

Clear Born-Again Scriptures & the Holy Ghost

Val Brinkerhoff, 3/118/2023 – 13 pages

Are you *saved?* Have you been “*sanctified*” experiencing “*the mighty change of heart*”? Do you have the *Holy Ghost*? Being “born again” or “saved” in Christ Jesus is the whole focus of our LORD’s mission. It involves **two baptisms**, one in water and one of fire, one physical and one spiritual. Many have the first physical baptism performed by men, but not the second spiritual baptism performed by God. It is a recognizable, life-changing event. Without it there is no *salvation*, and no gift of the *Holy Ghost*. So says Jesus Christ and the inspired prophets He sent. They include John the Baptist and John the Beloved of the New Testament, as well as Book of Mormon prophets like Nephi, Mormon, and Moroni. Joseph Smith’s primary work was to bring forth more of God’s word in the Book of Mormon, the JST Bible, and the revelations of the D&C, providing a *restoration* of “plain and precious things” tied to our *salvation* and the reception of the *Holy Ghost*. According to Jesus, being “born again” is necessary to “see” and “enter” heaven. It is clearly a “plain and precious thing”, a truth too few have learned at church. Even fewer have experienced it.

God has invited you and I to experience this important life-changing event, that we might have our **sins remitted**. Only then can we receive the *gift* and *power* of the **Holy Ghost**. It is “*oil*” in “*the lamps*” of *wise virgins*. It is also called “*the promise of the Father*”, spoken of in Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:4. God also called it “*the endowment of power from on high*” (Luke 24:49; D&C 38:32 & 38; 43:15-16; 95:8-9; 105:10-12). Wise virgins seek to be guided by God’s light in all things. Without it we cannot return to the Tree of Life (God’s presence), to there partake of the sweet fruit of the Tree (the great joy of God’s love). Lehi and Nephi saw this Tree and obtained the fruit. They desired their children to also obtain it. Nephi taught that we must first enter in through the “*gate*” to be on this pathway to eternal life – obtained at the Tree (2 Nephi 31). Being “born again” is the “*door*”, event, or ordinance putting us through the *gate* and onto this path (2 Ne. 31:17-18). Christ as our Mediator with the Father, employs no mortal servant at this *gate* (2 Ne. 9:41). He says, “**repent and come unto me**” (D&C 10:67-68, 93:1; 1 Ne. 10:18-19; 2 Ne. 9:23-24; 28:31-32; Jacob 1:7; Alma 5:33-34; 3 Ne. 9:14, 22, 51; 11:14; 12:19-20, 23-24; 27:5-21; 30:1-2). Because of His Atonement, He is this important *door* or *gate*! He alone opens it for us, as there is no salvation without **Him** and His precious cleansing blood (see Mosiah 3:17).

I. Being Born Again or Made New in Christ Jesus

A. New Testament Sources on Being “Born Again”

Jesus Christ told Nicodemus, a learned Rabbi who came to him at night, “except a man be **born again** he cannot *see* the kingdom of God...Except a man be **born of water**, and of **the Spirit** [fire], he cannot *enter* into the kingdom of God” (John 3:3-6). One must be born again to *see* or *enter* the kingdom of God. A learned member of the San Hedrin, one supposedly educated in spiritual things, had not learned this simple and important truth tied to *salvation*.

Our LORD’s Fiery Baptism & the Sign of the Holy Ghost “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Matt. 3:16-17). When Christ came up out of the water, John the Baptist saw the heavens open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon *Him* (Christ), and a *voice from heaven* came, saying “thou art my beloved *son*” (Mark 1:7-12). “And Jesus also being *baptized*, and praying, the *heaven was opened*, And the *Holy Ghost* descended in a bodily shape *like a dove* upon him, and a *voice* came from heaven, which said, “Thou are my beloved *Son*; in thee I am well pleased” (Luke 3:21-22). “The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world . . . And John bare record, saying, I saw the *Spirit* descending from heaven like a *dove*, and it abode upon him . . . Upon whom thou shalt see the *Spirit* descending, and remaining on him, the same is *he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost*. And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God” (John 1:29, 32-34). Jesus then taught with power and the Spirit.

The Apostle Paul said, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a *new creature*: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become *new*” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

John the Beloved said, “...every one that doth righteousness is born of him [Christ]” (1 John 2:29). He added, “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin . . . in this the children of God are manifest” (1 John 3:9-10). He

continued, “ Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God . . . He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love . . . God sent his only begotten Son into the world , that we might live through him” (1 John 4:7, 8). John concluded, “For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith . . . We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not” (1 John 5:4, 18).

In the three “Epistles” of John (1st, 2nd & 3rd John) he stated 8 times that we must be “born again”, “born of God” or “begotten of God” to be saved or *redeemed* of Him. Quoting Christ in the book of Revelation, John said, “Behold, I make all things new” (Revelation 21:5).

B. Born Again Clarity in the Joseph Smith Re-Translation of the Bible (JST)

Adam’s Fiery Baptism In JST Genesis we read the account of the fiery, spiritual baptism of **Adam**. Two times God commands Adam to teach these important saving truths to his children (vs. 57 & 58), as they are a central component of “the doctrine of Christ” and “the covenant of the Father,” later called “the new and everlasting covenant.”

Addressing father Adam, Moses stated, “Wherefore teach it unto your children, that **all men, everywhere, must repent**, or they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God, for no unclean thing can dwell there, or dwell in his presence; for, in the language of Adam, Man of Holiness is his name, and the name of his Only Begotten is the Son of Man, even Jesus Christ, a righteous Judge, who shall come in the meridian of time. Therefore I give unto you a commandment, to teach these things freely unto your children, saying: That by reason of transgression cometh the fall, which fall bringeth death, and inasmuch as ye were born into the world by water, and blood, and the spirit, which I have made, and so became of dust a living soul, even so ye must be born again into the kingdom of heaven, of water, and of the Spirit, and be cleansed by blood, even the blood of mine Only Begotten; that ye might be sanctified *from all sin*, and enjoy *the words of eternal life in this world*, and eternal life in the world to come, even immortal glory;

For by the water ye keep the commandment; by the Spirit ye are justified, and by the blood ye are sanctified; Therefore it is given to abide in you; *the record of heaven; the Comforter [or the Holy Ghost]; the peaceable things of immortal glory; the truth of all things;* that which quickeneth all things, which maketh alive all things; that which knoweth all things, and hath *all power* according to wisdom, mercy, truth, justice, and judgment.

And now, behold, I say unto you: This is **the plan of salvation** unto all men, through the blood of mine Only Begotten, who shall come in the meridian of time. And behold, all things have their likeness, and all things are created and made to bear record of me, both things which are temporal, and things which are spiritual; things which are in the heavens above, and things which are on the earth, and things which are in the earth, and things which are under the earth, both above and beneath: all things bear record of me.

And it came to pass, when the LORD had spoken with Adam, our father, that Adam cried unto the LORD, and he was caught away by the Spirit of the LORD, and was carried down into the water, and was laid under the water, and was brought forth out of the water. And thus he was baptized, and *the Spirit of God descended upon him*, and thus *he was born of the Spirit*, and became quickened in the inner man. And he heard a voice out of heaven, saying: Thou art *baptized with fire, and with the Holy Ghost*. This is the record of the Father, and the Son, from henceforth and forever; And thou art after the order of him who was without beginning of days or end of years, from all eternity to all eternity . . . thou art one in me, a *son of God*; and thus may all become my sons. Amen” (Moses 6:57-68).

