

## *Invitation to Translation*

[parentheses added for clarity]

“Each individual will learn, in the upward ascent, that every negative thought and feeling becomes a weight upon his body and a drag upon his soul. Negative thoughts and feelings [or false beliefs] have power not only to retard one's progress but to stop it completely, unless overcome. Mortal thinking is mostly negative, discordant, selfish thinking. From here on the negatives must be completely understood. It is necessary to know that the negative thoughts and feelings contain all the laws of the lower realms of physical darkness. As long as an individual abides in the vibrations of negative thinking and negative feeling, [or false beliefs] he cannot possibly progress into the light or walk with power.”

I invite you all to consider translation as a viable option in mortality. A new paradigm of belief! We have all been growing up, little bit at a time (much to ponder in that thought) ...how are we growing up? With the world or with God or a mix of both?

One of the beliefs we have bought into in mortality is that we are all going to die one day (our physical body). We buy into that belief because of the evidence we see around us, therefore our mortal bodies will manifest those very beliefs of death, (in all its forms) and every cell in our body begins to deteriorate, and little by little we observe old age creeping in... are you with me? Welcome to mortality, right? Wrong!

Awe, there is another path to follow that few understand. It's not taught anymore, or is it? Enoch and his city of believers were translated and they were taught how:

**By faith** Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and [death] was not found [in the path he took], because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. [How did he please God? We will pursue that question]

But **without faith it is impossible** to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and **that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him**. [Does this sound like God would restrict one from seeking

translation? No not in the least. “God is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”]

(New Testament | Hebrews 11:5 - 6)

Before we consider the path that Enoch and his people took, I might remind you that there are others who have taken that same path and were translated... Melchizedek and his city, Moses, the three Nephites, John the Revelator and others we know not of, perhaps Moroni, Alma and surely there are some in our day.

*This essay is about learning the principles of translation and achieving the results.* It is my belief that all those who sought translation, sought for “life” in mortality and not death. Something that we have failed to see clearly; hence our understand leans toward death and the majority of people fulfill that reality within themselves. The truth about “life” or “translation” is that it leads any sincere seeker to the question: “how is it done?” The answer has always been right in front of us, but for the most part we have *not* sought to “diligently,” seek it in faith alone, but we have bought into the many paths and “beliefs” that lead to death.

Enoch learned “*by faith alone*” that translation was and is a reality. He learned that translation is not reserved for those that God chooses; but for those who choose God through faith! We all reap what we sow! (Matthew 13:18-23) That is an eternal truth. The Lord said: “I the Lord am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise” (D&C 82: 10). The promise of translation is for any who seek it diligently. It is not beholden to race or religion. The scripture informs us that “God had translated him [Enoch]” because Enoch “diligently” sought for God! To “diligently” seek for God is the “key.” What does it really mean to “seek God?”

Let me offer some suggestions that resonate with my soul. To “seek” God is to seek to *become* like Him through faith. What kind of faith is that? Did you know there are two kinds of faith? There is the passive faith that the Lord warned us about. He said:

“Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the *will* of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” The [Inspired Version of Matthew 7:32-33 says it a little differently: “**Ye never knew me**”] which puts the focus on mankind getting to “know the Lord,” not by professing his name casually but by ***becoming like Him in character, through faith alone!***

(New Testament | Matthew 7:21 - 23)

Notice, the Lord said that “he that doeth the **will** of my Father” shall enter the kingdom of heaven... This begs the question, where does **“will”** come from? Does **“will”** come from Father or Christ or organized religion and all its ordinances and ceremonies and priesthoods? NO! Does **“will”** come from the scriptures? NO! Does **“will”** come from the temple of brick and mortar? NO! **“Will” comes from only one place, and that one place is within us!** That is the secret and grand key to godhood! Organized religion, the scriptures and the temple of brick and mortar can lead us in the right direction, even the Father and Christ point us in the right direction but none of them can give us the **“will”** to transform our thinking, our lives, repent and forsake our fallen and carnal natures, unless we have the **“will”** [internal fortitude] to do it [manifest godliness] ourselves! This requires the inner work of faith alone! And this brings us to the other kind of faith that works miracles in our lives and makes “god” “God.” What you read now is the truth that will make us free.

