

Chapter 18

The Holy Grail for Mankind Has Been Found

You will find that every essay on my website has a theme woven into it. It is simple, our mission here is to become godly in attributes, character, and the perfection of them! [Matthew 5: 48]. Every person has this potential, it is our inheritance and birthright if we seek after it! [3 Nephi 27:27].

The Character of god/God: the little “god” in my essays symbolizes where faith begins, (within us)!

Faith is the first principle of god/God. But it is a specific kind of “Faith” [Faith in godliness is the innate mystery!] it “is the first great governing principle which has power, dominion, and authority over all things... Without it, there is no power, and without power there could be no creation, nor existence!” “God became the object of faith... to search after a knowledge of his character, perfections and attributes, until [we] become extensively acquainted with him; and not only commune with him, and behold his glory, but be partakers of his power, and stand in his presence.” [Lecture 1: 34]. Having a “face to face” experience with Christ and or Father or both, is the real symbolic purpose of the temple endowment... to point us in seeking this personal experience.

“Now this Moses plainly taught to the children of Israel in the wilderness, and sought diligently to sanctify his people that they might behold the face of God; But they hardened their hearts...”

(D&C 84:23 - 24). Are we doing the same today?

God the Father and Christ is our example. We are co-eternal with God: meaning we have always existed as a spiritual being of light, truth and intelligence with Him [Abraham 3:18; D&C 93:23]. We are also co-

equal with God: meaning we are each innately endowed with all the attributes of godliness and have the potential to become as He is through these attributes [Lectures on Faith 1-7].

What is the reward in developing a character of Godliness?

“Let us her observe, that after any portion of the human family are made acquainted with the important fact that there is a God who has created all things, the extent of their knowledge, respecting his character and glory, will depend upon their diligence and faithfulness in seeking after him, until like Enoch and the brother of Jared, and Moses, they shall obtain faith in God, and power with him to behold him face to face.” [Lecture 2: 55]. Gods Character:

- 1. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.**
- 2. He is merciful and gracious** as we must become. “Mercy” is the spiritual attribute of repentance and forgiveness.
- 3. He is a being of truth** and cannot lie, as we must become.
- 4. He is no respecter of persons** but in every nation, who loves and becomes a manifestation of these attributes in thought, word and deed is accepted of Him and becomes “One” with Him.
- 5. He is a God of perfect love.**

What is the reward in developing the character and attributes of Godliness?

“It is scarcely necessary here to observe what we have previously noticed: That the glory which the Father and the Son have, is because they are just and holy beings; **and that if they were lacking in one attribute or perfection which they have, the glory which they have, never**

could be enjoyed by them; for it requires them to be precisely what they are in order to enjoy it: and if the Savior gives this glory to any others, he must do it in the very way set forth in his prayer to his Father: by making them one with him, as he and the Father are one” [Lecture 7:15].

The Attributes of god/God [godliness]: the little “god” symbolizing where faith begins (within us)!

1. All Knowledge (omniscient is an attribute of God); this potential is already within all beings and comes forth as we develop the attributes and character of godliness. As our understanding of the “tree of knowledge of good and evil” and of the “tree of life” are awakened within, we become aware that God has chosen the “tree of life,” as we should. He knows these trees are a symbol of our potential to choose one or the other and we cannot serve both or two masters [Matthew 6:24], if we do, we are deceiving ourselves.

2. Faith is action and power and is the next attribute of God and godliness. God’s faith is in the tree of life. By partaking only from the fruit of the tree of life, he became sanctified and was and is able to create and organize worlds. This is the same path we can follow to become like Him, it is the path of sanctification.

3. Mercy and Justice are attributes of God, they are innate to Him and to all, therefore it is our potential to embrace them, to immerse ourselves into them, if we are to become like Him. Mercy is the principle of repentance and forgiveness working in our lives. Justice is the reward of our choices, bringing purification, sanctification and at-one-ment to our body temple, made without hands, the only true and living temple on

earth or in heaven [2 Corinthians 6: 16-18]. And the Lord has said to ancient and modern Israel: “Sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy” [Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2].

“For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

(New Testament | 2 Corinthians 6:16 - 18)

4. Truth is the next attribute of God. God does not lie. Christ said: “Know the truth and the truth shall make you free” [John 8: 31-32]! Truth is honesty and moral virtue; it is the same yesterday, today and forever, taught early on in the restoration [Feb & March 1931 / D&C 42:22-26 and D&C 49: 15-17] it is God’s moral compass for every dispensation of the honest in heart. God has embraced and became this Truth as we must also if we are to become like Him. This is our inheritance. Christ said in his pray to his Father: **“Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth”** [John 17:17]. We are sanctified through these divine attributes if we remain honest and loyal and faithful to them.

“There are but a very few beings in the world who understand rightly the character of God. The great majority of mankind do not comprehend anything, either that which is past, or that which is to come, as it respects their relationship to God. They do not know, neither do they understand the nature of that relationship; and consequently, they know but little above the brute beast, or more than to eat, drink and sleep. This is all man knows about God and His existence, unless it is given by the inspiration of the Almighty...

“If a man learns nothing more than to eat, drink and sleep, and does not comprehend any of the designs of God, the beast comprehends the same things. It eats, drinks, sleeps, and knows nothing more about God; yet it knows as much as we, unless we are able to comprehend by the inspiration of Almighty God. ***If men do not comprehend the character of God, they do not comprehend themselves.***” [The words of the Prophet Joseph Smith, The King Follett Sermon]

April Ensign

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/1971/04/the-king-follett-sermon?lang=eng>

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“Ye are therefore commanded perfect, even as your Father who is in heaven is perfect.” [Inspired KJ Version Matthew 5:50].

(New Testament | Matthew 5:48). Christ is not talking about some future day to be perfect... He is talking about right now, this moment! But the emphasis is in the verses before Matthew 5: 48 ... the key to purification and sanctification is in verses 43*- 46* of Matthew 5.

“Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?”

(New Testament | Matthew 5:43 - 46)

Christ speaking: “Therefore, what manner of men ought ye to be? Verily I say unto you, even as I am.” (Book of Mormon | 3 Nephi 27:27).

Sanctification and perfection come only through the character and attributes of godliness, and all are endowed with this potential, it is our inheritance and mortal birthright no matter who we are! This is the Holy Grail for all mankind, it is simple and easy if you believe and become a manifestation of it!

This essay is for informational purposes only and is the opinion of the author.

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