God provided Adam’s experience to us through the records of Enoch and Moses, relayed through Joseph Smith as he re-translated portions of Genesis. Adam’s fiery baptism was recorded by Enoch. Moses was given it when he was taken to heaven by God in an ascent-vision experience. There God taught Moses these things through Enoch’s record. All was relayed through a “revelation” of God.

JST Matthew 3:38-40, we read of additional clear words from **John the Baptist**. “I indeed baptize you with water, *upon your repentance*; and when he of whom I record cometh, who is *mightier* than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear, (or whose place I am not able to fill) as I said, I indeed baptize you before he cometh, that when he

cometh he may baptize you with the Holy Ghost and fire. *And it is he of whom I shall bear record, whose fan shall be in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but in the fullness of his own time will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. Thus came John, preaching and baptizing in the river of Jordan; bearing record, that he [Christ] who was coming after him had power to baptize with the Holy Ghost and fire.*"

John the Baptist's words - JST John 1:28 (replacing John 1:27). **John the Baptist** stated, "He it is of whom I bear record. He is that prophet, even Elias, who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose, or whose place I am not able to fill; for he shall baptize, not only with water, but with fire and with the Holy Ghost."

JST Matthew 5 has 3 additional "Beatitudes" taught by Christ that are not found in KJV Matthew 5 or Luke 6 accounts. This makes 12 total Beatitudes (a number tied to "governance" throughout scripture). Third Nephi 12 also has 12 total Beatitudes. In both cases (JST Matthew 5 and 3 Nephi 12) the first 3 Beatitudes of 12 are tied to being "**born again**" in Christ Jesus. Clarifying words in them are highlighted in blue below and in the chart on the next page. They represent a restoration of some of the "**plain and precious things**" (how to be saved) removed from the Bible (1 Ne. 13) by evil and designing men. The first 3 Beatitudes of JST Matthew 5 are:

1. **Blessed** are they who shall believe on me; and again,
2. **more blessed** are they who shall believe on your words, when ye shall *testify that ye have seen me and that I am*.
3. **Yea, blessed** are they who shall believe on your words, and *come down into the depth of humility*, and be baptized in my name; for they shall be visited with fire and the Holy Ghost, and shall receive a *remission* of their sins.

A 3-part comparison chart of "the Beatitudes", as taught by Christ in 2 different locations (Jerusalem and Bountiful) is provided below. This first is at *Left* below – the KJV Matthew 5 account [9 Beatitudes]. The second is at *Center* below, the JST Matthew 5 KJV account [12 Beatitudes]. And the third is a *Right* below, the Book of Mormon account in 3 Nephi 12 [12 Beatitudes]). They represent God's higher law to go with the original lesser law He gave Moses in the 12 Commandments, "the 2 great commandments", a summary of the 2 tables of stone that contained 5 commandments each (see also the paper, *Creator, Redeemer, Judge and King*, at www.7witnesses.com).

"In the mouth of two
or three witnesses
shall every word be established."

1 Corinthians 13:1, KJV

Luke 6 - 4 Beatitudes
Matthew 5 - 9 Beatitudes

The Matthew 5 Account - KJV

1. And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:
2. And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
3. **Blessed** are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4. **Blessed** are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
5. **Blessed** are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
6. **Blessed** are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
7. **Blessed** are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
8. **Blessed** are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
9. **Blessed** are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
10. **Blessed** are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11. **Blessed** are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
12. **Rejoice**, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

12 Beatitudes rather than 9 or 4

JST Matthew 5 - KJV

1. And Jesus, seeing the multitudes, went up into a mountain; and when he was set down, his disciples came unto him;
 2. And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
 3. **Blessed** are they who shall believe on me; and again,
more blessed are they who shall believe on your words, when ye shall testify that ye have seen me and that I am.
 4. **Yea, blessed** are they who shall believe on your words, and come down into the depth of humility, and be baptized in my name; for they shall be visited with fire and the Holy Ghost, and shall receive a remission of their sins.
 5. **Blessed** are the poor in spirit, who come unto me; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 6. **And again, blessed** are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted.
 7. **And blessed** are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth.
 8. **And blessed** are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled with the Holy Ghost.
 9. **And blessed** are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy.
 10. **And blessed** are all the pure in heart; for they shall see God.
 11. **And blessed** are all the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God.
 12. **Blessed** are all they that are persecuted for my name's sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 13. **And blessed** are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
 14. **For ye shall have great joy**, and be exceeding glad; for great shall be your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
- 3 Nephi 12 (BM)**
1. And it came to pass that when Jesus had spoken these words unto Nephi, and to those who had been called, (now the number of them who had been called, and received power and authority to baptize, was twelve) and behold, he stretched forth his hand unto the multitude, and cried unto them, saying:
- Blessed** are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve whom I have chosen from among you to minister unto you, and to be your servants; and unto them I have given power that they may baptize you with water; and after that ye are baptized with water, behold, I will baptize you with fire and with the Holy Ghost; therefore **blessed** are ye if ye shall believe in me and be baptized, after that ye have seen me and know that I am.
2. And again, **more blessed** are they who shall believe in your words because that ye shall testify that ye have seen me, and that ye know that I am.
- Yea, **blessed** are they who shall believe in your words, and come down into the depths of humility and be baptized, for they shall be visited with fire and with the Holy Ghost, and shall receive a remission of their sins.
3. **Yea, blessed** are the poor in spirit who come unto me, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4. **And again, blessed** are all they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.
5. **And blessed** are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
6. **And blessed** are all they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled with the Holy Ghost.
7. **And blessed** are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
8. **And blessed** are all the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
9. **And blessed** are all the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.
10. **And blessed** are all they who are persecuted for my name's sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11. **And blessed** are ye when men shall revile you and persecute, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake;
12. **For ye shall have great joy** and be exceedingly glad, for great shall be your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets who were before you.

Author's Note: Few know that there are also 7 "Beatitudes" in the 22 chapters of the Book of Revelation.¹ These are in addition to the 12 Beatitudes above.

C. The Born Again Event in the Book of Mormon

Additional clarity is presented in the “born again” scriptures of the *Book of Mormon*, including the first 3 “Blessed Beatitudes” of 12 total, provided by Christ in 3 Nephi chapter 12. No other book of scripture has as many clear scriptures on this saving, simple doctrine – “**the doctrine of Christ**”. Only John’s words in the New Testament are comparable in number (as found in John 3 and his 3 Epistles or letters). Clarity is provided us on 3 things in the Book of Mormon; (1) How one is “**saved**” - by being “*born again*”; (2) Knowledge of “*the promises God made to the fathers*” in the Bible, and renewed upon the “fathers” in the Book of Mormon, in men like Lehi. In these “promises” we learn that many of the Lamanites on this land today are of “*the blessed seed*” of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph sold into Egypt (through Manasseh and then Lehi). And (3) The Book of Mormon provides over 80 references to *secret combinations* surrounding us today. Leaders in governments, media, schools, and churches make use of **lies** and **deception** to keep us in ignorance for the sake of their “*gain*”. Born again scriptures in the Book of Mormon include the words of **Jesus Christ**.

Jesus Christ – 3 Nephi 12 – the 12 Beatitudes Following His resurrection in Jerusalem, Christ the LORD taught all 12 “*Blessed*” Beatitudes again in the New World, as recorded in 3 Nephi 12 of the Book of Mormon (the number 12 has ties to “governance” throughout scripture and the natural world).² Once again, the first 3 Beatitudes are those clearly tied to being “**born again**”. The JST additions are seen in blue hereafter.

1 **Blessed** are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve whom I have chosen from among you to minister unto you, and to be your servants; and unto them I have given power that they may baptize you with water, and after that ye are baptized with water, behold, I will baptize you with fire and with the Holy Ghost; therefore **blessed** are ye if ye shall believe in me and be baptized, after that ye have seen me and know that I am.

