

# The Plan of Salvation

## Part 3

# Review—Doctrinal Mastery

*22 Now the Lord had shown unto me, Abraham, the intelligences that were organized before the world was; and among all these there were many of the noble and great ones;*

*23 And God saw these souls that they were good, and he stood in the midst of them, and he said: These I will make my rulers; for he stood among those that were spirits, and he saw that they were good; and he said unto me: Abraham, thou art one of them; thou wast chosen before thou wast born.*

# Remembering Our Past

Why is it good for us to know and remember our past?



Knowing and remembering our past can greatly affect our present and our future

Our awareness of these experiences can help us understand who we are and inspire us to make righteous choices and move forward with faith.

# Review—Premortal Life

Before we were born on the earth, we lived in the presence of our Heavenly Father as His spirit children.

In this premortal existence we participated in a council with Heavenly Father's other spirit children.

During that council Heavenly Father presented His plan and the premortal Jesus Christ covenanted to be the Savior.

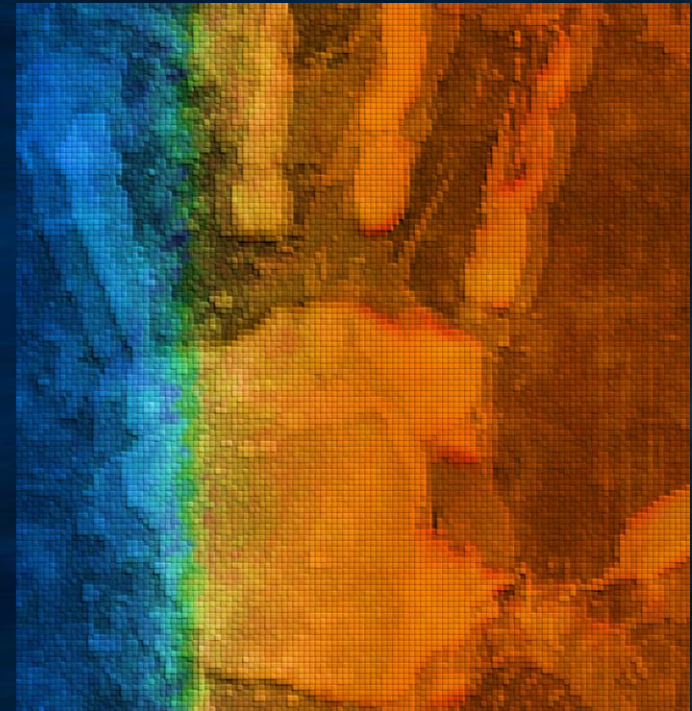


# Review—Agency

We used our agency to follow Heavenly Father's plan.

Those who followed Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ were permitted to come to the earth to experience mortality and progress toward eternal life.

Lucifer, another spirit son of God, rebelled against the plan. He became Satan, and he and his followers were cast out of heaven and denied the privileges of receiving a physical body and experiencing mortality.



**Before we were born on the earth, we lived in the presence of our Heavenly Father as His spirit children.**

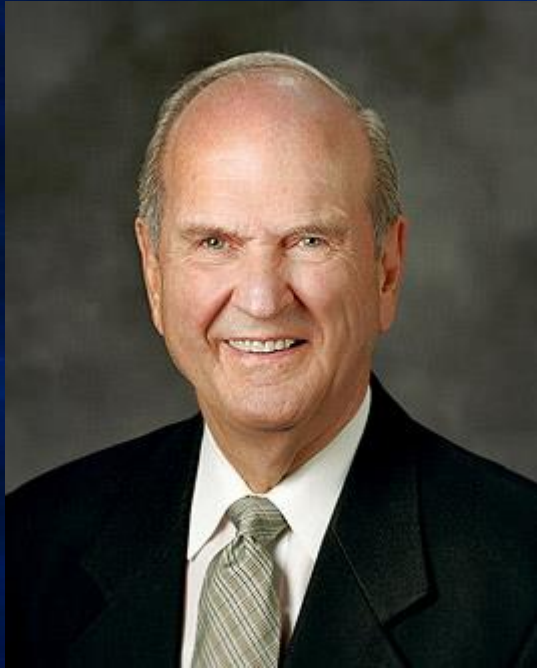


Why do you think Heavenly Father wants us to know and understand this truth?

What evidence do we have that we were obedient to our Heavenly Father before we were born?

How can knowing about our premortal life impact the choices we make in this life?

**We are spirit children of our Heavenly Father**



“Your Heavenly Father has known you for a very long time. You, as His son or daughter, were chosen by Him to come to earth at this precise time, to be a leader in His great work on earth.

