Creation, Veil, and Birth

1. The earth was created spiritually then physically.
2. Adam’s Fall brought sin and death.
3. We were separated from the presence of God.
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2. Adam’s Fall brought sin and death.
3. We were separated from the presence of God.
4. We forgot our previous life.
The Creation, Veil, and Birth

1. The earth was created spiritually then physically.
2. Adam’s Fall brought sin and death.
3. We were separated from the presence of God.
4. We forgot our previous life.
5. We obtained a physical body.
Life on Earth

1. We relearn the true nature of God.
Life on Earth

1. We relearn the true nature of God.
2. We find joy and hope in the Savior’s Atonement.
Life on Earth

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3. We learn to keep the commandments—we must prove ourselves.
Life on Earth

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3. We learn to keep the commandments—we must prove ourselves.
4. We form family ties.
Life on Earth

1. We relearn the true nature of God.
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4. We form family ties.
5. We stay on the path—faith, repentance, baptism, the gift of the Holy Ghost, and endure to the end.
Life on Earth

1. We relearn the true nature of God.
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“Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.”

Deuteronomy 31:6
Death
Death

Earth

Death

Spirit

Body
Resurrection
Resurrection

Spirit World

Spirit

Body

R.I.P.

DEATH

Resurrection
Born Once
Born Once

Earth

Die Once

R.I.P.
DEATH
Born Once

Die Once

Resurrected Once

Resurrected Once
Born Once

Earth

R.I.P.
DEATH

Die Once

Resurrected Once
Born Once

Die Once

Resurrected Once

Earth

R.I.P.

DEATH
Final Judgment
Final Judgment
Final Judgment

Telesial

Terrestrial
Final Judgment

Telestial

Terrestrial

1 We are separated from God.
Final Judgment

1. We are separated from God.
2. Our progression is limited.
Final Judgment

1. We are separated from God.
2. Our progression is limited.
1. We live in God's presence forever.

Celestial

Final Judgment

Telestial

Terrestrial

1. We are separated from God.

2. Our progression is limited.
1 We live in God’s presence forever.
2 Our family ties continue.

Final Judgment

1 We are separated from God.
2 Our progression is limited.
1. We live in God’s presence forever.
2. Our family ties continue. **Celestial**
3. We inherit bodies of celestial glory.

**Final Judgment**
1. We are separated from God.
2. Our progression is limited.

**Terrestrial**
1. We live in God’s presence forever.
2. Our family ties continue.
3. We inherit bodies of celestial glory.
4. We eventually become like God.

1. We are separated from God.
2. Our progression is limited.
(Review)
Pre-Earth Life

Spirit World

R.I.P. DEATH

Birth

Celestial

Terrestrial

Resurrection

Final Judgment

Death
We can make it.
We’re almost there!
We can make it.
We’re almost there!

“Behold, O Lord, their souls are precious, and many of them are our brethren; therefore, give unto us, O Lord, power and wisdom that we may bring these, our brethren, again unto thee.”

Alma 31:35
Teaching

The Merciful Plan of the Great Creator

2. The Plan of Salvation
   from Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 68 (stress highlights)
3. The Plan Is Like a Map (Concept: A complete map is needed to determine your destination. Once in the Church all organizational roads lead to the temple, completing the map.)
4. Christ Is Central to the Plan John 14:6; Mosiah 3:17–21
   a. The Creator Genesis 1:1, 26; Moses 1:32–33; 2:1
   b. The Redeemer Isaiah 49:26; 2 Nephi 2:6–7
   c. The Judge Psalms 9:7–8; 2 Nephi 9:41
   d. By His grace we are saved, after all we can do Ephesians 2:7–8; 2 Nephi 25:23
5. Pre-Earth Life Jeremiah 1:5; Abraham 3:23
   a. We lived with God. Abraham 3:19, 21; Doctrine and Covenants 93:29
   b. We were spirit children of God. Acts 17:24–29
   c. We had personality and intellect. Doctrine and Covenants 138:53–56; Abraham 3:22
   d. We lacked physical bodies. Luke 24:39; Ether 3:16
6. Council in Heaven Job 38:4–7
   a. All God’s children were there. Doctrine and Covenants 121:32
   b. God gave man agency to act for himself. 2 Nephi 2:16–27; Doctrine and Covenants 58:27–28
   c. The Savior volunteered to enact God’s plan. Moses 4:3; Abraham 3:27
   d. Satan rebelled and sought to destroy man’s agency. Isaiah 14:12–16; Abraham 3:27–28
   e. Two-thirds were valiant and followed the Savior, keeping their first estate. Abraham 3:26
   f. One-third followed Satan and were cast out. Revelation 12:3-4, 9; Doctrine and Covenants 29:36–37