2 And again, more **blessed** are they who shall believe in your words because that ye shall testify that ye have seen me, and that ye know that I am. Yea, **blessed** are they who shall believe in your words, and come down into the depths of humility and be baptized,

3. for they shall be visited with fire and with the Holy Ghost, and shall receive a remission of their sins.

4 Yea, **blessed** are the poor in spirit who come unto me, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

5 And again, **blessed** are all they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

6 And **blessed** are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

7 And **blessed** are all they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled with the Holy Ghost.

8 And **blessed** are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

9 And **blessed** are all the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

10 And **blessed** are all the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

11 And **blessed** are all they who are persecuted for my name’s sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

12 And **blessed** are ye when men shall revile you and persecute, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake;

13 For ye shall have great joy and be exceedingly glad, for great shall be your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets who were before you.

Nephi said, “know the gate by which ye should enter. For the gate by which ye should enter is repentance and baptism by water; and then cometh a remission of your sins by fire and by the Holy Ghost. And then are ye in this strait and narrow path which leads to eternal life; yea, ye have entered in by the gate; ye have done according to the commandments of the Father and the Son; and ye have received the Holy Ghost, which witnesses of the Father and the Son, unto the fulfilling of the promise which he hath made, that if ye entered in by the way ye should receive” (2 Ne. 31:17-18). He added, “if ye will enter by the way, and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do [to receive eternal life, by literally coming unto Christ]. Behold, this is the doctrine of Christ...” (2 Ne. 32:5-6). He continued, “And now, behold, my beloved brethren, this is the way; and there is none other way nor name given under heaven whereby man can be saved in the kingdom of God. And now, behold, this is the doctrine of Christ, and the only and true doctrine of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, which is one God, without end. Amen (2 Ne. 31:21). Nephi concluded, saying that those who are “*born again*” or who experience “the baptism of fire and of the Holy Ghost” are then “in this straight and narrow path which leads to *eternal life*; yea, ye have entered in by the gate [Christ]; ye have done according to the commandments

of the Father and the Son; and ye have received the Holy Ghost, which witnesses of the Father and the Son, unto the fulfilling of the Promise which he hath made, that if ye entered in by the way ye should receive" (2 Ne. 31:18).

Alma the Elder said, "I have *repented* of my sins, and have been *redeemed* of the Lord; behold I am *born of the Spirit*. And the Lord said unto me: Marvel not that all mankind, yea, men and women, all nations, kindreds, tongues and people, must be *born again*; yea, *born of God*, changed from their carnal and fallen state, to a state of righteousness, being *redeemed* of God, becoming his sons and daughters; And thus they become *new creatures*; and unless they do this, they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God" (Mos. 27:24-26).

Alma the Younger was the son of Alma, who has a priest to wicked King Noah, was converted to Christ when listening to the inspired preaching of the prophet Abinadi, a man who gave his life to share the gospel. King Noah and his priests burned in alive in fire for his teaching. Young Alma was converted to Christ as his father prayed to God that his wayward son would change his ways. An angel taught young Alma and he was born again in Christ Jesus. As the younger Alma taught others, eventually becoming head over God's church of believers in the land, he noted that division was entering into it because of pride and wealth. He noted that "every man receiveth wages of him whom he listeth to obey" (Alma 3:27). Consecrated as high priest over the church by his father Alma, the younger Alma began a reformation. He saw the pride, riches, and costly apparel. Contention and division resulted. The "wickedness of the church was a great sumbling block to those who did not belong to the church; and thys the church began to fail in its progress" (Alma 4:10). See this great inequality, and desiring the succor the humble, the poor, and the needy, Alma saw the "afflictions of the the humble followers of God, and the persecutions which were heaped upon them by the remainder of his people" (v. 15). He then went "forth among his people . . . that he might preach the word of God unto them, to stir them up in remembrance of their duty, and that he might pull down, by the word of God, all the pride and craftiness and the contentions which were among his people" (v. 19). In Alma chapter 5, he relates his born again experience to those he taught. He taught "the people in the church" (v. 2). He spoke of "the captivity" of their "fathers" and that God had "delivered their souls from hell" (Alma 5:6). Alma said God had "changed their hearts, yea he awakened them out of a deep sleep, and they awoke unto God. Behold they were in the midst of darkness, nevertheless their souls were illuminated by the light of the everlasting word" (v. 7).

Note the words in italics and within quotes that are tied to his and others "born again" experience in the remainder of the chapter. They include, "they did sing redeeming love . . . they are saved" (v. 9). They experienced "a mighty change wrought in the heart" as they "humbled themselves and put their trust in the true and living God . . . therefore they were saved" (vs. 12-13). "Have ye received his image your countenances? Have ye experienced this mighty change in your hearts? Do ye exercise faith in the redemption of him who created you? (v. 15). "...imagine . . . the Lord, saying unto you . . . Come unto me ye blessed" (v. 16). "...can ye look up to God . . . with a pure heart and clean hands . . . having the image of God engraven upon your countenances" (v. 19). "...no man can be saved except his garments are washed white . . . cleansed from all stain, through the blood of him of whom it has been spoken by our fathers, who should come to redeem his people from their sins" (v. 21). "...if ye have experienced a change of heart, and if ye have felt to sing the song of redeeming love, I would ask, can ye feel so now?" (v. 26). "...are ye stripped of pride? . . . prepare quickly . . . repent, repent for the LORD God hath spoken it. Behold he sendeth an invitation unto all men, for the arms of mercy are extended towards them and he saith, "Repent, and I will receive you" (vs. 27-28, 32-33). "Come unto me and ye shall partake of the fruit of the tree of life" (v. 34). "...if ye will not hearken unto the voice of the good shepherd . . . ye are not the sheep of the good shepherd" (v. 38).

Alma then stated, "I have fasted and prayed many day that I might know these things of myself" (v. 46). All must "repent and be born again" (v. 49). "...the ax is laid at the root of the tree; therefore every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit shall be hewn down" (v. 52). "...can ye lay aside these things and trample the Holy One under your feet . . . setting your hearts upon the vain things of the world" (v. 53). Only "the names of the righteous shall be written in the book of life" (v. 58). "...the good shepherd doth call after you . . . I speak by way of command unto you that belong to the church; and unto those who do not belong to the church I speak by way of invitation, saying: Come and be baptized unto repentance, that ye also may be partakers of the fruit of the tree of life" (v. 62).

King Lamoni & his Wife Made New The fiery baptism of a Native American King and his wife are given us by Ammon in Alma chapter 19 of the Book of Mormon. Hereafter, all words italicized in quotes are key words signaling "*the power of God*" (v. 6). Ammon taught King Lamoni and his wife the doctrine of Christ, or salvation via

faith in Christ, along with the need for repentance, and then a baptism of water *and* of fire. As the couple expressed their “*belief*” in Christ and His saving mission, and as they *repented*, Ammon tells us that the dark veil of “*unbelief*” left the King and Queen. First, King Lamoni fell to the earth *overcome* in a vision. In it he received “*light*” and “*joy*” to his soul. Being “*overcome*” with the Spirit, he was “*carried away in God*.” King Lamoni was pronounced “*blessed*” by a knowledgeable bystander who had been born again earlier. He was then awakened by his wife. King Lamoni stated, “*I have seen my Redeemer*” (see vs 6-12). As God’s servant, Ammon rejoiced, saying, “*his heart was swollen within him, and he sunk again with joy, and the queen also sunk down being overpowered by the Spirit*” (Alma 19:13). Ammon thanked God for what He had done, and while doing so, he “*was also overpowered with joy; and thus they all three had sunk to the earth*” (vs. 14). Other key words in this account include; “*they [including Ammon] had all fallen to the earth.*” They “*lay prostrate upon the earth*” because of “*the power of God*.” The queen spoke of her experience, saying, “*O Blessed Jesus, who has saved me from an awful hell! O blessed God, have mercy on this people . . . being filled with joy,*” she then spoke “*many words which were not understood*” (she was *speaking in tongues*, v 29-30). Ammon said, many “*believed*” and were “*converted*.” They were “*changed*” and had “*no more desire to do evil*” (vs. 31, 33). They *saw angels* (v. 34). They were *baptized in water*, became a *righteous* people, and established *God’s church* among them. God poured out His “*Spirit upon them*” (v. 35). And “*we see that his arm is extended to all people who will repent and believe on his name*” (v. 36).

