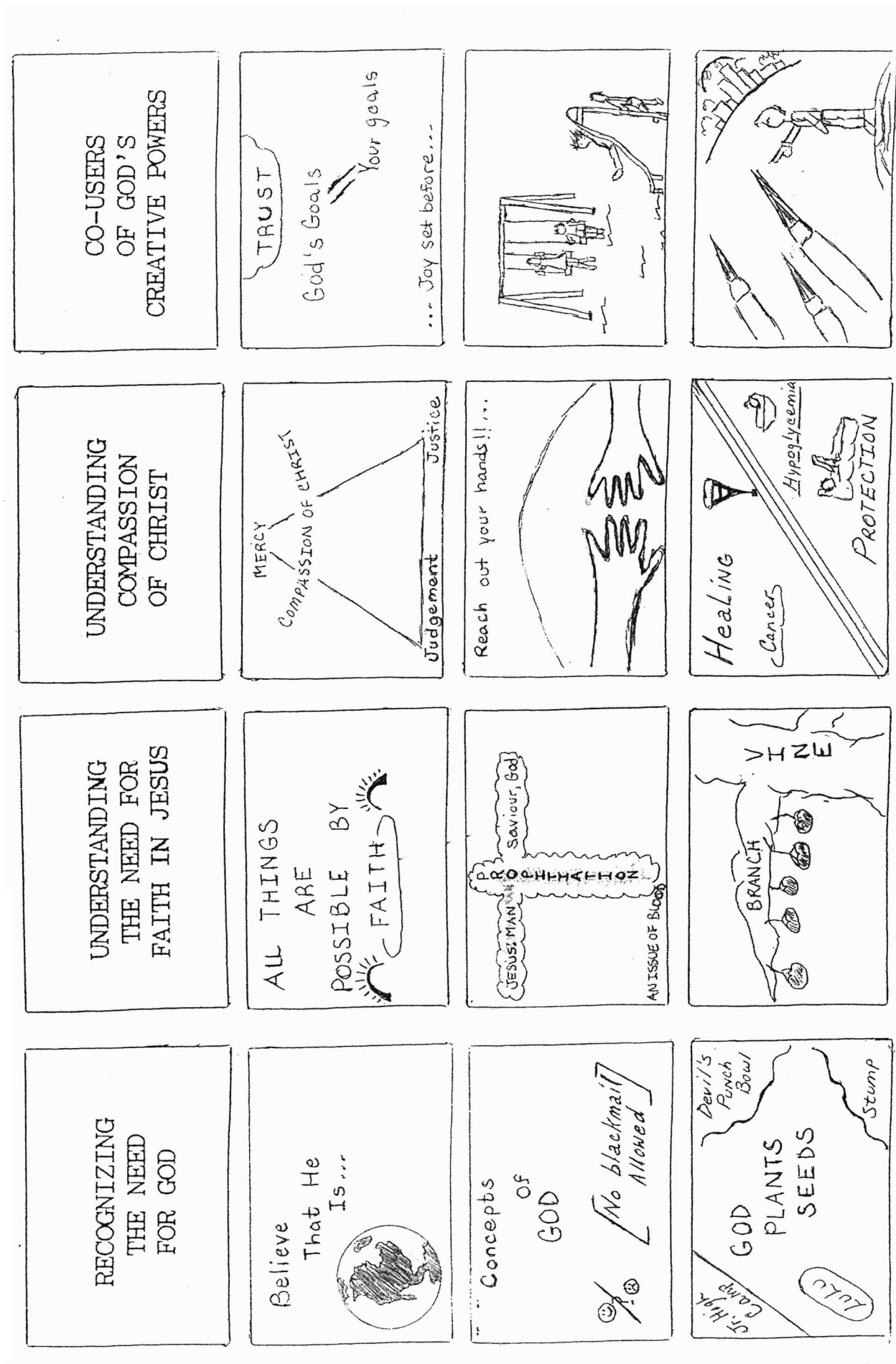


# GOD INITIATES ALL SPIRITUAL GROWTH





## RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR GOD

This is the first fundamental area of spiritual growth

Here we are to:

- = Recognize the personal need for God in our life;
- = Not only recognize- but accept need for God to be the center of our lives;
- = Not only recognize & accept the need for God- but we need to demonstrate this through total, willing dependency on Him.

Our depth of dependency becomes our opportunity to have an intimate and personal relationship with Him:

- = Shift of strength from self to God
- = God initiates this period of growth by exposing Himself to us... "Because He first loved us."
- = This is one of God's invitations to prove Him - "that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him"

Here begins our belief about God and His relationship with us.  
Building block for all future growth and joy.

## UNDERSTANDING THE NEED FOR FAITH IN JESUS

This 2nd area makes little sense unless one is settled and has found rest in dependency upon God.

- = Here one can discover their Redeemer; Advocate; Death; Rebirth; Divine Identity; and Grace.
- = Prayer becomes an expression of our faith in Christ.
- = Prayer becomes our willing expression of dependency on Jesus
- = We find God has initiated this area of growth by the free gift of grace.

The issue of sin, forgiveness, and righteousness become character references of our Redeemer and Saviour.

## UNDERSTANDING THE COMPASSION OF CHRIST

Here we can discover the limitless and pure designs of holy compassion.

- = We find the arms of mercy are truly extended to all people.
- = Mercy becomes one of God's tools of compassion.
- = The power of mercy claims you and healings of both body and spirit are experienced.
- = Here we learn that all that God had initiated for us is our eternal example of how we are to treat others.
- = Herein rests His judgement upon us.

We are asked to become instruments of compassion unto a sin-sick and unbelieving world, that through you the world might see, and feel Jesus.

## BECOMING CO-USERS OF GOD'S CREATIVE POWERS

Thus far we have accepted a life of dependency upon god, faith in Jesus Christ, have become a new creation in Christ, allowing Christ to live in and through us by the power of His love.

This area is truly one of unlimited Divine Trust towards those that have found their will "swallowed up in the will of the Father."

As Christ touched the three Nephites, so he can touch your life.

You truly know without any doubt that His power is sufficient for all your needs in all circumstances. He knows you will not take these creative powers and use them for your own personal gain;

Satan has no power over you. The powers of earth cannot hold you.

You shall have a fullness of joy!

## RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR GOD

- Heb. 11:6 ... For he that cometh unto God must believe that He is, & that he is a Rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
- D&C: 1a&b ...the voice of him who dwells on high, & whose eyes are upon all men; ... Harken ye people from afar, & ye that are on the islands of the sea, listen together; ... the voice of the Lord is unto all men, there is no escape, and there is no eye that shall not see, neither ear shall not hear, neither heart that shall not be penetrated.
- Heb. 4:13 ... all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.
- III Nephi 5:98... Pray unto the Father who is in secret; & thy Father, who seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.
- Romans 10:12 ... For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek; for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.
- Isaiah 51:1 - Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness & who seek the Lord, look unto the rock from whence ye were hewn, & the hole of the pit from whence ye are digged.
- Ephesians 3:17 ... that ye being rooted & grounded in love;
  - v.18. May be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
  - v.19. And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

-Ephesians 1:3-7

- v.3. God blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ;
- v.4. we are chosen before the foundation of the world TO BE HOLY WITHOUT BLAME HIM IN LOVE.
- v.5. Predestinated unto adoption by Jesus Christ to himself.
- v.6. He hath made us accepted in Christ.
- v.7. We are redeemed by Christ's blood, ...forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace.