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7. The Creation, Veil, and Birth  Genesis 1:1
   a. The earth was created spiritually then physically.  Moses 3:5
   b. Adam's Fall brought sin and death.  1 Corinthians 15:21–22; Alma 42:2–6
   c. We were separated from the presence of God.  Genesis 3:22-24; Alma 42:7–9
   d. We forgot our previous life.  Quote by Elder Ezra Taft Benson, in *Tambuli*, May 1977, 24
   e. We obtained a physical body.  Genesis 2:7; Moses 3:7

   a. We relearn the true nature of God.  John 17:3
   b. We find joy and hope in the Savior's Atonement.  2 Nephi 2:25–27; 31:20–21
   c. We learn to keep the commandments—we must prove ourselves.  Alma 54:32; Abraham 3:25
   d. We form family ties.  Genesis 1:28; 1 Corinthians 11:11
   e. We stay on the path.  2 Nephi 31:15–20

9. Death  1 Corinthians 15:22; Alma 40:9–14


11. Born Once  Ecclesiastes 3:1–2
    Die Once  Hebrews 9:27; Alma 11:45
    Resurrected Once  Job 19:25–26; Bible Dictionary p 761

12. Final Judgment  Romans 14:10–12; Revelation 20:12; 2 Nephi 9:41
    Terrestrial and Telestial  Doctrine and Covenants 138:58–59
       a. We are separated from God.  Doctrine and Covenants 76:71–80
       b. Our progression is limited.  Doctrine and Covenants 76:81–89, 98–106
    Celestial  Doctrine and Covenants 76:92–96
       a. We live in God's presence forever.  Doctrine and Covenants 76:62
       b. Our family ties continue.  Doctrine and Covenants 130:9; 131:1–4
       c. We inherit bodies of celestial glory.  1 Corinthians 15:40–42; Doctrine and Covenants 76:69–70
       d. We eventually become like God.  Matthew 5:48; Philippians 3:20–21; Doctrine and Covenants 76:58

13. Review

14. We can make it!  2 Nephi 31:20

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Scripture References used for the Merciful Plan

Old Testament
Genesis 1:1
Genesis 1:1,26
Genesis 1:28
Genesis 2:7
Genesis 3:22-24
Job 19:25-26
Job 38:4-7
Psalms 9:7-8
Ecclesiastes 3:1-2
Isaiah 14:12-16
Isaiah 49:26
Jeremiah 1:5

New Testament
Matthew 5:48
Luke 24:59
John 11:25
John 14:6
John 17:3
Acts 17:24-29
Romans 14:10-12
1 Corinthians 11:11
1 Corinthians 15:21-22
1 Corinthians 15:22
Ephesians 2:7-8
Philippians 3:20-21
Hebrews 9:27
Revelation 20:12

Book of Mormon
2 Nephi 2:6-7
2 Nephi 2:16-27
2 Nephi 2:25-27
2 Nephi 9:41
2 Nephi 9:41
2 Nephi 25:23
2 Nephi 31:15-20
2 Nephi 31:20
2 Nephi 31:21-22
Mosiah 3:17-21
Alma 11:42-45
Alma 11:45
Alma 34:32
Alma 40:9-14
Alma 40:22-23
Alma 42:6-9
Alma 42:9
Alma 42:9-10
Ether 3:16

Doctrine and Covenants
Doctrine and Covenants 29:36-37
Doctrine and Covenants 58:27-28
Doctrine and Covenants 76:62
Doctrine and Covenants 76:69-70
Doctrine and Covenants 76:71-80
Doctrine and Covenants 76:81-89
Doctrine and Covenants 76:92-96
Doctrine and Covenants 76:98-106
Doctrine and Covenants 93:29
Doctrine and Covenants 121:32
Doctrine and Covenants 130:2
Doctrine and Covenants 131:1-4
Doctrine and Covenants 138:53-56
Doctrine and Covenants 138:58-59

Pearl of Great Price
Abraham 3:19-21
Abraham 3:22
Abraham 3:23
Abraham 3:24-25
Abraham 3:25
Abraham 3:26
Abraham 3:27
Abraham 3:27-28
Moses 1:32-33
Moses 1:37-39
Moses 2:1
Moses 3:5
Moses 3:7
Moses 4:3

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