Mormon, speaking to *the Lamanite descendants* remaining on this land, and others reading the Book of Mormon, said, “ye are a remnant of the seed of Jacob; therefore ye are numbered among the people of the first covenant; and if it so be that ye *believe* in Christ, and are *baptized*, first with **water**, then with **fire** *and* with **the Holy Ghost**, following the example of our Savior, according to that which he hath commanded us, it shall be well with you in the day of judgment. Amen” (Morm. 7:10).

Born Again / Made New / Justified / Made Perfect in Christ	
1 Sam. 10:9 / New heart	Christ / “Born of water and the Spirit”
Jer. 24:7 / A heart to know me	Joseph Smith HC 6:316 / “the remission of sins”
Ezek. 11:19, 18:31, 36:26 / New heart & Spirit	and “getting the Holy Ghost”
John 3:3 / All men must be born again	Mosiah 5:7 / Born of Him, become His sons & daughters
John 5:24 / Those made new have everlasting life	Mosiah 27:25 / Must be born again, born of God,
Rom. 12:2 / Renewed mind	“being redeemed of God,” on “the path to
2 Cor. 5:17 / A new creature	eternal life” (2 Ne. 31:17-18)
Eph. 2:15 / A new man	Alma 5:12 / The mighty change of heart
1 Peter 1:3 / God hath begotten us	Alma 5:14 / Have ye spiritually been born of God
1 John 2:29 / The righteous are born of Him	5:1- 16, 26-28, 49; 7:14
1 John 3:9, 5:18 / Born of God not commit sin	Alma 19:33, 36:23, 38:6, 50:28 / Hearts changed
1 John 4:7 / Those who loveth are born of God	Moses 6:59 / Born again into Kingdom of Heaven
Rev. 2 1:5 / I make all things new	Moses 6:65 / Born of Spirit, the inner man quickened
Enos 1:8 / Thy faith had made thee whole	D&C 76:69 / Such are just men made perfect
Mosiah 3:19 / Put off natural man, become a Saint	Gal. 3:24 / Such are justified in Christ
Mosiah 4:13 / Have no mind to injure one another	2 Nephi 31:17-18 / Baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost
Mosiah 5:2 / No more desire to do evil	“entered into the gate or the way”

Joseph Smith had profound words tied to the fiery baptism. He stated, “The baptism of water, without the baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost attending it, is of no use . . . They are necessarily and inseparably connected. An individual **must be born of water and the spirit** in order to get into the kingdom of God...You might as well baptize a bag of sand as a man, if not done in view of *the remission of sins* and *getting of the Holy Ghost*. Baptism by water is but *half* a baptism, and is **good for nothing** without the other half—that is, **the baptism of [fire and] the Holy Ghost**” (HC 6:316). Speaking of these two baptisms while addressing John the Baptist in JST Matthew 3:38, Joseph clarified, stating, “I baptize you with water, upon your repentance, but when Jesus Christ – of whom I bear record – comes, who has the power and keys, **He will administer the baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost**”.

Addressing his own baptism and that of Oliver Cowdery in 1829, the Prophet Joseph stated, “Immediately on our coming up out of the water after we had been baptized, we experienced great and glorious blessings from our Heavenly Father. No sooner had I baptized Oliver Cowdery, than **the Holy Ghost fell upon him**, and he stood up and prophesied many things which should shortly come to pass. And again, I also had the spirit of prophecy, when,

standing up, I prophesied . . . **We were filled with the Holy Ghost**, and rejoiced in the God of our salvation. *Our minds being now enlightened*, we began to have the scriptures laid open to our understanding, and the true meaning and intention of their more mysterious passages revealed unto us in a manner which we never could attain to previously, nor ever before had thought of' (JS History 1:73-74).

The Prophet Joseph also taught how the fiery baptism effects a *Gentile* differently than one of the *house or blood of Israel*. Both are part of a “**purgung**” event, where sins are remitted. The Gentile, however, has their *blood purged*. They become of the *blood of Israel* or *Jacob* (the birthright son of Isaac, who was the birthright son of Abraham). They thus inherit the promised blessings given Abraham and Sarah, becoming the sons and daughters of God, with full inheritance with Christ thereafter. Joseph stated, “The Holy Ghost has no other effect than **pure intelligence**. It is more powerful in *expanding* the mind, *enlightening* the understanding, and *storing* the intellect with present *knowledge*, of a man who is of the literal seed of Abraham, than one that is a Gentile, though it may not have half as much visible effect upon the body; for as the Holy Ghost falls upon one of the literal seed of Abraham, it is calm and serene; and his whole soul and body are only exercised by the **pure spirit of intelligence**; while the effect of the Holy Ghost upon a Gentile, is to **purge out the old blood**, and make him actually of the seed of Abraham. That man that has none of the blood of Abraham (naturally) must have a **new creation** by the Holy Ghost. In such a case, there may be more of a *powerful effect upon the body*, and visible to the eye, than upon an Israelite, while the Israelite at first might be far before the Gentile in **pure intelligence**” (TPJS 149-50).

II. Obtaining the Holy Ghost – *the First Comforter*

We are to be “born again” or “sanctified” from all sin, that we might be sufficiently clean to receive “**the gift and power of the Holy Ghost**” in our lives. In scripture this *unspeakable gift* is also called “the *Holy Spirit*” or “*light*” or “*oil* in our lamps”. Jesus called it “the *promise* of the Father” in Luke 14:49, and “the *endowment of power* from on high” in the D&C 38:32 & 38; 43:15-16; 95:8-9 and 105:10-12. We are **powerless** in spiritual things without this gift from God.

Our LORD began His mission in the New Testament - only *after* He spent 40 days with God in the wilderness. He then returned, having John the Baptist baptize Him. It was then that He received the Holy Ghost (see Matt. 3:13-17; John 1:29-32). He then began teaching with **power** and performing many *miracles*. Jesus selected and sent out twelve into the world as His special servants to preach the gospel, heal the sick, and raise the dead (Matt. 10:8). They first had to be *born again*, receiving the *gift* and **power** of the Holy Ghost to guide them in God’s work. It was after His resurrection that Jesus told His disciples to “*tarry*” at Jerusalem - to there receive this great *gift* prior to their missions. They had been “**called**” and *taught* by God Himself. They were then “**empowered**” with the Holy Ghost and “**sent**” out into the world with this *gift* to guide them. This **empowerment** occurred in the “upper room” for some and on the “day of Pentecost” for others. Both were group events where the Spirit of God was poured out.