David says it great!

-Psalms 139:14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully & wonderfully made...

Paul writes to the Philippians he loved:

- Phil. 1:3 I thanked my God upon every remembrance of you.
- v.4. Always in every prayer of mine, for the steadfastness of you all, making request with joy,
- v.5. For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;
- v.6. Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

By the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, Paul speaks:

- Eph. 2:10 For we are his workmanship created in Jesus Christ unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Despite all God has intended, proclaimed, and set before us, He has allowed us to chose Him or reject Him.

Refer Back to Heb. 11:6-

Alma 16:46 ... Believest thou that there is a God?...  
Korihor & Alma -

A good example of today's view of God & our relationship with Him:

- Alma speaks to know of this:

Alma 16:47 ... Will ye deny again that there is a God, & also deny the Christ? ... for behold, I say unto you, I know there is a God, & also that Christ shall come.

v.49. ... I have all things as a testimony that these things are true; & ye also have all things as a testimony unto you that they are true, & will ye deny them?

- God speaks to Adam:

Gen. 6:66 - All things have their likeness; & all things are created & made to bear record of me; both things which are temporal, & things which are spiritual; things which are in the heavens above, & things which are on the earth, & things which are in the earth, & things which are under the earth, both above and beneath, all things bear record of me.

Look at Korihor's philosophy (74 B.C.)

- Alma 16:16 Behold, ye can not know of things which ye do not see; therefore ye can not know that there shall be a Christ
- v.17 Ye look forward and say, that ye see a remission of your sins. But behold, it is the effect of a frenzied mind: and this derangement of your minds comes because of the tradition of your fathers, which lead you away into a belief of things which are not so
- v.18 ...every man fared in this life, according to the management of the creature;  
...prospered according to his genius,  
... - no crime
- v.19 Lift up your head in your wickedness  
...when man was dead, that was the end there of.

Examples of Korihor's (Satan's) philosophy today:

The attempt to live on our own strength is the world's futile attempt to provide self worth & success. The world teaches that dependency is a sign of weakness.

Alma knew this...

- Alma 13:46 And since man had fallen, he could not merit anything of himself;...

## DEPENDENCY UPON GOD IS ESSENTIAL

- Ether 5:28 I give unto men weakness, that they may be humble; & my grace is sufficient for all men that humble themselves before me, & have faith in me, then will I make weak things become strong unto them.

Jesus speaks:

- Mark 10:24 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

v.26. And Jesus, looking upon them said, With men that trust in riches, it is impossible; but not impossible with men who trust in God & leave all for my sake, for with such all these things are possible.

- John 15:4-5 Abide in me, & I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

v.5. I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing.

Deserts all God has begun, He gives agency to seek Him or reject Him.

## NO BLACKMAILING POSSIBLE

John clarifies who-loved-who first:

- 1 John 4:8 ... for God is love.

v.9. In this was manifested the love of God towards us, because that God sent his only Begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

v.10. Here in is love, not that we loved God, but he loved us...

v.19. We love Him, because he first loved us-



## Priesthood & Dependency

### Eye Glasses & Reality

- Devil Punch Bowl
- Jr. High Camp
- Stump
- Lu Lu -

God initiates, sustains, & finds joy in our total dependence upon him. He is actively pursuing you.



## GOD

Genesis 1:2 ...I am the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

D & C 22:23 ...there is no end to my \_\_\_\_\_, neither to my \_\_\_\_\_...  
my works and glory. to bring to pass the \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

### **God is a creator:**

Genesis 1:3 ...I created the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_  
v 6 ...God said, "Let there be \_\_\_\_\_", and there was \_\_\_\_\_.  
v 7 ...I, God, divided the light from the \_\_\_\_\_.  
v 10 ...I, God, made the firmament.  
v 11 ...I, God, called the firmament \_\_\_\_\_.  
v 12 ...God said, "let waters...be gathered together in \_\_\_\_\_."  
v 13 God called the dry land \_\_\_\_\_.  
v 15 ...God said, "let the \_\_\_\_\_ bring forth \_\_\_\_\_."  
v 18 ...I, God, said, "let there be \_\_\_\_\_ in the firmament of heaven."  
v 27 ...I, God, said, "let us make \_\_\_\_\_ in our own \_\_\_\_\_, after our  
own \_\_\_\_\_.

James 1:17 ...in God there is no \_\_\_\_\_ or shadow of \_\_\_\_\_.

Enos 1:8 God does not \_\_\_\_\_. (found also in Ether 1:75)

D & C 17:4 ...from everlasting to everlasting, the same \_\_\_\_\_.

Malachi 3:6 I am the Lord, I \_\_\_\_\_ not.

Moroni 4:82 ...He changeth not; if so, He would \_\_\_\_\_.

Alma 9:27 God is \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ His ways.

1 John 4:16 ...God is \_\_\_\_\_.

Exodus 20:5 ...for I the Lord thy God am \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Genesis 7:42 I am God, Man of \_\_\_\_\_ is my name; Man of \_\_\_\_\_  
is my name; \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is my name.

Dueter. 7:9 ...the faithful God...keepeth \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
with them that \_\_\_\_\_ Him and \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_  
to a \_\_\_\_\_ generations.

1 Tim. 1:17 ...the King eternal, \_\_\_\_\_, the only \_\_\_\_\_ God.

GOD, continued

Colo. 1:15 (as speaking of Jesus)... who is the image of the \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Jer. 23:23 ...I am a God at \_\_\_\_\_, not a God \_\_\_\_\_ off.

Isa. 45:18-24 ...God does not speak in \_\_\_\_\_.

Alma 19:38 ...Time only measured unto \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Alma 19:43 ...Spirits of \_\_\_\_\_ men, after physical death go back to the \_\_\_\_\_ who gave them \_\_\_\_\_.

D & C 85:3 ...even the power of \_\_\_\_\_ who sets upon His throne; who is in the bosom of \_\_\_\_\_, who is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ things.

The following was quoted by Elbert A. Smith in his booklet, "What Latter Day Saints Believe About God":

*The question of the personality of God is one of fundamental importance. Our answer to it will frame our conception of God, of His character and worth and relation to the world; shape our view of the universe; determine the reality and worth of our own personality; measure all our values; decide character and destiny; and underline all our psychology, ethics, economics, sociology, politics, science, philosophy, and religion. As this central, sovereign Personality of the universe stands or falls will all finite personalities and worths abide or wither. It is therefore no remote abstract question or curious speculation we are considering, but one that comes home to our business and bosoms and enters into every drop of blood in our veins.----*

*"The Personality of God" by James H. Snowden, D.D, LL.D. published 1920. Snowden (1852-1936) was a Professor of Systematic Theology in the Western Theological Seminary, Pittsburg, PA*

HE WHO BEGAN A GOOD WORK IN YOU

He who began a good work in you,  
He who began a good work in you,  
Will be faithful to complete it,  
He'll be faithful to complete it,  
He who started the work will be  
faithful to complete it in you.

If the struggle you're facing is  
slowly replacing your hope  
with despair,  
Or the process is long and you're  
losing your song in the night.  
You can be sure that the Lord has  
His hand on you. Safe and secure,  
He will never abandon you.  
You are His treasure, and He finds  
His pleasure in you.

He who began a good work in you,  
He who began a good work in you,  
Will be faithful to complete it,  
He'll be faithful to complete it,  
He who started the work will be  
faithful to complete it in you.  
(repeat)

IN HEAVEN'S EYES

A fervent prayer rose up to heaven  
A fragile soul was losing ground  
Sorting through the earthly babble  
Heaven heard the sound.

