

I AM the Temple of the Living God ⁱ

“Made without hands!” ⁱⁱ

This essay is a paradigm shift in thinking that will enable the initiate to progress to his or her full potential and walk on water, heal the sick, the crippled, the deaf, the dumb, the blind, and the afflicted; do all that Christ did and more. ⁱⁱⁱ

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, *He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do;* because I go unto my Father.”

(New Testament | John 14:12)

The focus of this scripture for this essay is on the words, “*He that believeth on me,*” ^{iv} which to be interpreted means “*Christ in you.*” Unravel that mystery ^v and you will be a little closer to understanding what to think and become inwardly, for our thoughts proceed with our actions.

Of course, part of the meaning of “*He that believeth on me*” and “*Christ in you,*” can be found in understanding the practice of sacrificing all of our fallen and carnal nature! That would be a noble path to follow. We call that path repentance and forgiveness! It may take a lifetime for some and for others beyond the veil to remove all the weeds [false beliefs and the lusts of the flesh] that have grown and flourished in our personal garden of delights, but it is possible, it is doable and the quickest way is NOT through “sacrifice” but in “obedience” ^{vi} to the higher law of agape love, ^{vii} which is “unconditional love” for ourselves and others, being no respecter of persons [without judgment of others], and showing that same unconditional love to all without prejudice. When one begins this journey the false beliefs we have been indoctrinated in and the lusts of the flesh will automatically begin to fall away as we make room for “unconditional love” to fill every cell and atom of our mind and heart.

If you don’t understand unconditional love, that is ok, we are here to learn and apply. To visualize “*Christ in you*” is to believe in the power of your potential in becoming as He is! This is essential in becoming like Him. After all, he did say to be perfect, and perfection starts with our thoughts and then our actions follow when we learn to truly love unconditionally:

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

44 But I say unto you, Love [unconditional 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?

47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others*? do not even the publicans so?

48 ***Be ye therefore perfect***, [in unconditional love] even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect [in unconditional love].”

(New Testament | Matthew 5:43 - 48)

We can become perfect in unconditional love, and that is doable here and now, not tomorrow or next year but now! “Plant the seed!”^{viii} Try the experiment! This is the higher law, the true “spirit of the law” that can be lived by anyone in any race, religion, and daily walk if we so choose it! It is pure and undefiled religion,^{ix} it is living ***in*** the higher law of ***unconditional love*** [which is to love without ridiculing judgment] which means to be aware of our own and other’s “conditional” journey of salvation that we all sometimes get caught up in and must learn to let go of that kind of thinking so we don’t condemn or damn ourselves in the process. If we learn to experiment [practice] and really live in unconditional love without ridiculing judgment, this will spiritually bloom into other divine attributes of, ***unconditional honesty***, ***unconditional virtue/morality*** God’s morality, [not man’s twisted view LGBTQ], ***unconditional patience***, ***unconditional mercy***, ***unconditional justice***, ***unconditional peace, joy, and gratitude*** to all and with all. This is the true nature and character of ***“Christ in you.”*** ***This is entering into the “true temple” of the living God and the only temple “made without hands,” where the Father is found in its fullness.***

This essay is created to help open our minds to the Spiritual Perspective of the Restoration through the Prophet Joseph Smith,^x the Spiritual Restoration of the Gospel of Christ^{xi} means: that the Spiritual Restoration is going on right now and has been since the days of Adam and Eve, gathering those of all denominations, races, and peoples who are truly ***“born again”***^{xii} or ***“born of God”***^{xiii} in holiness

of character, for Father and Christ is no respecter of persons.^{xiv} Now, this has been going on forever and will continue into eternity, because the principles are eternally innate to each of us! To become a member of the spiritual restoration is to follow the unconditional love narrative found in the scriptures, with some presented in this essay. By so doing you will spiritually become part of **the Church of the Firstborn**,^{xv} also known as **the Church of the Lamb of God**^{xvi} as described in the scriptures, and revealed to those who become “one”^{xvii} with the Father and Christ. Never forget who you really are, a “temple of the living God,” “made without hands!”