***Lectures on Faith 1-7*** teaches the kind of faith that leads to translation! It was removed from our scriptures in 1921. **It was the higher law and what we are left with now is the lesser law of “form and structure,” which is obedience to the “letter of the law.”** It is no wonder we do not know about translation. How many of you have actually read Lectures on Faith and pondered them more than once in your life? It teaches of a faith called the **“effects of faith”** and that kind of faith is not given to us from Father or Christ or organized religion, with all its ceremonies and ordinances; it can only come from our divine **“will”** within us through the **“effects of our faith!”** Hence, literally the **“effects of our faith”** is the **“will of the Father”** that Christ sought for diligently and is literally called the attributes of godliness and holiness of character that we develop within ourselves through our

faith in them... desiring them earnestly, in every moment of every day until we become it in thought, word and deed, this is the manifestation of pure love working in us and it is then that the veil of unbelief will disappear!

All the divine attributes of godliness... of love, virtue and gratitude is the foundation to translation! On the other hand, “organized religion” teaches that salvation comes through obedience to the ordinances and ceremonies of the gospel, the “letter of the law.” Which leads to a celestial and terrestrial existence of obedience and eventual a glory in those kingdoms. Which is great, but it lacks gratitude for the power of the “effects faith alone,” “divine love alone,” which leads to a holy and divine character! We each have to supply those divine attributes ourselves!

The whole plan of salvation to godhood is very simple and beautiful and it works by ***faith alone***, however, as humans in a fallen state, we have made it complicated. Let’s go back to the simplicity of the gospel or “good news” made available to every person of every race, with or without the formalism of religion. We learn from the Savior himself that there are only two commandments [instructions to the wise] that if the obedient follow completely, wholly, with all their heart, might, mind and soul [Matthew 22: 34-38] a real transformation can and will take place inside us, it is called being “born again!” [John 3:1-13]. When we fail to obey those two great commandments through ***faith alone***; it is then that God gives us the formalism of ordinances and ceremonies [the lesser law]. He has done this for ancient and modern Israel, to help us wake up to the truth found in the “***effects of faith***” alone, the higher law of obedience that leads to translation!

Obedience to the temporal law caters to our 5 senses and over time we become addicted to the “forms and structures” of organized religion because it pleases and strokes our ego, our pride and self-righteousness. Our own LDS Bible Dictionary calls this type of worship “formalism” which is a type of “idolatry.”

### **Holiness**

According to the Old Testament, things or places were holy that were set apart for a sacred purpose; the opposite of holy is therefore common or profane (1 Sam. 21:5; Ezek. 22:26; 42:20; 44:23; 48:13–15). Similarly a holy person meant one who held a sacred office. The Israelites were a holy people because they stood in a special relationship to Jehovah. Under the guidance of the

Prophets it was seen that what distinguished Jehovah from the gods of the heathen was His personal character. The word *holy* therefore came to refer to moral character (Lev. 11:44; 19:2; 21:8; Isa. 6:3–8). Israel must be holy in character because the God of Israel was holy (Jer. 7:4–7; see also Matt. 5:48). The Law of Holiness (Lev. 17–26) shows how the attempt was made by means of ceremonial observances to secure this holiness of character. The attempt failed because the later Jews observed the letter and neglected the spirit; they attached more importance to the ceremonial than to the moral; and the result was a lapse into formalism. But in the writings of the Prophets it is clearly laid down that the value of worship in the eyes of God depends upon the personal character of the worshipper.