This was a life of no distinction  
No successes, only tries  
Yet gazing down on this unlovely one  
There was love in heaven's eyes.

Chorus

In heaven's eyes, there are no losers.  
In heaven's eyes, no hopeless cause.  
Only people like you, with feelings like  
me, amazed by the grace we can find  
In heaven's eyes.

The orphan child, the wayward father,  
The homeless traveler in the rain  
When life goes by and no one bothers,  
Heaven feels the pain.

Looking down, God sees each heartache,  
Knows each sorrow, hears each cry;  
And looking up, we'll see compassion's  
fire, A blaze in heaven's eyes.  
(repeat Chorus)



UNDERSTANDING THE NEED  
FOR FAITH IN JESUS

Mosiah 8:74-82	All men lost; God chooses to redeem his people
Alma 16:208	God's plan required an atonement
V 210	sacrifice had to be infinite and eternal
	Christ only was a pure blood sacrifice
V 216	sacrifices intent: to satisfy demands of justice
	Christ was Propitiation (Lamb slain before foundation of the world)
-	mercy overpowereth justice and opens means of repentance for all that believe on Jesus
Hebrews 9:25	Jesus in meridian of time put away sin by the sacrifice of himself
I Peter 3:18	Christ suffered once only for sin, <u>for the purpose of bringing us to God</u>
Heb. 10:25,26	Christ had to die only once; to put away sin by sacrifice of himself
I John 3:8,9	Jesus came to destroy works of the devil
John 19:30	It is finished- Christ completed his mission
II Nephi 6:46	He suffereth the sins of all men
I John 4:10	Christ sent to be propitiation for all our sins
Mosiah 8:34-37	Led, crucified, slain, dies, as Jesus's will is submissive to God's will
-	God raises Jesus up
-	God breaks bands of death, has victory over death
-	God gives Christ power to make intercession for us
-	Jesus ascends to heaven
-	Jesus having bowels of mercy
-	Jesus being filled with compassion towards men
-	Jesus standing between men and justice
-	Jesus has this right because he:
	1) Took upon him all their sins
	2) Redeemed them from eternal death
	3) Satisfied all demands of justice

Rev. 1:17,18	Christ has keys to death and hell
II Nephi 6:25-29	Hell and death must deliver up their dead
I Cor. 15:22 and Romans 5:18,19	For as in Adam all die; so in Christ all will be made alive
I Cor. 12:13	Baptism/Total identity with Jesus Christ All baptized by one Spirit into one body and we were all given one Spirit to drink
I Cor. 15:22	In Christ all will be made alive
II Peter 1:4	A partaker of the divine nature
II Cor. 5:17	Therefore, if anyone is in Christ his is a new creature: the old is gone, the new has come--- and receiveth all the things of God - Being a new creation, <u>does not refer to behavior, but to your identity</u>
Galatians 2:20	(Paul --- new creation) I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.
II Cor. 5:21	God made Jesus (who had no sins) to be sin for us-- so <u>that in him we might be the righteousness of God.</u>
II Cor. 5:15	Should not live unto ourselves but unto him who died for them and rose again-- Christ
Romans 5:14	Death reigned from Adam to Moses
-	Through the offense, death reigned over all
V 15	The offense is not like the free gift- the gift aboundeth (grace of God)
V 17	We are given grace and the gift of righteousness for the purpose of the gifts to reign supreme in life by Jesus Christ
V 20	The law entered that the offense may abound- where sin abounded, grace did much more abound
Romans 7:19-27	Paul's explanation of choosing to be lead by spirit and not will of flesh into sin - he could perform good only in Christ - when under law could do no good - delights in God after the inward man - he sees another law- even of commandment- imprinted in his mind (a higher law- Gal. 6:2, law of Christ- James 1:25, law of liberty)



- to live by a higher law, not by law of sin and death, but to receive Christ is to live and accept the free gift of God

John 6:28,29      To do work of God is this: To believe in the one He has sent (Jesus)

I Cor. 1:30      By faith and faith alone man receives gift of righteousness in Christ

- Christ has become our righteousness, holiness, redemption

(Refer to Ephes. 1:4-6)

Ephes. 2:8,9      You have been saved by grace through faith

- not of ourselves, it is a gift of God



## EMBRACE THE CROSS

I am crucified with Christ,  
therefore I no longer live,  
Jesus Christ now lives in me.  
(Repeat 3 times)

Embrace the cross  
where Jesus suffered,  
though it will cost  
all you claim as yours.

Your sacrifice will seem small  
beside the treasure;  
eternity can't measure  
what Jesus holds in store.

Embrace the love  
the cross requires  
cling to the One  
whose heart knew every pain.

Receive from Jesus  
fountains of compassion.  
Only He can fashion  
Your heart to move as His.

O wondrous cross  
our desires rest in you

O Lord Jesus, make us bolder  
to face with courage

the shame and disgrace  
you bore upon your shoulders.

Embrace the life  
that comes from dying  
come trace the steps  
the savior walked for you.

An empty tomb  
concludes Golgatha's sorrow  
Endure, then, till tomorrow  
your cross of suffering

Embrace the cross,  
embrace the cross,

the cross of Jesus.

## COME AND SEE

To all who are tortured and ravaged by sin:  
the frail and the wounded about to give in,  
there's news of release and captivity's end.  
We've been set free! Come and see.

O sleeper, awake! Come out of the night,  
throw open the doors and step into the light,  
for sin is undone and the wrong is made right.  
We've been set free. Come and see!

### REFRAIN:

Come and see!  
The power of sin has been broken  
The gates of your prison stand open,  
We've been set free.  
Come and see! Arise! Believe!  
For the power at work both to rescue and save  
is the power that raised  
Jesus Christ from the grave.  
We been set free. Come and see!

I too, lived in slavery, unmercifully bound.  
Battered and broken, I finally knelt down,  
and there in obedience freedom was found.  
I've been set free!

And now through the dungeons of darkness and night

I run in the freedom of liberty's light  
and shout to the captives, "O prisoner, take flight

We've been set free. Come and see!

### (Refrain)

If the enemy's holding a knife to your chest,  
demanding you give up or die,  
in Christ crucified you've already died,  
and now you are free!  
Come and see!

The power of sin has been broken.  
The gates of your prison stand open.  
Come and see. Arise! Believe!  
For the power at work both to rescue and save  
Is the power that raised Jesus Christ from the grave

We've been set free!  
Come and see!



## WORKS

- Eph. 2:10 Created in Christ unto good works- ordained that we should walk in them.
- Mos. 3:21 Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in good works, so Christ will seal you His.
- John 15:5 He that abideth in me; and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, **WITHOUT ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.**
- John 3:22 He who obeyeth the truth; the works which he doeth they are of God
- Alma 3:68 If a man bringeth forth good works, he harkeneth unto the voice of the good shepherd; and he doth follow Him.
- D&C 22:23b no end to works, neither my words, for this is my work and and my glory, to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man.
- John 10:37,38 (Jesus speaking) "If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not..."
- D&C 83:11a **In my name**, thou shall do many wonderful works - Signs shall follow them that believe  
(Whose works are they?)
- John 6:28,29 What must we do to do the works of God?  
Jesus speaks- this is the work of God - that you believe on Him who He hath sent.
- Matt. 7:30-33 come before Jesus for judgement according to works:  
- List of works performed:  
- You never knew me, depart from me - you that work iniquity  
- Only those that do well of the Father enter the Kingdom of Heaven
- Romans 3:27 Boasting? (Lord, Lord, look what we've done)
- Romans 3:28 Man is justified by faith alone, without the deeds of the law.
- II Nephi 7:42 And remember that after you have been reconciled unto God, that it is only in and through the grace of God, that ye are saved.