The early Latter-day Saints were no different. God saw the trouble that was coming for them in this difficult world - and for Joseph Smith. He warned both in 1831, doing so in D&C 38, stating that if they were “to escape the **power** of the enemy” (lies, deception, sin, etc.), it would be because of this **empowering** gift – “the *endowment of power* from on high” (see verses 32 & 38). Many received a similar outpouring of the Spirit at the dedication of the House of the LORD at Kirtland Ohio in 1836. God told the early Latter-day Saints to also “*tarry*” at “the Ohio” (Kirtland Ohio). They be born again and receive the **Holy Ghost** as their personal guide. Too many today confuse this special *gift* or *endowment* with today’s temple ordinances, where one participates in what is called “the endowment” (see the separate paper “*Endowment of Power from on High*”).

God wants His people **empowered** with the *gift* or *endowment of the Holy Ghost* - *the first comforter*. He provides this *gift* (see 3 Ne. 9:20; 12:1; 2 Ne. 31:12; 3 Ne. 11:35; JST Mat. 3:38; JST Luke 3:16; JST John 1:28). It requires that we first be *sanctified* or *cleansed from all sin* in the “*born again*” event (where our sins are remitted). All must come to God in humility and repentance, with a broken heart and contrite spirit. Cleansed by God, we can then receive this *unspeakable gift* from Him, typically by way of “the laying on of hands” of one so authorized - an angel, an empowered “Apostle” or another servant, previously **empowered** themselves (see D&C 20:38-43, 3 Nephi 18:37, Moroni 2:2, Acts 8:9-22 & 19:2-6, and Revelation 2:4-5).

Today's church ordinance of confirmation via the laying on of hands is a *symbolic* invitation to receive the real thing. The twelve "apostles" in the New Testament and the twelve "disciples" in 3rd Nephi were true "sent ones" of the Master ("apostle" in Greek means "sent one"). God *called* them personally. They were *chosen* because of their righteousness. Before Jesus *sent* them out on their various missions in the New Testament, they were *empowered* with the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2). They and God's special servants in 3rd Nephi were able to preach His gospel with power and authority, cast out devils, heal the sick, and raise the dead (Matt. 10:8). They were the real, visible fruits tied to their empowerment. They were signs following the believers (Mark 16:17-18). Speaking of false prophets with no power, God said, "by their fruits ye shall know them" (Matt. 7:15-18).

The Doctrine of the Holy Ghost – *the Promise of the Father* (from the *Secret Chamber*, pages 209-212)

We must be purified in two baptisms to receive the priceless gift of guidance, known as "the promise of the Father," the "record of heaven," "the unspeakable gift," or "the first comforter." It was the most coveted gift of the twelve disciples of Christ in 3 Nephi 19:9. Satan does not want us to have this or any other spiritual gift, as it is very useful in providing truth, in revealing darkness, false spirits, false prophets, and deception generally. This is why God spoke of the "endowment of **power** from on high" in 1831 in the same Section of the D&C (38) where He addressed "the secret chamber" that would rise up at Nauvoo ten years later (chap. 5). Satan wants us to remain in ignorance and darkness. In most scriptures using the phrase "an endowment of **power** from on high," they are addressing the unspeakable *gift* and **power** of the Holy Ghost (see Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4; D&C 43:15-16; 95:8-9 & 105:10-12).

Only those cleansed from all sin in the holy blood of Christ receive this unspeakable gift. Few eight-year olds exhibit sincere remorse for sins committed, and specifically the *broken heart* and *contrite spirit* the LORD has asked us to offer Him as our sacrifice. Most often 8-year olds are baptized for the purpose of joining the church, rather than **coming unto Christ in sincere repentance**. This is one reason why having the Holy Ghost is so rare. It is gifted by God as part of entering His church. And note that only God actually gives this gift to us, not man (see D&C 33:15; 3 Ne. 9:20; 12:1; 2 Ne. 31:12; 3 Ne. 11:35; JST Mat. 3:38; JST Luke 3:16; JST John 1:28; 15:26). Those performing the confirmation with priesthood authority invite others to receive it. The authorized disciples of Christ in Third Nephi were "called," "chosen" and "empowered" by Him to invite the baptism of fire and Holy Ghost to come upon others who were prepared to receive it. They did so with real authority and power. It is lacking today (see chap. 7). Teaching on the Holy Ghost was originally provided by the Prophet Joseph Smith in the School of the Prophets, and specifically in Lecture on Faith #5. Confirmation is a symbolic "inviting" ordinance done by imperfect men on earth, to symbolize the real gifting of power in the Holy Ghost by God after **He** baptizes us in His fiery Spirit – to cleanse us from all sin. Our sins are thus remitted. This makes us sufficiently clean to receive a greater portion of His influence, His mind, and His Spirit, along with that of the Father, as they are **One**. The Holy Ghost or Spirit is an intermediate transmitter of their light and influence. It is the center post of the "Tree" (of Life and Spirit) or Menorah in the ancient Tabernacle and Temple Solomon built.

According to Lecture on Faith 5, the Holy Ghost or more specifically "the Holy Spirit" is **the unified mind of the Father and the Son**. False ideas about the Holy Ghost taught today originated in a public statement by Apostle Orson Hyde, as quoted in D&C 130:22 (addressed hereafter). It has since become the official doctrine of the Holy Ghost in the church. God alone provides access "to the unified mind of the Father and the Son," through the transmission of the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit, after one is first cleansed and purified from all sin in God's fiery baptism of us (3 Ne. 9:20, 12:1; D&C 33:15). It is a precious, priceless, unspeakable gift - to have access to the unified mind of both the Father and the Son. They are One. They are God (along with Mother). We desperately need this pure form of revelation from them today. The LORD told Peter, "upon this rock [Christ the LORD] I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (JST Mat. 16:16-19). We are to rely on Him as "the stone of Israel" (Gen. 49:24; D&C 50:44), the "chief cornerstone" (Eph. 2:20), the "stone the builders refused [rejected]" (Psalm 118:22). The same is become "the head of the corner" (Mat. 21:42). We are to rely on Christ and the Father for revelation through the Holy Spirit or Holy Ghost. Jesus is the Light of the World, providing direction, counsel, light and knowledge via direct revelation to each of us, if we will seek **Him** and **His will**. He as our Savior is the power behind all things of note in His church. Helaman, father of missionaries Nephi and Lehi, taught:

"And now, my sons, remember, remember that it is upon **the rock** of our Redeemer, who is Christ, the Son of God, that ye must **build your foundation**; that when the devil shall send forth his mighty winds, yea, his shafts

in the whirlwind, yea, when all his hail and his mighty storms shall beat upon you, it shall have no power over you to drag you down to the gulf of misery and endless wo, because of **the rock** upon which ye are built, which is a sure foundation, a foundation whereon if men build they cannot fall" (Helaman 5:12).

Our God also provides us "**living waters**," a symbol for the Spirit. Broken, imperfect men provide stagnant water by comparison, for we are broken, imperfect cisterns. Jeremiah, speaking on behalf of the Lord, said:

"For **my people** have committed two evils; **they have forsaken me** the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water" (Jer. 2:13). Man is that broken cistern.

Seeking God's word above that of men helps us avoid deception. Three scriptures are worth repeating here:

"For you shall live by every word that proceedeth forth from **the mouth of God** [not man]. For the word of the Lord is truth, and whatsoever is truth is light, and whatsoever is light is Spirit, even the Spirit of Jesus Christ. And the Spirit giveth light to every man that cometh into the world; and the Spirit enlighteneth every man through the world, that hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit. And every one that hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit cometh unto God, even the Father" (D&C 84:44-47; see also Mat. 4:4; 2 Ne. 32:1-6).