[<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/bd/holiness?lang=eng>]

It is notable that the ***“attempt was made by ceremonial observances to secure this holiness of character. The attempt failed”*** for ancient Israel and it will for modern Israel because there is NO “ceremonial” ordinance or ceremony that can make god, “God” or exalt any soul, that is impossible! There were two great commandments the Lord gave us that if we immerse ourselves into it completely will exalt any person. The reason for this is that through the ***“effects of faith”*** alone we learn to “love God [godliness] with all our heart, mind, might and strength and our neighbor as our self;” ***fulfilling*** literally the law of ***“life”*** and receive the promised blessing of translation as Enoch and few others have done in their mortal journey and never tasted a mortal death. The only death that Enoch and his city experienced individually was the death of false beliefs and a carnal nature and offering up a broken heart to God. Death then has no claim on those who partake only from the “tree of life!” That is a powerful truth!

The story or analogy of the Garden of Eden is really the story of ourselves and the two trees that existing within each of us. Which one are we choosing? Do we follow the serpent into “the tree of knowledge of good and evil” or do we immerse ourselves into the doctrine of Christ and Life, as Christ taught? The scriptural analogy is that the ***“tree of life”*** will only produce ***“life;”*** therefore “death” can have no claim at all. “I the Lord am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise” (D&C 82: 10).

On the other hand, the “tree of knowledge of good and evil” is the path that most people get hooked into and it is the only tree that produces “death” in two ways [physical death and spiritual death (keeping us from reaching our greatest

potential)]. We have all partaken of the “tree of knowledge of good and evil” and therefore all organized religions are the offspring from the “tree of knowledge of good and evil,” and we the people, who are partakers of the tree of knowledge of good and evil will succumb to “death” in some form. However, the analogy and understanding of the whole Garden experience sheds light on “life” as we learn of the Cherubim’s and the “tree of life!”

Cherubim’s, which guard the way to the “*tree of life*,” symbolizes all of mankind who have the potential to become again true sons and daughters of God [by being “born again” in our second estate as we did in our first estate] through the “*effects of faith*.” All who come into mortality receive a “water baptism,” that was our mortal birth. Many are called into mortality but few are chosen. Why are not all chosen [for life?] “Because their hearts are set so much upon the things of this world, and aspire to the honors of men, that they do not learn this one lesson... That the rights [to the tree of life] are inseparably connected with the powers of heaven, and that the powers of heaven cannot be controlled nor handled only upon the principles of righteousness;” which is “*faith alone*,” coming from within us!

When our heart and mind are one in divine love [purity, holiness and virtue] we have no more desire to do sin but to do good continually [1John 3:0]. Remember that Cherubim’s of pure gold were placed anciently on the Mercy Seat in the “Holy of Holies” in the “form and structure” of temple worship. This scriptural metaphor re-establishes the fact that to be made of “pure gold,” all the impurities of a fallen and carnal nature were gone completely, [repented of, sacrificed on the altar] because we desire them no more [they are burnt up]. One literally walks away from fallen [false beliefs] and carnal desires. **If we continue this pursuit *diligently* and seek to partake only from the “*tree of life*” we will experience translation and have communion with Enoch and his city, the Church of the Firstborn.** The only way one will ever know of this truth is if you experience it for yourselves! I will share some revealing truths from Lectures on Faith that I hope will draw you in to a deep pondering and meditation to a new experience with faith that leads to translation!

## Lectures on Faith (highlights)



“Faith being the first principle in revealed religion, and the **foundation** of all righteousness, necessarily claims the first place in a course of lectures which are designed to unfold to the understanding **the doctrine of Jesus Christ**” (Lecture 1:1).

“Let us here observe, that after **any portion of the human family** are made acquainted with the important fact that there is a God who has created and does uphold 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 the brother of Jared, and Moses, they shall obtain faith in God, and power with him to behold him face to face” (Lecture of Faith 2:55).

“But it is also necessary that men should have an idea that he [God the Father or Christ] **is no respecter of persons**; for with the idea of all the other excellencies in his character, and this one wanting, men could not exercise faith in him, because if he were a respecter of persons, they could not tell what their privileges were, nor how far they were authorized to exercise faith in him, or whether they were authorized to do it at all, but all must be confusion; but no sooner are the minds of men made acquainted with the truth on this point, that he is no respecter of persons, than they see **that they [all people] have authority by faith [alone] to lay hold on eternal life [as God did] the richest boon of heaven, because God is no respecter of persons, and that every man in every nation has an equal privilege**” (Lecture on Faith 3:23). [“Every man (and woman) in every nation has an equal privilege” to this truth!]