UNDERSTANDING THE COMPASSION  
OF CHRIST

Psalms 103:ALL ...Forget not all his benefits

- forgiveth all thine iniquities
- healeth all thy diseases
- redeemeth thy life from destruction
- crowneth with loving kindness of mercies
- hath not dealt with us after our sins
- our transgressions are moved from us
- He knoweth our frame -- dust

II Nephi 6:53 And where there is no condemnation, the mercies of the Holy One of Israel have claim on them, because of the atonement: For they are delivered by the power of Him.

II Nephi 1:73 no flesh can dwell in the presence of God, save it be through the merits, and mercy, and grace of the Holy Messiah.

Jacob 3:15 ... He counseleth in wisdom, and in justice, and in great mercy, over all his works.

Mosiah 13:27 ... the Lord worketh with His Power in all cases among the children of men, extending the arm of mercy towards, them that put their trust in Him.

Alma 14:127 ... God is mindful of every people, in whatso ever land they may be in; ye, he remembered his people, and his bowels of mercy are over all the earth.

Alma 3:57 ... he sendeth an invitation to all man; for the arms of mercy are extended towards them, and he saith repent, and I WILL RECEIVE YOU.

Jacob 4:8 ... cleave unto God as he cleaveth unto you

Alma 3:21 Jesus took upon Him the pains and sicknesses of His people, and also death SO HE MAY LOOSE THE BANDS OF DEATH which bind his people.

V.22 Jesus took our infirmities so his bowels can be filled with mercy according to the flesh, so He may know according to the flesh, how to succor his people.

V.23 God suffereth according to the flesh, so he could take upon him the sins of His people and blot out their transgressions, according to the power of his deliverance.

Mercy, Justice, Judgement

Universal law of life:

Alma 19:79&80 that which you do send out, shall return unto you  
again

Alma 15:55 For I know that He granteth unto men according to their  
desire, whether it be unto death or unto life

Applies to mercy, justice, and judgement

See Verse 77-78 (Works)

See D&C 85:8-10

See Alma 16:216,217 >

- intent of Christ's sacrifice > to bring about (birth the inner power of) mercy.
- because mercy is more powerful than justice and allows man divine justification to have faith unto Repentance.
- Mercy can satisfy the demands of justice
- Cry unto Him that He would have mercy in you.

Alma 19:14 Mercy claims the Repentant

Alma 9:55 Whoso ever repents without a hard heart, shall have claim  
on mercy unto the remission of sins, and enter into His  
rest.

Alma 16:135 He who repents, finds mercy.

See Alma 19:81-106-  
Great Example  
V. 113 & 114-

Romans 15:17 Receive (accept) ye one another, as Christ has also  
received us -- to the glory of God

Ephes. 4:32 Be kind, tender-hearted, forgiving, even as God has  
been to you

Ephes. 5:1,2 Walk in love, as Christ loves you  
V.14 Awake and arise from the dead (unbelieving) and Christ  
shall give you light

III N. 8:5-7 Jesus --- filled with compassion  
- healed sick  
- blessed children  
- establishes total identity (baptism)  
- describes the Relationship of Oneness

III N. 8:51-7 Commands the multitude to let His witness be their  
pattern -- feel and see or be lead into temptation



## **IN THE GARDEN**

(Window in Time #1)

### Key Scriptures:

**James 1:17** – “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, in whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning”

- God is trustworthy & dependable, because He does not change from His word

**Hebrews 13: 8** – “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.”

- Christ is trustworthy & dependable, and worthy of our dependency on Him

**Genesis 1:19-22** – “God commands... eat of every tree except of the tree of knowledge of good and evil... God forbids that... if you eat of it, in that day you will die.”

- A Spiritual death (or separation from God)
- Sin breaks good relationships with God, and others in everyday life

## **FALL OF MAN**

(Window in Time #2)

### Key Scriptures:

**Romans 6:23** – “Wages of sin is death”

**Mosiah 8:74-77** – “... Thus all mankind were lost; and, behold, they would have been endlessly lost were it not that God redeemed his people from their lost and fallen state...”

- Adam and Eve sinned against God's command – their sin affects and infects ALL people (all are fallen from God's presence; all of us need to be redeemed of our sin; God has a plan for us to come back into His presence)
- We are all sinners, needing a Savior – Jesus Christ: True or False?
- What kind of God and Father would do this? – Answer: A Loving Father – who in your life loves you like God does? Mom, Dad grandmother, grandfather? How does their love affect you in everyday life?
- God's love can heal any sin, if we choose to follow His plan:

**Question:** What do you think it is? What is His plan for healing a sinful nature?

**Answer:** Repent, believe in Christ, be baptized in Christ, receive His Holy Spirit to guide you.

## **MERIDIAN OF TIME**

(Window in Time #3)

### Key Scriptures:

**John 1:29** – “... Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world.”

## MERIDIAN OF TIME (Window in Time #3) - continued

- Jesus paid for your sins by dying for you, so you can live in God's presence again – What does this mean to you? And why?

**Hebrews 7:26** – "...for He (Jesus) knows no sins, 'except' for the sins of the people. And this He did once, when He offered (used His own agency and love) up Himself." (to sacrifice His life on Earth for each of us)

- **Useful Thought:** Christ chose to give up His earthly life, so He could live in us, and by living in us, He can live His earthly life through us in our lives (the lives we live are not our own, but Christ's because of His sacrifice)

**Question:** Can you see Christ living out His life in the lives of His covenant people? Give examples.

## AFTER CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

(Window in Time #4)

Key Scriptures:

**REMEMBER – Romans 6:23** – "The wages of sin is death."

**Refer to Mosiah 8:35-37**

Verse 35 – God breaks bands of death...

- gains victory over death
- Christ filled with compassion for us
- Christ has power to intercede for us
- Christ stands between us and the Justice of God (Christ is our defender, IF we repent of our sins), and fulfills every requirement of Justice. (If we choose not to repent, we are left to all the laws of the Justice of God)

**Refer to Alma 16:216 & 217**

- Mercy of God can satisfy all the demands of Justice, ONLY IF we choose to repent of our sin & turn away from sin

**Refer to Alma 19: 103-106**

- God's mercy must satisfy justice for us to enjoy a life with Christ. A repentant heart (Mercy claims the penitent) is to God's mercy like electricity is to a light bulb.