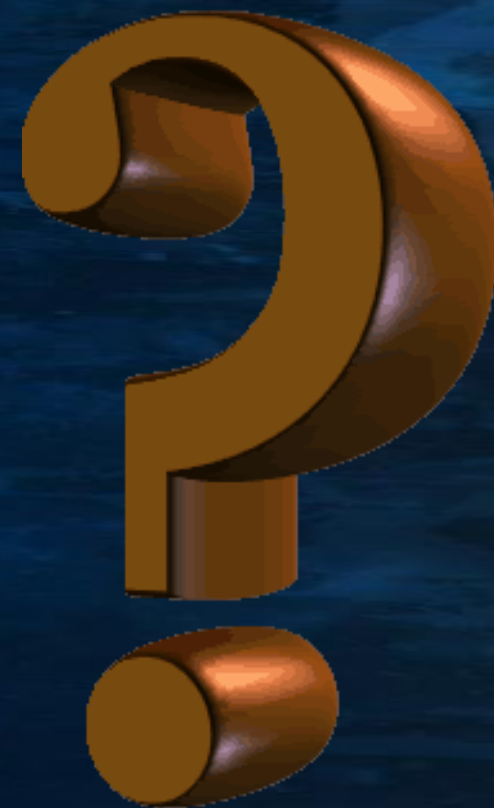
You were chosen *not* for your bodily characteristics but for your *spiritual* attributes, such as bravery, courage, integrity of heart, a thirst for truth, a hunger for wisdom, and a desire to serve others.

“You developed some of these attributes premortally. Others you can develop here on earth as you persistently seek them.” Russell M. Nelson

What are some of the similarities between Abraham 3:22–23 and President Nelson's words?

How does President Nelson's statement help you better understand why you were chosen to come to earth at this precise time?

What does President Nelson encourage us to do here on earth?

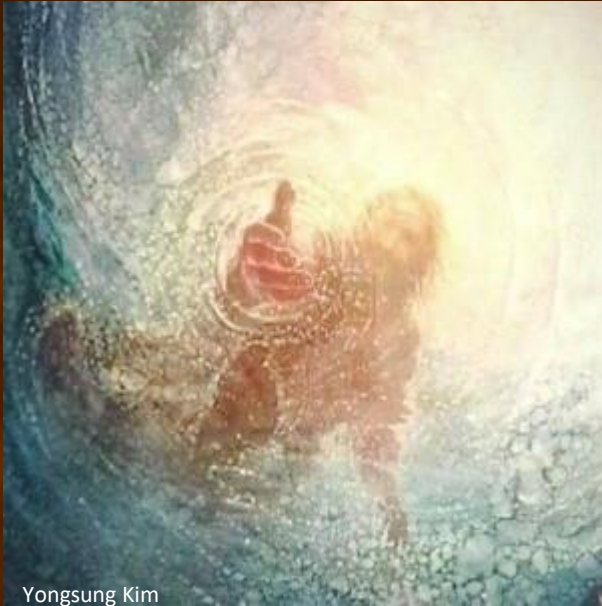


Develop spiritual attributes



# Review—3 Principles in Acquiring Spiritual Knowledge

Act in faith



Examine concepts and questions with an eternal perspective.

Seek further understanding through divinely appointed sources.



# An Unexpected Question

You notice one of your friends, Jim, eating alone at lunch.

As you sit down and join him, he seems deep in thought. Jim looks over at you and says, "Hey, at church on Sunday, my minister said that Mormons believe they can become gods.

That sounds kind of arrogant to me.

Do you really believe that?"



# An Unexpected Question

What do you think you could say to Jim that would help him act in faith as he seeks understanding to what we believe on this subject?

What do you think are some beliefs or premises that Jim or his minister might have that could make our beliefs about becoming like God difficult to understand?

Are there any divinely appointed sources, such as prophetic statements, additional scripture passages, or other sources, that you might use to help explain the truths you want to share?



What key statements of doctrine and scripture passages in the *Doctrinal Mastery Core Document* could help explain these teachings?

Consider this question with an eternal perspective. What do you know or understand about the plan of salvation that could relate to or clarify Jim's question?

## Sources:

Suggested Hymn: #193 I Stand All Amazed

Russell M. Nelson, "Decisions for Eternity," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2013, 107

# Group \_\_\_\_\_

<p>What do you think you could say to Jim that would help him act in faith as he seeks understanding to what we believe on this subject?</p>	
<p>What do you think are some beliefs or premises that Jim or his minister might have that could make our beliefs about becoming like God difficult to understand?</p>	
<p>Consider this question with an eternal perspective. What do you know or understand about the plan of salvation that could relate to or clarify Jim's question?</p>	
<p>What key statements of doctrine and scripture passages in the <i>Doctrinal Mastery Core Document</i> could help explain these teachings?</p>	
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