ⁱ “And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? **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)

ⁱⁱ “**For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead** bodily. [and so it is with each of us, it is called our potential]

10 **And ye are complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power:

11 In whom also ye are circumcised with **the circumcision made without hands**, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

12 Buried with him in baptism, [this is our birth in the watery womb] wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

16 **Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:**

17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body *is* of Christ.

18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

20 **Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,**

[that] 21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not;

22 **Which all are to perish with the using;**) after the commandments and doctrines of men?
23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.”
(New Testament | Colossians 2:9 - 23)

iii “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
(New Testament | John 14:12)

iv And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and **he that believeth on me** shall never thirst.
(New Testament | John 6:35)

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, **He that believeth on me** hath everlasting life.”
(New Testament | John 6:47)

“In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

38 **He that believeth on me**, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive:”
(New Testament | John 7:37 - 39)

“Jesus cried and said, **He that believeth on me**, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me.

45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.

46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.” (New Testament | John 12:44 - 46)

v “*Even* the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

27 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:

28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:”

(New Testament | Colossians 1:26 - 28)

vi “And Samuel said, Hath the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, **to obey is better than sacrifice**, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”

(Old Testament | 1 Samuel 15:22)

vii 1 “THOUGH I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become *as* sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2 And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.
4 Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;
6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
8 Charity never faileth: but whether *there be* prophecies, they shall fail; whether *there be* tongues, they shall cease; whether *there be* knowledge, it shall vanish away.
9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.
10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.
11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.
12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.
13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these *is* charity.”

(New Testament | 1 Corinthians 13:1 - 13)

“the Lord God hath given a commandment that all men should have charity, which charity is love. And except they should have charity they were nothing.

(Book of Mormon | 2 Nephi 26:30)

“But charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with him.

48 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.”

(Book of Mormon | Moroni 7:47 - 48)

viii “***Plant the seed*** that ye might ***try the experiment*** to know if the seed was good.

37 And behold, as the tree beginneth to grow, ye will say: Let us nourish it with great care, that it may get root, that it may grow up, and bring forth fruit unto us. And now behold, if ye nourish it with much care it will get root, and grow up, and bring forth fruit.

38 But if ye neglect the tree, and take no thought for its nourishment, behold it will not get any root; and when the heat of the sun cometh and scorcheth it, because it hath no root it withers away, and ye pluck it up and cast it out.

39 Now, this is not because the seed was not good, neither is it because the fruit thereof would not be desirable; but it is because your ground is barren, and ye will not nourish the tree, therefore ye cannot have the fruit thereof.

40 And thus, if ye will not nourish the word, looking forward with an eye of faith to the fruit thereof, ye can never pluck of the fruit of the tree of life.

41 But if ye will nourish the word, yea, nourish the tree as it beginneth to grow, by your faith with great diligence, and with patience, looking forward to the fruit thereof, it shall take root; and behold it shall be a tree springing up unto everlasting life.

42 And because of your diligence and your faith and your patience with the word in nourishing it, that it may take root in you, behold, by and by ye shall pluck the fruit thereof, which is most precious, which is sweet above all that is sweet, and which is white above all that is white, yea, and pure above all that is pure; and ye shall feast upon this fruit even until ye are filled, that ye hunger not, neither shall ye thirst.

43 Then, my brethren, ye shall reap the rewards of your faith, and your diligence, and patience, and long-suffering, waiting for the tree to bring forth fruit unto you.”

(Book of Mormon | Alma 32:36 - 43)

You are the seed and the tree and the fruit! Ponder that mystery! ***What is your daily fruit going to be?***

^x “If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion *is* vain.