**Question:** What can this mean to you?

**Collosians 1:26 & 27** – "Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is Christ in you, the hope of glory; to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory;"

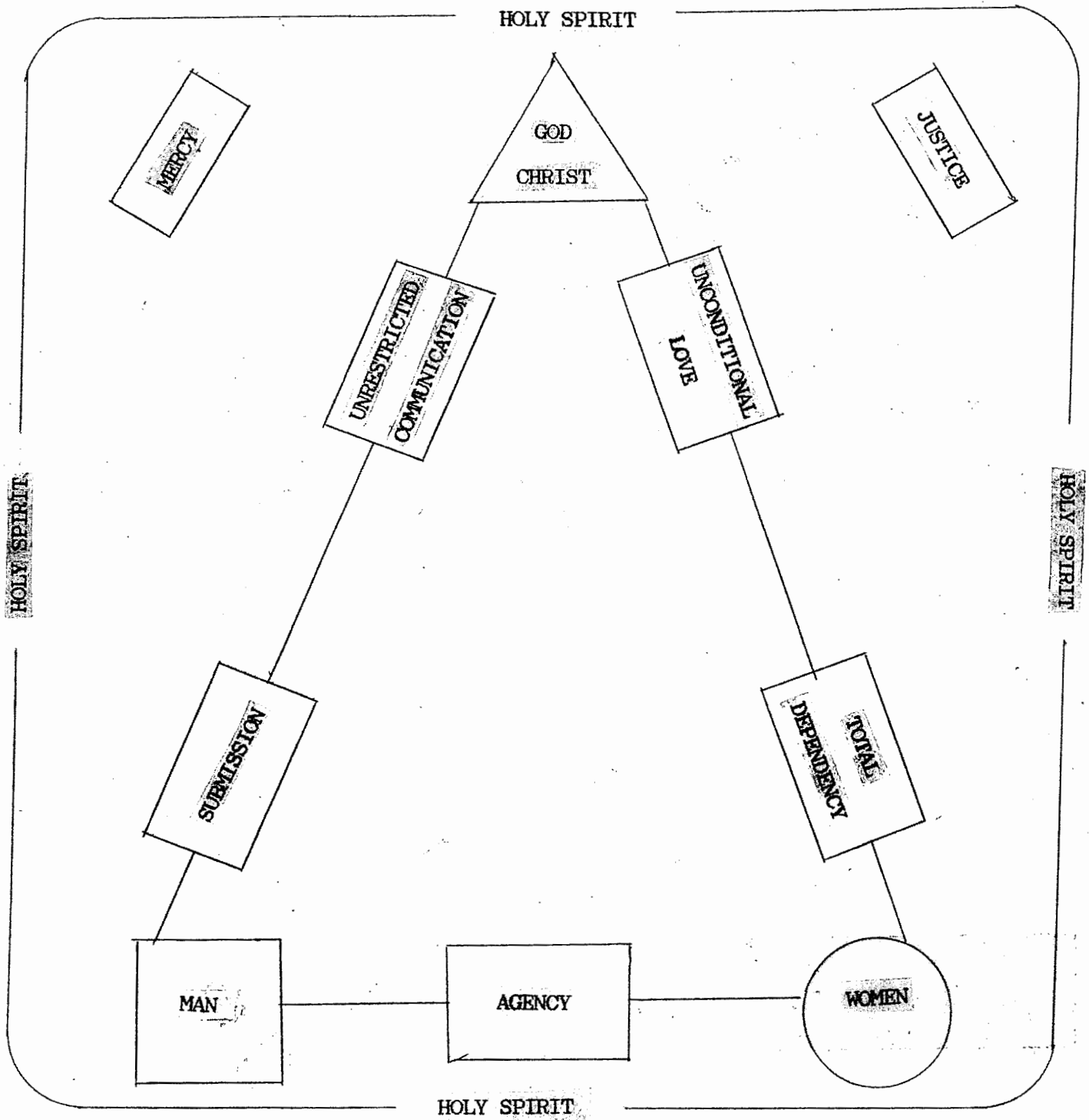
- Mystery of the Gentiles is Christ living in them – the hope of glory or awesomeness of relationship with Christ

**Question:** How can Christ living in and through you change your life for good?

**Question:** How would other people see Christ in you?

IN THE GARDEN

1



Gen. 2:10  
2:19  
2:20

Gen. 2:21  
2:22



## Section 1 - In the Garden

[James 1:17] Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

[Mor 8:19] For I know that God is not a partial God, neither a changeable being; but he is unchangeable from all eternity to all eternity.

[Eccl 3:14] I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever; nothing can be put to it, nor anything taken from it; and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.

[Heb 13:8] Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

[3 Ne 5:11] And it came to pass that he stretched forth his hand, and spake unto the people, saying, Behold I am Jesus Christ, of whom the prophets testified should come into the world:

[3 Ne 5:12] And behold I am the light and the life of the world, and I have drunk out of that bitter cup which the Father hath given me, and have glorified the Father in taking upon me the sins of the world, in the which I have suffered the will of the Father in all things, from the beginning.

[Rev 3:20] Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

[Psa 89:14] Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne; mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

[Hosea 14:9] Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them; but the transgressors shall fall therein.

[Gen 7:37] And thy curtains are stretched out still, and thou art there, and thy bosom is there; and also, thou art just, thou art merciful and kind forever;

[Deu 7:9] Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

[1 Chr 16:34] O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever.

[Gen 1:27] And I, God, said unto mine Only Begotten, which was with me from the beginning, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and it was so.

[Gen 1:28] And I, God, said, Let them have dominion over the fishes of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

[Gen 1:29] And I, God, created man in mine own image, in the image of mine Only Begotten created I him; male and female created I them.

[Gen 2:10] And I, the Lord God, planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there I put the man whom I had formed.

[Gen 2:11] And out of the ground, made I, the Lord God, to grow every tree naturally, that is pleasant to the sight of man, and man could behold it, and it became also a living soul; for it was spiritual in the day that I created it; for it remaineth in the sphere in which I, God, created it; yea, even all things which I prepared for the use of man; and man saw that it was good for food.

[Gen 2:12] And I, the Lord God, planted the tree of life also, in the midst of the garden; and also the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

[Gen 2:19] And I, the Lord God, commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat;

[Gen 2:20] But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it;

[Gen 2:21] Nevertheless, thou mayest choose for thyself, for it is given unto thee; but remember that I forbid it;

[Gen 2:22] For in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

[Gen 2:27] And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but as for Adam, there was not found an help meet for him.

[Gen 2:28] And I, the Lord God, caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept, and I took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in the stead thereof; and the rib, which I, the Lord God had taken from man, made I a woman, and brought her unto the man.

[Gen 2:29] And Adam said, This I know now is bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man.