“Having said so much we shall proceed to examine the attributes of God, as set forth in his revelations to the human family, and **to show how necessary correct ideas of his attributes are**, to enable men to exercise faith in him. **For without these ideas being planted in the minds of men, it would be out of the power of any person or persons to exercise faith in God so as to obtain eternal life**. So that the divine communications made to man in the first instance, were designed to establish in their minds the ideas necessary to enable them **to exercise faith in God, and through this means to be partakers**

of his glory” (Lecture on Faith 4:3). [This is a profound truth that few understand... they don’t understand it because they are not taught it].

“As the Son partakes of the fulness of the Father *through the Spirit* [the attributes of godliness], so the saints are, *by the same Spirit* [attributes of godliness], to *be partakers of the same fulness*, to enjoy the same glory; for as the Father and the Son are one, so in like manner the saints are to be one in them, through the love of the Father” (Lecture on Faith 5:3).

“But those who have not made this sacrifice [of false beliefs and the natural man] to God, do not know that the course which they pursue is well pleasing in his sight; for whatever may be their belief or their opinion, it is a matter of doubt and uncertainty in their mind; and where doubt and uncertainty is, there faith is not, nor can it be. For doubt and faith do not exist in the same person at the same time. So that persons whose minds are under doubts and fears cannot have unshaken confidence, and where unshaken confidence is not, there faith is weak, and where faith is weak, the persons will not be able to contend against all the opposition, tribulations and afflictions *which they will have to encounter in order to be heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ Jesus*; and they will grow weary in their minds, and the adversary will have power over them and destroy them” (Lecture of Faith 6:12).

“Let us here offer some explanation in relation to faith that our meaning may be clearly comprehended: We ask, then, what are we to understand by a man's working by faith? We answer: We understand that *when a man works by faith, he works by mental exertion* instead of physical force: [dead works or the “letter of the law,” it is same thing] for it is by *words* instead of exerting his physical powers, with which every being works when he works by faith (Lecture of Faith 7:3). [see “dead works” Hebrews 6:1-2; Hebrews 9: 14; D&C 22: 1-4]

“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*; [Co-



equal and co-eternal with God] and to be unlike them is to be destroyed: *and on this hinge turns the door of salvation.*

**“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: [As God is] **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 [godhood] is of faith**, that it might be by grace [grace is divine nature] to the end, the **promise might be sure to all the seed.** [Romans 4:16](#): — And that Israel, [ancient and modern] who followed after the law of righteousness, **has not attained to the law of righteousness.** Wherefore? [Why] **because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law;** [the letter of the law] for they stumbled at that stumbling stone (Lecture on Faith 7: 16-17). The “works of the law,” are all the ordinances and ceremonies of organized religion and they cannot, worlds without end, exalt a single soul to godhood, they will only get a person to a Telestial and Terrestrial glory. The “works of the law” are the “letter of the law” and their purpose it to awaken those who are slumbering and asleep to the **“higher law”** that comes only through the **“effects of our faith,”** which is the **“will”** of god/God.”

Godhood comes to only those who through the **effects of their faith alone** become like Father and Christ and this can be accomplished inside or outside of organized religion, anywhere! This is the faith that transcends the “works of the law” that ancient Israel and modern Israel have gotten so caught up in... “for they stumbled at that stumbling stone.” Or as Paul said: “the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life” (2 Corinthians 3:6) and that is so true!

The choice is and always has been ours. For those who die a physical death will come to understand that the principles of the resurrection are almost identical to translation. The huge difference is “beliefs.” Belief connected to “formalism” or beliefs connected to the “effects of faith alone,” applied to the two great

commandments as discussed above! Celestial beliefs in mortality can and will bring about translation for those who seek it diligently; or Celestial beliefs after death will bring about a celestial resurrection. Terrestrial beliefs bring about a terrestrial resurrection and Celestial beliefs bring about a celestial resurrection.

Some Translation scriptures:

Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal?