27 ***Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this***, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, ***and to keep himself unspotted from the world.***”

(New Testament | James 1:26 - 27)

^x “***Who cannot see, then, that salvation is the effect of faith? for as we have previously observed, all the heavenly beings work by this principle; and it is because they are able so to do that they are saved: for nothing but this could save them.*** And this is the lesson which the God of heaven, by the mouth of all his holy prophets, has been endeavoring to teach to the world. Hence we are told, that without faith it is impossible to please God; and that salvation is of faith, that it might be by grace to the end, the promise might be sure to all the seed. [Romans 4:16](#):—And that Israel, who followed after the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. [WHY?] Wherefore? because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law; for they stumbled at that stumbling stone. [Romans 9:32](#):”

(Lectures on Faith 7: 17)

^{xi} “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.—In so doing he would give them the glory which the Father has given him; and when his disciples are made one with the Father and the Son, as the Father and the Son are one, who cannot see the propriety of the Savior's saying, The works which I do, shall they do; and greater works than these shall they do, because I go to the Father.

16 These teachings of the Savior must clearly show unto us the nature of salvation; and what he proposed unto the human family when he proposed to save them—**That he proposed to make them like unto himself; and he was like the Father, the great prototype of all saved beings: And for any portion of the human family to be assimilated into their likeness is to be saved;** and to be unlike them is to be destroyed [stopped in the journey to Father]: and on this hinge turns the door of salvation.”

(Lectures on Faith 7: 15-16)

^{xii} “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water [this is our complete immersion into the watery womb of mortal birth] and of the Spirit, [our complete immersion into the Spirit of Holiness of character] he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be **born again**.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.[It is done “without hands,” without the laying on of hands, this is symbolism if you have eyes to see and ears to hear].

9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?”

(New Testament | John 3:3 - 12)

^{xiii} “Whosoever is **born of God** doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is **born of God**.

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

11 **For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning**, that we should love one another.”

(New Testament | 1 John 3:9 - 11)

^{xiv} “Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons” (New Testament | Acts 10:34).

^{xv} 22 “But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

23 To the general assembly and **church of the firstborn**, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,”

(New Testament | Hebrews 12:22 - 23)

53 “And who overcome by faith, and are sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise, which the Father sheds forth upon all those who are just and true.

54 They are they who are **the church of the Firstborn**.

55 They are they into whose hands the Father has given all things—”

(Doctrine and Covenants | Section 76:53 - 55)

11 Q. “What are we to understand by sealing the one hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel—twelve thousand out of every tribe?

A. We are to understand that those who are sealed are high priests, ordained unto the holy order of God, to administer the everlasting gospel; for they are they who are ordained out of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, by the angels to whom is given power over the nations of the earth, to bring as many as will come to **the church of the Firstborn**.”

(Doctrine and Covenants | Section 77:11)

21 “And now, verily I say unto you, I was in the beginning with the Father, and am the Firstborn;

22 And all those who are begotten through me are partakers of the glory of the same, and are **the church of the Firstborn**.

23 Ye were also in the beginning with the Father; that which is Spirit, even the Spirit of truth;”

(Doctrine and Covenants | Section 93:21 - 23)

^{xvi} 10 “And he said unto me: Behold **there are save two churches only**; the one is **the church of the Lamb of God**, and the other is the church of the devil; wherefore, whoso belongeth not to the church of the Lamb of God belongeth to that great church, [all organized religions “made with hands”] which is the mother of abominations; and she is the whore of all the earth. [why the whore of all the earth? Because she is filled with lies and those who perpetuate the lie, deceit, and immorality of all kinds including polygamy]

11 And it came to pass that I looked and beheld the whore of all the earth, and she sat upon many waters; and she had dominion over all the earth, among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people.

12 And it came to pass that I beheld **the church of the Lamb of God**, and its numbers were few, because of the wickedness and abominations of the whore who sat upon many waters; nevertheless, I beheld that the church of the Lamb, who were the saints of God, were also upon all the face of the earth; and their dominions upon the face of the earth were small,”

(Book of Mormon | 1 Nephi 14:10 - 12)

^{xvii} 1 “THESE words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.

8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as *we are*.

12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

17 ***Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.***

18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 ***And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.***

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

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.

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

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.

24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

25 O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.

26 ***And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.***”

(New Testament | John 17:1 - 26)