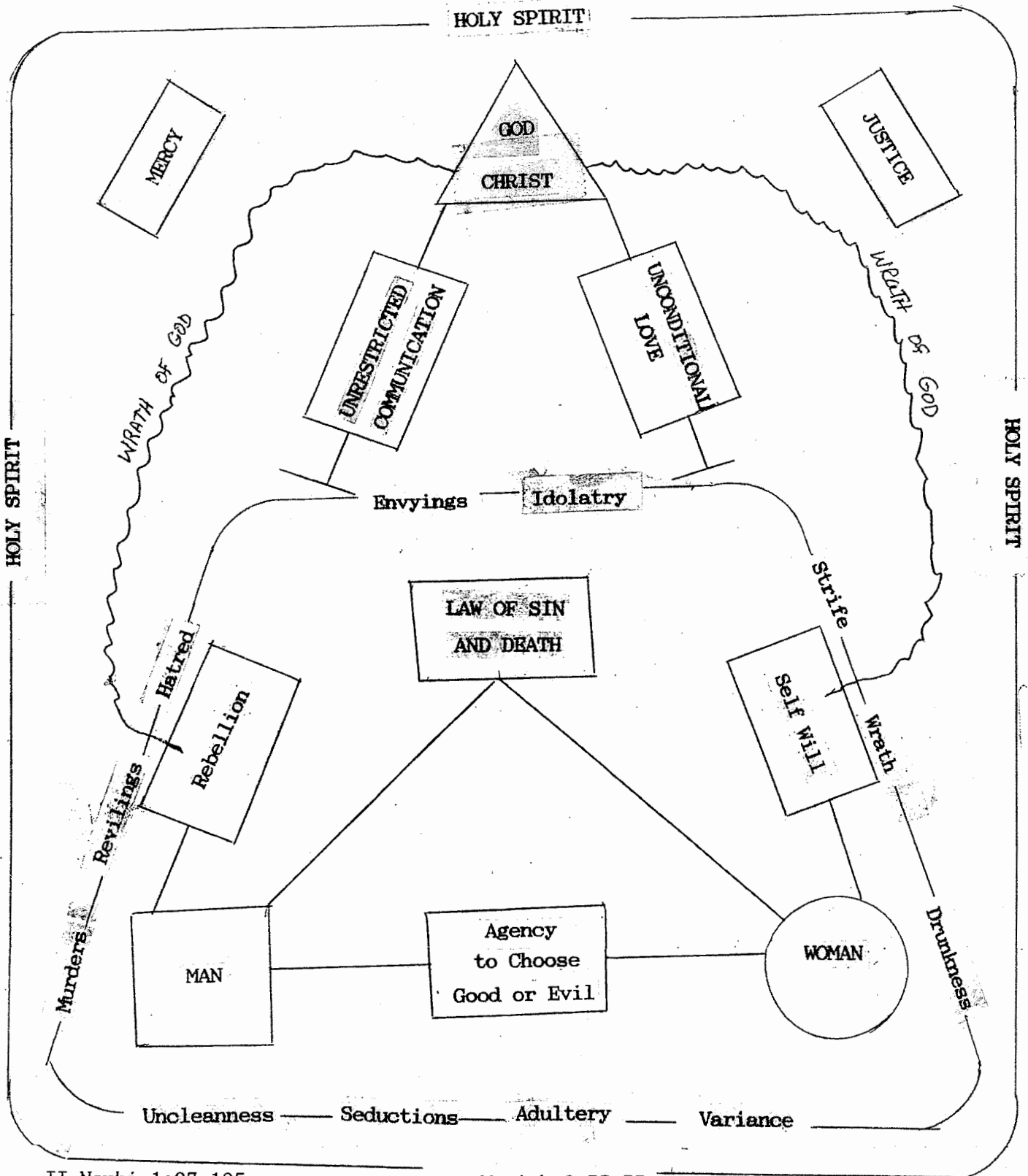
[Gen 2:30] Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one flesh.

[Gen 2:31] And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.





## FALL OF MAN



II Nephi 1:97-105  
 < Gen. 4:4  
 II Nephi 6:14  
 Rom. 6:22

Mosiah 8:75-77  
 Galations 5:19-21  
 Ezekiel 36:26-38  
 Alma 19:88-96



## Section 2 - The Fall

[Gen 3:9] And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which thou beholdest in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

[Gen 3:10] And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know, that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

[Gen 3:11] And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it became pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make her wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat; and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat.

[Gen 3:12] And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they had been naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

[1 Ne 1:97] And after the angel had departed, Laman and Lemuel again began to murmur, saying, How is it possible that the Lord will deliver Laban into our hands?

[1 Ne 1:98] Behold he is a mighty man, and he can command fifty, yea, even he can slay fifty; then why not us?

[1 Ne 1:99] And it came to pass that I spake unto my brethren, saying, Let us go up again unto Jerusalem, and let us be faithful in keeping the commandments of the Lord; for behold he is mightier than all the earth, then why not mightier than Laban and his fifty, yea, or even than his tens of thousands.

[1 Ne 1:100] Therefore let us go up; let us be strong like unto Moses; for he truly spake unto the waters of the Red Sea, and they divided hither and thither, and our fathers came through out of captivity on dry ground, and the armies of Pharaoh did follow and were drowned in the waters of the Red Sea.

[1 Ne 1:105] And after they had hid themselves, I, Nephi, crept into the city, and went forth towards the house of Laban.

[1 Ne 1:106] And I was led by the Spirit, not knowing beforehand the things which I should do.

[Rom 6:23] For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Mos 8:74] Yea, even that old serpent that did beguile our first parents, which was the cause of their fall;

[Mos 8:75] Which was the cause of all mankind becoming carnal, sensual, devilish, knowing evil from good, subjecting themselves to the devil.

[Mos 8:76] Thus all mankind were lost; and behold, they would have been endlessly lost, were it not that God redeemed his people from their lost and fallen state.

[Mos 8:77] But remember, that he that persists in his own carnal nature, and goes on in the ways of sin and rebellion against God, remaineth in his fallen state, and the devil hath all power over him.

[Mos 8:76] Thus all mankind were lost; and behold, they would have been endlessly lost, were it not that God redeemed his people from their lost and fallen state.

[Alma 19:88] And now we see by this, that our first parents were cut off, both temporally and spiritually, from the presence of the Lord; and thus we see they became subjects to follow after their own will.

[Gal 5:19] Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these, Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

[Gal 5:20] Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

[Gal 5:21] Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

[Alma 19:96] And thus we see that all mankind were fallen, and they were in the grasp of justice; yea, the justice of God, which consigned them for ever to be cut off from his presence.

[Alma 19:93] And now there was no means to reclaim men from this fallen state which man had brought upon himself, because of his own disobedience;

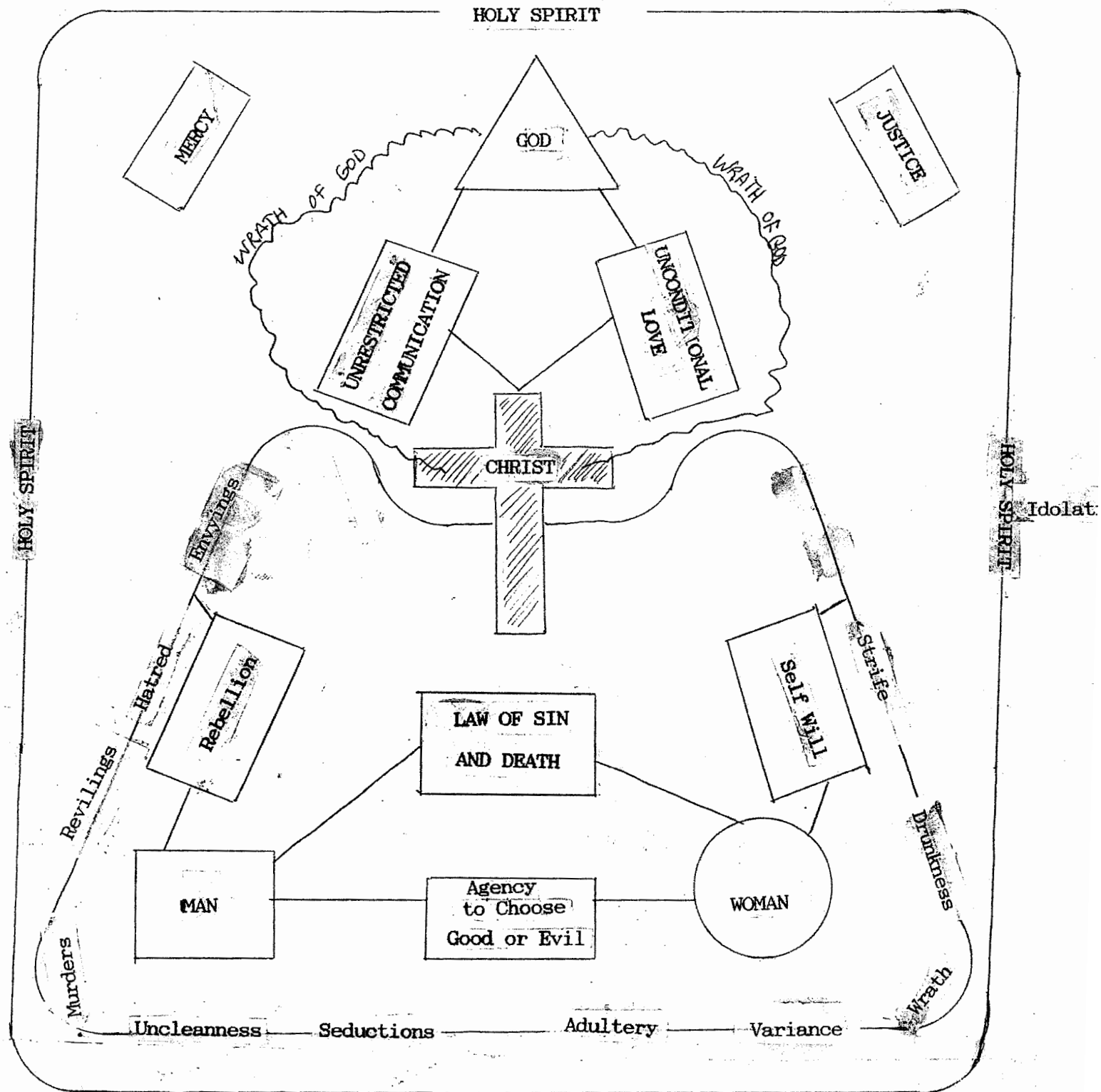
[Alma 19:97] And now the plan of mercy could not be brought about, except an atonement should be made; therefore God himself atoneth for the sins of the world, to bring about the plan of mercy, to appease the demands of justice, that God might be a perfect, just God, and a merciful God also.