"And **whoso treasureth up my word**, shall **not be deceived**" (JST Mat. 1:37). He added, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

When men seek the desires of their hearts, rather than God's will, they often get what they desire, and often this is deception within false revelation (see Prov. 23:7, Isa. 66:2-4, Ezek. 14:1-11, 2 Thess. 2:10-12, James 4:3, Jacob 4:14, Alma 29:4, and Morm. 9:28). Pure revelation from God is the iron rod we must individually hold on to. Scripture repeatedly reveals that men who depend upon their own wisdom, and the desires of their hearts - are lead astray. They are then given "**strong delusion**," especially if carnal desires within rule us (2 Thes. 2:10-12).

Origin of the Current LDS Holy Ghost Doctrine

Research in the Joseph Smith Papers Project (BYU) reveals that our incorrect definition for the Holy Ghost today comes from D&C 130:22. Verse 22 is not scripture in the traditional sense (not a revelation from God through Joseph Smith), but instead a record of incorrect teaching by Elder Orson Hyde. It was added to our canon of scripture in 1876, **35 years after** Joseph Smith placed the Lectures on Faith in the Doctrine and Covenants. Research reveals that the Prophet Joseph was uncomfortable with Elder Hyde's summary of his teachings when he first heard them. Joseph corrected him in private afterwards. Sadly, Hyde's summary has become the **definition** of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost in the LDS church today, pre-empting and negating other verses of scripture in our canon and other teachings by Joseph Smith. It reads. "The Father has a body of flesh and bone as tangible as man's; the Son also; but the Holy Ghost has not a body of flesh and bones, but is a personage of Spirit. Were it not so, the Holy Ghost could not dwell in us" (D&C 130:22, incorrect teaching by Elder Orson Hyde).

Nowhere in D&C 130 is there a statement by God or Joseph that this verse is **the** definition of the Godhead, whereas Lecture 5 of *The Lectures on Faith* lay out what the Godhead is (*The Lectures on Faith* were taken out of the D&C in 1921). A better, more accurate scriptural definition of the Holy Ghost is easily obtained by scanning all references for the Holy Ghost in the Index at the back of the D&C. Verse 22 of D&C 130 is very different from all others, and the only one expressing what it does. It is an inaccurate citing of Joseph's instruction, repeated by Elder Hyde, according to Joseph Smith's own words in his journal (kept by Willard Richards). There Joseph (via Richards) noted a mistake in Elder Hyde's definition of both the Father *and* the Holy Ghost. Writing for Joseph, Willard Richards stated that Elder Hyde, "again revert'd to mistake. &c [meaning etc. – following -] the Father has a body of flesh & bones as tangible as mans, the Son also, but the Holy Ghost is a personage of spirit" (see <http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/journal-december-1842-june-1844-book-2-10-march-1843-14-july-1843/50>).

It is generally believed that the Father has a body, but one not tangible *in the same way* as the body of men, or we would not read that the Son differs from Him being a “personage of tabernacle” in Lecture on Faith 5. The Father’s body is apparently much more refined - a purer form of matter with great intensity of light and power, so much so that we would be destroyed in His presence if we were not first transfigured by Him to endure His fiery presence.

Elder Hyde’s instruction suggests that the Holy Ghost is an individual – a male personage (like the Father and Son), but without a body, that He might dwell within us. The fifth Lecture on Faith counteracts this, providing an **officially approved** and **voted on** definition of what the Holy Spirit is, as provided by the first prophetic leader of the church, Joseph Smith. He had individual priesthood quorums vote to have the Lectures on Faith put into our Canon of Scriptures, followed by a vote of regular Church membership. These lectures, the “doctrine” portion of the Doctrine and Covenants, were removed in 1921 by a committee, led by academic James E. Talmage (without a vote by priesthood quorums or the church). His replacement book, Articles of Faith, became a classic best-seller among the Saints, along with the book, *Jesus the Christ*. False things are taught in both of them, along with truth. The “covenants” portion of the D&C are the revelations or oracles given to the Prophet Joseph by God.

Lecture 5 informs us that Holy Spirit is the unified mind of the Father and the Son. The gift or endowment of having access to the mind of God is granted only after we are sanctified from all sin – in the baptism of fire and Holy Ghost event. The Holy Spirit or Holy Ghost is the connecting point between the Father and the Son and us, the shaft of the Menorah in the ancient Tabernacle. Once we are cleansed from all sin by our sincere repentance, and by God’s fiery Spirit - our spirit or “ghost” has access to or may abide in or with the unified mind of the Father and Son (and eventually Mother). We can then become “one” with them. Lecture 5 states:

“There are two personages who constitute the great, matchless, governing and supreme power over all things. They are the Father and the Son: the Father being a personage of spirit, glory, and power, possessing all perfection and Fullness. The Son, who was in the bosom of the Father, a personage of tabernacle, made, or fashioned like unto man, or being in the form and likeness of man . . . And he being the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, and having overcome, received a Fullness of the glory of the Father—possessing the same mind with the Father, which mind is the Holy Spirit . . . being filled with the Fullness of the Mind of the Father, or, in other words, the Spirit of the Father: which Spirit is shed forth upon all who believe On his name and keep his commandments: and all those who keep his commandments shall grow up from grace to grace, and become heirs of the heavenly kingdom, and joint heirs with Jesus Christ; possessing the same mind, being transformed into the same image or likeness, even the express image of him who fills all in all: being filled with the Fullness of his glory, and become one in him, even as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one” (a portion of Lecture 5, *Lectures on Faith*, see also John 13, being “one” with the True Vine).

End Notes

¹ **The 7 Beatitudes of the Book of Revelation** There are 17 sets of 7 things addressed in the book of Revelation. One of them includes “7 Beatitudes” (there are 12 “Blessed Beatitudes” in 3 Ne. 12 and JST Matthew 5). The 17 sets of 7 things are often interrelated, as in “**overcoming**” the world *and* becoming one who is “**Blessed**”.

According to Old Testament scholar W. F. Albright and New Testament scholar C. S. Mann, the word translated as “**Blessed**” in Matthew 5 is also tied to being “fortunate”. They state that to be “blessed” is to be “*of the State of the God*”. Their footnote reads, “*Fortunate*. The word in Greek was used in classical times [to mean] *of the state of the gods* in contrast to men. The usual English “*blessed*” has more and more come to have liturgical or ecclesiastical overtones, and we have chosen “*fortunate*” as the being the best translation available to us” (see W. F. Albright and C. S. Mann, *The Anchor Bible, Matthew*, Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1971, p. 45).

The prophetic, apocalyptic, or “sealed” books of Daniel and Revelation address those who are “**Blessed**”. John does so in the first 3 verses of Revelation chapter 1, speaking specifically to last-days “**servants**” of the Living God, whereas Daniel does so in the last 3 verses of Daniel 12. Note the 7 “Blessed Beatitudes” below in the Book of Revelation.

1. Revelation 1:3 KJV / **Blessed** is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.
2. Revelation 14:13 KJV / **Blessed** are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.
3. Revelation 16:15 KJV / **Blessed** is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his

shame.

4. Revelation 19:9 KJV / **Blessed** are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me,
5. Revelation 20:6 KJV / **Blessed** and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.
6. Revelation 22:7 KJV / **Blessed** is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.
7. Revelation 22:14 AMP / **Blessed** are those who wash their robes [in the blood of Christ by believing and trusting in Him—the righteous who do His commandments], so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.

God's Promise to the Overcomers – The **Blessed** ones are those who “overcome” the world, those who “keep the commandments of God” and “have the testimony of Jesus.” They will be part of Zion – God’s *kingdom* of peace, justice, and love on the earth. We today, and those in the 7 church congregations overseen by John the Beloved (in Revelation chapters 2 & 3 in his day) are all encouraged to “overcome” all things in this world. This leads to the 7 **blessings** addressed by God below. The 7 types of “overcoming” below - lead to the “**Blessed**” state discussed earlier.