26 When a righteous *man* turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die. [this is physical death and spiritual death].

27 Again, when the wicked *man* turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive.

28 Because he considereth, and turneth away from all his transgressions that he hath committed, **he shall surely live, *he shall not die***. [physically or spiritually, the promise of translation is a matter of seeking it diligently by faith alone and “he shall not die”].

29 Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the Lord is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal?

30 **Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his *ways*** [his own beliefs], **saith the Lord GOD**. Repent, and turn *yourselves* from all your transgressions; [carnal natures and false beliefs] so, iniquity shall not be your ruin. [parentheses added for clarity]

(Old Testament | Ezekiel 18:25 - 30)

“THERE was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 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 and *of* the Spirit, 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.

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 3:1 - 12)

“Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, **which liveth** and abideth forever.

24 For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

(New Testament | 1 Peter 1:22 - 25)

“For, said he, I have repented of my sins, and have been redeemed of the Lord; behold I am born of the Spirit.

25 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;

26 And thus they become new creatures; and unless they do this, they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God.

(Book of Mormon | Mosiah 27:24 - 26)

“And now I say unto you that this is the order after which I am called, yea, to preach unto my beloved brethren, yea, and every one that dwelleth in the land; yea, to preach unto all, both old and young, both bond and free; yea, I say unto you the aged, and also the middle aged, and the rising generation; yea, to **cry unto them that they must repent and be born again.**

50 Yea, thus saith the Spirit: Repent, all ye ends of the earth, for the kingdom of heaven is soon at hand; yea, the Son of God cometh in his glory, in his might, majesty, power, and dominion. Yea, my beloved brethren, I say unto you, that the Spirit saith: Behold the glory of the King of all the earth; and also the King of heaven shall very soon shine forth among all the children of men.

51 And also the Spirit saith unto me, yea, crieth unto me with a mighty voice, saying: Go forth and say unto this people—Repent, for except ye repent ye can in nowise inherit the kingdom of heaven.

(Book of Mormon | Alma 5:49 - 51)

Now I say unto you that ye must repent, and **be born again**; for the Spirit saith **if ye are not born again ye cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven**;

(Book of Mormon | Alma 7:14)

The “**kingdom of heaven** is like unto...” (Matthew 13; 20; 22; 25) **any person who diligently seeketh** for the “**tree of life,**” which gives only life. Lehi’s vision or dream showed how some people came and partook for a while but fell back into false beliefs and carnal ways and were lost.

“And it came to pass that I beheld that the rod of iron, which my father had seen, was the word of God, which led to the fountain of living waters, or to the **tree of life**; which waters are a representation of the love of God; and I also beheld that the **tree of life** was a representation of the love of God.

(Book of Mormon | 1 Nephi 11:25)

“Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the **tree of life**, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

15 For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, **and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.**

(New Testament | Revelation 22:14 - 15)

“that **tree of life**, whose fruit is most precious and most desirable above all other fruits; yea, and it is the greatest of all the gifts of God. (Book of Mormon | 1 Nephi 15:36)

What is that fruit that gives “life?” It is the “fruit of the Spirit,” the fruit of “divine nature,” the fruit of godliness, the fruit of god’s character diligently sought for, ...all these divine “fruits” come from the **“effects of faith” alone** and are available to all the children of God no matter what religion or race they belong to... all have access to the **“tree of life.”** **“God is no respecter of persons.”**

Where is that tree? Within us all! Discover it, become one with it and you will see god/God in His majesty and power whether in [life and] translation or in [death and] resurrection.

### Principles of Translation

1. Immerse yourself into the two great commandments of God, this is the correct foundation, and it will reveal all the attributes of godliness and holiness of character to your soul and in gratitude you will offer your broken heart to God without restrictions.
2. Casting out our Demons (False Beliefs & Our Carnal Nature) from our body temple, this will purify our soul.
3. Turning over the Money changers in our body temple; this is all the Idols of formalism and once gone, will sanctify your soul.

Our foundation is what we stand on every moment of every day. What is your foundation? The “tree of life” and the promise of translation?

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