[Alma 19:104] But there is a law given and a punishment affixed, and repentance granted; which repentance, mercy claimeth: otherwise, justice claimeth the creature, and executeth the law, and the law inflicteth the punishment; if not so, the works of justice would be destroyed, and God would cease to be God.

[Alma 19:105] But God ceaseth not to be God, and mercy claimeth the penitent, and mercy cometh because of the atonement; and the atonement bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead: and the resurrection of the dead bringeth back men into the presence of God;

[Alma 19:106] And thus they are restored into his presence; to be judged according to their works; according to the law and justice; for behold, justice exerciseth all his demands, and also mercy claimeth all which is her own; and thus, none but the truly penitent are saved.





John 3:16  
 " 16:8-11  
 I John 3:8,9  
 John 15:22  
 Alma 19:94-97

John 1:29  
 Heb. 9:26  
 Col. 2:13,14  
 II Nephi 6:46  
 Isaiah 53:6

I John 4:10  
 Mosiah 8:26  
 Heb. 7:26  
 Alma 16:208-210  
 Mosiah 8:84





### **Section 3 - In the Meridian of Time**

[John 3:16] For God so loved the world, that he gave his Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish; but have everlasting life.

[John 1:29] The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and said; Behold the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world!

[Heb 9:26] For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world; but now once in the meridian of time hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

[Heb 10:12] But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God;

[Luke 4:18] The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and the recovering of sight to the blind; to set at liberty them that are bruised;

[Isa 53:5] But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

[Isa 53:6] All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

[2 Ne 6:46] For behold, he suffereth the pains of all men: yea, the pains of every living creature, both men, women and children, who belong to the family of Adam.

[Heb 7:26] And not as those high priests who offered up sacrifice daily, first for their own sins, and then for the sins of the people; for he needeth not offer sacrifice for his own sins, for he knew no sins; but for the sins of the people. And this he did once, when he offered up himself.

[1 John 4:10] Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins.

[Mos 8:25] Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief; when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

[Mos 8:26] He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

[1 John 3:8] He that continueth in sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

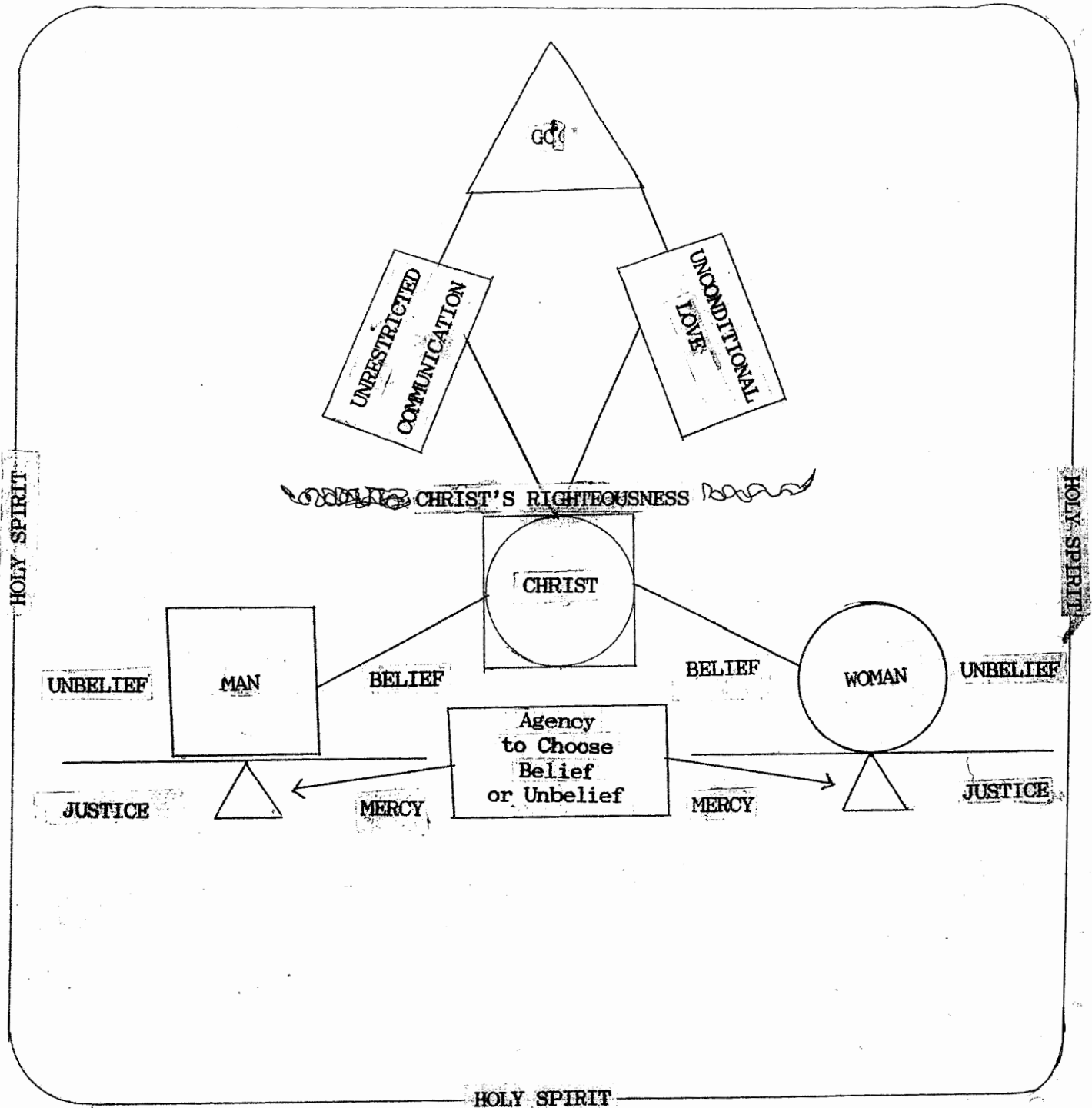
[1 John 3:9] Whosoever is born of God doth not continue in sin; for the Spirit of God remaineth in him; and he cannot continue in sin, because he is born of God, having received that holy Spirit of promise.