1. The LORD will give them the fruit of the Tree of Life (Rev. 2:7).
2. They shall not be hurt by the second death (spiritual death, Rev. 2:11).
3. If they endure to the end (after overcoming) they will have power over the nations - with a rod of iron, and they will receive “the morning star” (Rev. 2:26-28).
4. They shall be clothed in white raiment and their name will not be blotted out of the book of life. Their name will be confessed by Christ before the Father and His angels (Rev. 3:5).
5. The LORD will make them a pillar in the temple of God. They shall “go no more out.” God’s name will be written on them, along with the name of city of God (New Jerusalem). And the LORD will write upon them my new name (Rev. 3:12).
6. They will “sit with me in my throne” (Rev. 3:21).
7. God says, they will be like me, as “I overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne” (Rev. 3:21).

2 Governance in the Number 12 God **governs** His Kingdom on earth via His great *light, love, and law*. They are the source of His *power*, provided by the *honor* all creation gives him in praise and worship in heaven (see D&C 29:35 & 88:6-13). The principle of “**governance**” via *priesthood* has consistent ties to the number **12** throughout scripture, like the **12** Apostles the LORD called in the New Testament and in the Book of Mormon, along with 12 parts of lesser and greater *law* they taught, as addressed hereafter. This *law* is made up **12** total commandments and **12** “Blessed” beatitudes. Living them or ignoring them leads to **12** blessings or **12** cursings (see #2 below). All *Space* and *Time* along with our *Bodies* are governed in the number **12**. It is “*divine*” **governance**, signaled by the number 3, the result of reducing down 12 to the single digit 3 ($1+2=3$), a number tied to “*divinity*” in scripture.

1. Governance via Light God is the source of all light, audible, visual, and that not seen, heard or felt. Scripture tells us that He is surrounded by a colorful 360-degree rainbow upon His throne, the visual manifestation of the color frequency of visible light and His great love for His people and all creation (see Ezek. 1:28; Rev. 4:3 & 10:1; 3 Enoch 22:4). The entire electromagnetic spectrum of *energy, frequency, and vibration* (or *light*) is made up of audible and in-audible *sound* and visual and non-visible *light*. God sang all of creation into existence in the book of Genesis using His voice, words, and knowledge. Today western music utilizes “octaves” with **12** notes each. On a piano they include 7 white keys and 5 black keys.

In D&C 88:13, the LORD stated, “The *light* which is in all things, which giveth *life* to all things, which is the *law* by which all things are **governed**, even the *power* of God who sitteth upon his throne, who is in the bosom of eternity, who is in the midst of all things.” God’s *power* among all created things - is the “*honor*” and “*love*” they feel for Him as Creator (see D&C 29:35). Satan wanted God’s *power* (see Isa. 14), and rebelled against Him to try and get it. When a true servant uses “the *sealing power*” given him of God, they do so in God’s will, repeating words He may have given them. The elements of creation respond to the directives of the Creator through the servant. The elements recognize God’s will in the servant, and *willingly obey* out of *love* and *honor* for their Creator (Abr. 4:18; D&C 29:36).

12 Colors of Light Dinshah Ghadiali was the first modern healer to use 12 visible colors of light to help heal the body. He found that each color on his unique “star color wheel” was tied to an energy center or “chakra” in the body. Each color represented a specific wavelength of visible light making up “the 49th octave”, a small portion of the much larger, entire electromagnetic spectrum, which includes non-visible radiation, like infrared radiation at the low end, and non-visible ultra violet light at the high end. Visible colors make up the colors from 400 to 700 nanometers (12 above left, and 7 in the rainbow).

Note in the 12-part color wheel above that the 3 *primary* colors of **light** are Red, Green, and Blue, whereas Yellow, Magenta, and Cyan are the 3 *secondary* colors tied to **pigment, inks or paint**. Two sets of 3 additional colors stand between these *primary* and *secondary* colors, making 12 total, in a unique Star of David opposing triangle arrangement (*primaries oppose secondaries*).

The Speed of Light God continues to send His great light throughout creation to govern, enlighten, and heal it. There are 3 ways to express the speed of light; (1) 186,000 miles per second; (2) 162,000 nautical miles in real-time per second; And (3) 144,000 minutes of arc per grid second or “*the speed of light harmonic*”, or $12 \times 12 \times 1000$ (see Bruce Cathie, *Bridge to Infinity*, p. 8).

Light is frequency, whether it is visual light or audible sound. There are 7 colors in the rainbow, each with a unique frequency of vibration. The same is true of sound. In a musical octave of 7 primary notes (the white keys on a piano), there are 12 tones or frequencies, via 5 additional black intermediate keys (the 5 “sharps” or “flats” in-between the 7 whole notes or keys).

Servants of Light The number 144,000 ($12 \times 12 \times 1000$) is not only one way to express “the speed of light”, it has scriptural ties to the LORD’s special “servants of light” in the last days. They hold priesthood as the seed of Abraham in the house of Israel, all 12 Tribes. There are 12,000 servants among each of the 12 Tribes in Revelation 7, making 144,000 total servants serving symbolically with their priesthood as Messianic Jews converted to Christ. Many believe there is a second set of 144,000 Christian servants (see Rev. 14). They are gathered back to God and His greater light first, where they are “sealed” and then they do the gathering to God in a 2nd great last-days gathering (see also Rev. 14, D&C 77).

Moses set up 12 stones at the base of Sinai to represent the 12 Tribes of Israel. He also sent 12 spies (one from each Tribe) into the land of Canaan to investigate it and its current residents of giants in walled cities (they were the posterity of the Fallen Angels of Genesis 6, a great plague on the earth that continues here and now). In Numbers 7 we read about the 12 days tied to the dedication of the Tabernacle of Moses. When the Israelites later crossed over the Jordan River – miraculously on dry ground - into the Holy Land, Joshua had 12 representatives take one stone each from the river, setting them as a memorial to God who once again performed another miracle on their behalf (see Joshua 4:1-10).

Our LORD Jesus called 12 special *servants* or Apostles to be “*special witnesses*” of THE Light of the world - Jesus Christ. John stated that there are 24 Elders surrounding God’s throne in heaven (Rev. 4:8, 5:7, 11:2, 19:3). King David put in place 24 courses of priests (2 sets of 12 servants in the bloodline of Jacob’s 12 sons) to serve at David’s Tabernacle of worship, and to later praise and worship at Solomon’s Temple (1 Chron. 24).

There are also 12 hierarchies of angels; 1. Thrones, 2. Arc Angels, 3. Seraphim, 4. Cherubim, 5. Dominions, 6. Virtues, 7. Powers, 8. Principalities, 9. Guardians, 10. Comforters, 11. Holy Animals & Creatures, and 12 Planetary Guardians.” The LORD Jesus said that He could command 12 legions of angels to help Him if necessary (Matt. 26:53).

2. Governance via God’s Law The primary law of heaven is love. The LORD taught Moroni that there were 12 characteristics of Charity, the pure love of Christ (see Moroni 7:45). God gave 12 total “commandments” in the Old Testament. They include the 2 Great Commandments to love God and love on another (Deut. 6:4-5 & Lev. 19:18). These 2 laws summarize the 10 additional commandments given Moses in Exodus 20, as found on the 2 tables of stone. The first 5 of them are about loving God, the second 5 are about loving one another. There are 12 blessings and 12 cursings tied to living these 12 commandments or ignoring them (see Deut. 27 & 28). The Book of Mormon also features 12 curses or “wo’s” upon the false churches in our day in 2nd Nephi 28:15-32.

