

Joshua Clare

“Behold, all these are kingdoms, and any man who hath seen
Any or the least of these hath seen God moving in his majesty
And power. I say unto you, he hath seen him; nevertheless, he
Who came unto his own was not comprehended.”

-D&C 88:47-48

All of us, I think, have felt that to some degree. A starry sky, a snow-capped peak, or a careful look at the smallest leaf may have filled us, for a moment, with reverence. We may not have recognized it at the time as reverence for God. We might have described those feelings as feelings of awe, or wonder—but it was more than that. What we felt came from God, through his spirit, and bore witness to our souls that life is more than just eating and sleeping, living and dying. We knew in that moment—whether we recognized it or not—that there is purpose in our existence; that someone who knows far more than we do, and who is far greater than we are, orders and governs all things. We saw God! “Nevertheless, he who came unto his own was not comprehended.”

Those moments are sacred to me, and I’m so grateful for them! I want to see more clearly, I want to comprehend more fully—and I want to help others do the same. That’s why I paint. My aim as an artist is not to redefine beauty—no one can do that—but to discover for myself, through the Spirit of Truth, those eternal laws that govern it, and obey them.

If I am anything good, if there is anything in my art that is good—it’s because of and thanks to God. As often as I forget it, I know that I am nothing of myself, and I’m so grateful that Heavenly Father has allowed me to be an artist.