[Col 3:13] Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any; even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

[Col 3:14] And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

[Col 3:15] And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

## AFTER CHRIST'S RESURRECTION



I Timothy 2:15

Mosiah 8:37

Romans 5:19

Romans 8:5,8,13,17,22

Romans 8:10,15,17

John 17:20,21

I Cor. 12:13

II Cor. 5:17

I Peter 3:22

" 4:1,2

II Peter 1:3,4

" 1:5-8

II Peter 1:9

Ephesians 1:7,10,11

John 3:18

Section 83:8



## Section 4 - The Resurrection of Christ

[Mos 8:34] Yea, even so he shall be led, crucified and slain, the flesh becoming subject even unto death, the will of the Son being swallowed up in the will of the Father;

[Mos 8:35] And thus God breaketh the bands of death; having gained the victory over death; giving the Son power to make intercession for the children of men:

[Mos 8:34] Yea, even so he shall be led, crucified and slain, the flesh becoming subject even unto death, the will of the Son being swallowed up in the will of the Father;

[Mos 8:35] And thus God breaketh the bands of death; having gained the victory over death; giving the Son power to make intercession for the children of men:

[Rev 1:17] And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last;

[Rev 1:18] I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

[Mos 8:36] Having ascended into heaven; having the bowels of mercy; being filled with compassion toward the children of men;

[Mos 8:37] Standing betwixt them and justice; having broken the bands of death, taken upon himself their iniquity and their transgressions; having redeemed them, and satisfied the demands of justice.

[Rom 8:12] Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

[2 Cor 5:17] Therefore if any man live in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new,

[2 Cor 5:18] And receiveth all the things of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

[2 Cor 5:19] To wit, that God is in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

[2 Cor 5:20] Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

[2 Cor 5:21] For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

[2 Pet 1:3] According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue;

[2 Pet 1:4] Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

[John 17:20] Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

[John 17:21] That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

[John 17:22] And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one;

[John 17:23] I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

[Mor 7:53] Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love which he hath bestowed upon all who are true followers of his Son Jesus Christ, that ye

may become the sons of God, that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is, that we may have this hope, that we may be purified even as he is pure. Amen.

[Rom 8:38] For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

[Rom 8:39] Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[Phil 1:6] Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ;





## CO-USERS OF GOD'S CREATIVE POWERS

Ephes. 1:3	We are blessed with all spiritual blessings
V 4	chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world
-	we to be holy and blameless in love
V 5	proclaimed us into adoption by Jesus Christ
V 6	we are accepted by God
V 7	we have redemption through Christ's blood by grace
V 11	we have an inheritance
Mosiah 3:8	King Benjamin (124 BC)
	because of covenant you are called Children of Christ, sons and daughters
V 9	God accepts us; you are born of Him; your heart is changed through faith on name of Jesus
V 10	you are free --- no other way to be truly free
V 12	called by the name of Christ
Genesis 6:27-34	God called to Enoch to be His servant
V 36	God's promise to become co-users of His creative powers
-	all thy words will I justify
-	power over the physical earth
-	power and acceptance to walk and abide in God
V 37,38	Enoch obeys --- eyes opened to see beyond physical sight, also spirits God had made
V 41	Physically protected by God ( see also Ch.7:15-20)
-	Weapons were power of God's true word
Ether 1:91	Brother of Jared (2000 BC)
	God's call and promises to Brother of Jared (if he would believe <u>in Him</u> ) Nothing could be withheld from him
V 85	Brother of Jared did not doubt --- no veil between him and God; saw Jesus
V 100,101	God's promise to gentiles to become sanctified in Christ as Brother of Jared
-	unfolding of all His revelations and all things
V 109	God promise to show gentiles greater things --- Knowledge hid up because of unbelief
V 115	signs shall follow them that believe
III Nephi 13:17	Three Nephites (35 AD)
	Christ discerns their desires; same as John in Bible
V 18,19	God's promise to the three disciples --- never taste of death-live to see all God's actions toward children of men-until all God's doings are fulfilled-will be changed in twinkling of a moment from mortality into immortality-then blessed in God's Kingdom

- ...
- V 21 They shall have fullness of joy  
 V 22 They are to be one with Christ as Christ is one  
 with God  
 V 24 Christ touched each one (sealed them His)

RESULTS OF A RELATIONSHIP WITHOUT DOUBT:

- V 51 Bodies changed  
 - No suffering of pain nor sorrow (except for the  
 sins of the world)  
 - Satan had no power over them (because of no doubt)  
 - Satan could not tempt them  
 - They were sanctified in the flesh, holy  
 V 31-34 Powers of earth could not hold them  
 V 42 Like angels of God --- appear and disappear, not  
 bound by time and space  
 V 39,40 They shall minister to you and you might not even  
 know them

Romans 8:35-39 ...for I am persuaded, that neither death, nor  
 life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers,  
 nor things present, nor things to come, nor  
 height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall  
 be able to separate us from the love of God, which  
 is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## MAY WE BE ONE

Sometimes along the journey  
We can lose sight of our goals,  
And suddenly petty disagreements  
rule our souls.

How it must hurt the Father  
To see us so spiteful and small.  
Oh how we need the patience to see,  
And Jesus has love for us all.

### Chorus

May we be one, let no more walls  
divide us.  
May we be one, may the cross of  
Christ unite us,  
So the world can know the Father  
has sent His only Son,  
May we be one, May we be one.

So many truths to fight for,  
And sometimes we never agree.  
But there are so few that matter  
for eternity.

Jesus has died to save us,  
He's risen and coming again.  
And when He returns we'll all  
be made perfect,  
So let this be our aim until then.

### (Repeat Chorus)

You can draw a line that you think  
sets us apart,  
Maybe music or the way that you dress.  
But if you take the time to hear the  
Father's heart,  
Well I know that you'll see you're  
no different from me,  
'Cause every one of us needs His  
forgiveness.

### (Repeat Chorus twice)

May we be one.

## WHEN HE COMES AGAIN

And when He comes again, He comes again  
to take us home.  
And oh to know His love and grace, to  
fin'lly see His face, our King.  
No longer through a dim and clouded  
glass,  
When Jesus comes to take us home at last

And when He comes again, He comes again  
to take us home.  
In power and pure majesty all men will  
truly see He lives.  
And every knee shall bow before our King  
And oh, to praise His holy name will  
sing, when He comes again, when He  
comes again, when He comes to claim  
His own,  
When He comes to take us home.

When He comes all darkness fades away,  
From the chains we are released.  
And the glory of His holy name shall be  
so very clear to all who see.

### When He comes

And when He comes again, He comes again  
to take us home.  
Sin and death no longer reign, heaven  
now is ours to gain again.  
The weight of all our sins He gladly  
bore, so Zion would be ours to share  
once more, when He comes again, when  
He comes again, when He comes again,  
When He comes again, when He comes to  
claim His own,  
When He comes to take us home.

And when He comes again.