The LORD later God gave a higher law, called the “Blessed” Beatitudes in the New Testament. The King James Version of Luke 6 addresses only 4 Beatitudes, while Matthew 5 lists 9 of them. The Prophet Joseph Smith restored all 12 of them in JST Matthew 5 and 3 Nephi 12. The *first 3* replaced Beatitudes address becoming “Blessed” via, 1. Repenting and coming unto Christ; 2. Being baptized in water by one in authority; And 3. The LORD Jesus says He will then baptize such individuals by Fire and the Holy Ghost (see the author’s papers *Clear Born Again Scriptures* or *The 2 Great Commandments of 12*, both at www.7witnesses.com). Those living the higher law of 12 Beatitudes are pronounced clean, and called “Blessed” (meaning “in the state of the gods”).

3. Governing via the Measure of Space There are 12 inches to a foot in the English measure of *space* (the measure of the foot of King David of Scotland in 1150 AD). Ezekiel’s altar was 12 cubits square (Ezek. 43:16). Elijah’s altar was made of 12 stones, surrounded by a ditch having 12 barrels of water in it. John described New Jerusalem (God’s Tabernacle in heaven) as having 12 gates, 12 angels, 12 tribes, 12 foundations, 12 Apostles, 12 stones, and 12 pearls. He describes the measure of this city as a cube of 12,000 furlongs - in 3 dimensions.

4. Governing via the Measure of Time There are 12 hours of light and darkness at the 2 equinoxes, an equal measure of *time* in a day of 24 hours. There are 12 months in the year, and 12 zodiac signs rotating around the sun during “the Great Year,” also known as “the precession of the equinoxes.” It is 25,920 years, or $12 \times 2,160$ years, the average time each of the 12 signs remains at the eastern horizon. Note also that 2,160 is the diameter of the moon in miles. The Tabernacle of David featured 24/7 worship and praise of the LORD. In it there were 12 different singers for each of the 24 hours of the day, making 288 prophetic singers (1 Chron. 25:9-31). Each solar “day” (24 hours or 1,440 minutes) the moon cycle is separated by another 12 degrees from it on the 360 degree clock of time (10 minutes per day), resulting in the differing moon phases and the need for recalibration of the 2 time pieces (the sun and the moon) in leap months or leap years.

5. Governing the Human Body God created our physical bodies with 12 governing systems. They are the Circulatory, Digestive, Endocrine, Integumentary, Renal, Lymphatic, Muscular, Nervous, Reproductive, Respiratory, Skeletal, and Vestibular systems. There are also 12 mineral, cell, or tissue salts as part of this governance. They are 1. calcium fluoride, 2. Calcium phosphate, 3. Calcium sulfate, 4. Iron phosphate, 5. Magnesium phosphate, 6. Potassium chloride, 7. Potassium phosphate, 8. Potassium sulfate, 9. Sodium chloride, 10. Sodium phosphate, 11. Sodium sulfate, and 12. Silica.

Worldwide DNA research reveals many strands of DNA, most likely **12**, not just the 2 explored in western science, those tied to the **physical** makeup of our bodies. Those beyond 2 have been called “junk DNA” in the west and are mostly ignored.

The revolutionary work of 2 Russian scientists, molecular biologist Dr. Pjotr Garajev and researcher Dr. Vladimir Poponin, has revealed the purpose for the additional DNA strands, thought to be 12 total (as seen by energy healers in their clients). The more holistic research of the Russians has revealed a **spiritual** focus for them. They found that human DNA is a receiver and transmitter of information and that it is not genetically “fixed”, but can be *repaired* and *reprogrammed* by light or frequency, whether it is visual light (like a laser) or audible frequencies (like music and words).

God is sending forth His great light (D&C 88:6-13) to awaken and transform our DNA, that we might be *physically* and *spiritually* prepared for His coming as Judge and King over a new millennial Kingdom of justice, peace, and love. He used words to create in Genesis *and* did so again during his earthly ministry to heal many. All creation willingly responds to the Creator’s voice (Abr. 4:18) out of love *and* honor for Him. This “honor” is His great **power**. Satan was jealous, wanting both God’s honor and power (see D&C 29:36), and thus he rebelled against God, taking many when they were cast out of heaven to earth.

6. Governing with Love, Healing & Deliverance The LORD Jesus is the Great *Healer* and *Deliverer*, bringing forth the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt at Passover. He has delivered His wayward people over and over again. Throughout the Psalms, David proclaimed, “His mercy endureth forever.” In the Book of Revelation we read about the Tree of Life (Rev. 22:2). It has 12 manner of fruits on it for the healing of the nations. God, as the great healer created the 12 governing systems of our mortal bodies, with 12 tissue salts, and the probability of 12-strands of DNA. Our wise, loving God inspired “the 12-Step program” providing healing and deliverance for those held captive to drugs, alcohol, pornography, and other addictions. The first of the 12 steps addresses the need to place *faith* and *trust* in the living God, stating, “We admitted we were *powerless* over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable. We have come to believe that *a Power greater than ourselves* could *restore* us to sanity. And we have made a decision to turn our will and our *lives* over to the care of God…”

7. Governance of God’s Kingdom on Earth Matthew addressed Christ as “King” 12 times, and with 12 references to His “gospel”. John provided 12 different “divine” titles for Him, along with the 12 references in which Jesus called Himself, “the Son of Man” (John 1:51; 3:13, 14; 5:27; 6:27, 53, 62; 8:28; 9:35; 12:23, 34; 13:31).

The Word (**John 1:1**)

The Creator of all things (**John 1:3**)

The Only Begotten of the Father (**John 1:14**)

The Lamb of God (**John 1:29**)

The Bread of Life (**John 6:35**)

The great I AM (**John 8:58; 18:6, 8; Ex. 3:14**)

The Light of the world (**John 9:5**)

The Door of the sheep (**John 10:7**)

The Good Shepherd (**John 10:11**)

The Resurrection and the Life (**John 11:25**)

The Way, the Truth, and the Life (**John 14:**

The true Vine (**John 15:1**)

The 12 chapters of the “sealed” book of Daniel addresses true versus false worship, God’s control over earthly kingdoms, and the final establishment of an everlasting Kingdom of peace, love, and justice under Christ as King of kings in the last-days. In Daniel 6 we read of 120 jealous princes who tried to trap Daniel in false worship. Daniel 12:9-13 provides a limited timeline of last-days rule by the beast and false prophet of 1,290 total days. Daniel calls those who make it to 1,335 days “blessed.” They will be part of God’s kingdom on the earth. Note that both numbers add up to 12 (these 3 time periods are about 3.5 years each, also known as “time, times, and a half” (each “time” is 12 months – or 1 year).

Three scriptures prophetically address the return of the “Tabernacle of David” as part of God’s last-days kingdom on the earth (see Amos 9:11; Acts 15:16; Isa. 16:5). “ages” was the focus of this tabernacle and will return to the earth in His Millennial kingdom in our day. It mirrors the type of worship present in heaven. The LORD’s prayer states, “They kingdom come, they will be done on earth as it is in heaven” (Matt. 6:10). King David implemented “True Worship” in the Holy City via 24/7 worship, praise, and thanksgiving in the special tent or tabernacle he first set up near the Gihon Spring. It has since come to be known as the Tabernacle of David, a different structure than the Tabernacle Moses set up in the book of Exodus. In it, King David employed 4,000 musicians and 288 prophetic singers (24 courses of 12 Levite singers each). Many believe they used musical instruments tuned to 432 or 444 hz, which had power to push away evil and darkness, while simultaneously providing healing qualities for God’s people (the numbers 144 and 288 have ties to light in #1 above, “Governance *via Light*”). God governs all things by His great light and love.