

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 [and 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, [and false beliefs] he cannot possibly progress into the light or walk with power” [The Truth Behind Thought, Chapter 1:3 Secrets of Eternity by Annalee Skarin].

I invite you all to consider translation as a viable option in mortality. A new paradigm, a new 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/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 therefore 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?

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 [god] had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God [god]. [How did he please God/god? We will pursue that question]

But **without faith it is impossible** to please *him*: for he that cometh to God [god] must believe that he [God/god] is, and that **he [God/god] is a rewarder**

of them that diligently seek him. [Does this sound like God [god] would restrict one from seeking translation? No not in the least. **“God [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 **“life” in mortality and not “death”** in all its forms; something that we have failed to see clearly; hence our understanding 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 false “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 [the person] chooses, but for those who choose God/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 [god] had translated him [Enoch]” because Enoch “diligently” sought for God! To “diligently” seek for God [god] is the “key.” What does it really mean to “seek God [god]?”

Let me offer some suggestions that resonate with my soul. To “seek” God is to seek to ***become*** [god] like Him through ***faith alone***. 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, it says: “Ye never knew me”] which puts the focus on mankind [hence the meaning of the little “god” presented throughout this essay]. I am sharing with you how to get to “know the Lord,” not by professing his name casually but by ***becoming like Him in character, through faith alone!*** [which again is the definition of the little “god” in us, waiting for us individually to embrace it]. (New Testament | Matthew 7:21 - 23)

Notice, the Lord said: “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! Our **will** is our determination to accomplish something and in this context, it is to do the **will** of our Father in Heaven! That is the secret and grand key to becoming like God [godliness]! Organized religion, the scriptures, and the temple of brick and mortar can point us in the right direction; even Father and Christ can point us in the right direction but none of them can give us the **will** to transform our thinking, or our lives to repent and forsake our fallen and carnal natures unless we have the **will** [internal fortitude; desire, determination] to do it [to 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 it is what made “god,” “God.” What you are reading now is the truth that will make one free.

Lectures on Faith 1-7 teaches the kind of faith that leads to translation! It was removed from our scriptures in 1921. But that is not the only place the principles of translation are taught. The Old and New Testaments are full of it if we have eyes to see and ears to hear. **It is called the “higher law” or “spirit of the law” and what we are left with now is the lesser portion of the law that comes from the “form and structure” of organized religion, 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 alone!”** Hence, the **“effects of our faith”** is the **“will of the Father”** that Christ sought 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 when the two great commandments [Matthew 5:43-48 & Matthew 22: 34-40] become 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 and its train of attendants, of virtue and gratitude is the foundation to translation in mortality, which leads to a holy and divine character! On the other hand, “organized religion” teaches that salvation comes through obedience to the ordinances and ceremonies of the gospel seen through the “letter of the law” which leads eventually to the “death” of the mortal body and then later, a resurrection in a telestial or terrestrial glory based on the mindset and beliefs of those kingdoms, which is a choice of one’s own will.

The whole plan of salvation points to man’s potential to become as God is [Psalms 82:6; John 10: 34-39]. The journey into godhood is very simple and beautiful and it works by **faith alone**, which doesn’t go well for those who seek power and authority over others. As humans in a fallen state, we make it complicated, serving the ego.

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 condescends and gives us the formalism of ordinances and ceremonies [the lesser law]. He has done this all throughout history; 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 here in mortality if we hunger and thirst for it!

Obedience to the temporal law [ordinances and ceremonies] 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.”

[\[https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/bd/holiness?lang=eng\]](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/bd/holiness?lang=eng)

It is obvious 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 absolutely NO “ceremonial” ordinance or ceremony that has the power to sanctify our souls or exalt any soul, that is impossible in the eternal realm! There were two great commandments the Lord gave us in this mortal world and if we immerse ourselves in them completely, they will transform who we are. The reason for this is that through the **“effects of faith” alone** we learn to “love God [godliness within ourselves] with all our heart, mind, might and strength and our neighbor as our self;” **fulfilling** literally the law of **“life”** from the **“tree of life”** and receive the promised blessing of translation as Enoch and others have

done in their mortal journey and never tasted a mortal death, where the ego leads out! The only “death” that Enoch and his people experienced individually was the death of false beliefs, a fallen and carnal nature. ***Death then has no claim on those who partake only from this “tree of life” through the effects of faith within themselves!*** That is a powerful truth!

The story or allegory of the Garden of Eden is really the story of ourselves from an eternal perspective and the two trees [are choices] that exist within each of us. Which one are we choosing? Do we follow the serpent to “the tree of knowledge of good and evil” or do we immerse ourselves into the doctrine of Christ and Life, even the *waters of life*, the *bread of life*, and the *breath of life* as Christ taught? The scriptural allegory is that the “*tree of life*” will only produce “*life*,” therefore “death” can have no claim at all, except in giving up our sins! “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 [choice] 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 that is why all organized religions are the offspring of the “tree of knowledge of good and evil,” and we the people, who are partakers of the tree of knowledge of good and evil have succumbed to “death” in some form unless we repent of it. This brings us to the allegory of the whole Garden of Eden experience, that sheds light on “*life*,” as we learn from the Cherubim’s, who guard the “*tree of life*!”

Cherubim’s, which guard the way to the “*tree of life*,” symbolizes the “truth” within each of us that can never be destroyed [hence “hope” (repentance) that is always available]. The Cherubim’s [which is the truth within us, which we call the “light of Christ” (Alma 28:14; Moroni 7: 18-19; D&C 88: 7)] or the “kingdom of God” abiding in you [Luke 17:21], teaches us of our potential to become again true sons and daughters of God/god [by being “born again” in this second estate (mortality) as we did in our first estate] through the “*effects of faith*” ***alone and now we must do it again but this time with a mortal body!***

Scriptural symbolism teaches us that all who come into mortality receive a “water baptism,” through our mortal birth [the watery womb]! Many are they that are called into mortality [and choose death] and few choose life. All are chosen for “life” but all do not choose life, why? “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 within us*] 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 through the “*effects of faith alone*,” coming from within us!

When our mind and heart [symbolically heaven and earth within us] are one in divine love [pureness, holiness and virtue] we have no more desire to do sin but to do good continually [1John 3:9]. Remember that Cherubim’s’ of pure gold were placed anciently on the Mercy Seat in the “Holy of Holies” in the “from and structure” of temple worship. This scriptural metaphor re-establishes the fact that to be made of “pure gold,” ourselves, all the impurities of a fallen and carnal nature are gone completely, [repented of, sacrificed on the symbolic 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*” within we will experience translation in mortality and have communion with Enoch and his people, the Church of the Firstborn [Hebrews 12: 22-23].** The only way one will ever know of this truth is if you experience it for yourselves here in mortality! I will share some revealing truths from Lectures on Faith that I hope will draw you into a deep pondering and meditative state, to a new experience with the “*effects of faith*” *alone* that leads to translation! Even though “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints” has removed Lectures of Faith from our scriptures in 1921, does not mean we need to remove it from our minds and hearts!

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, [race or religion] 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 innate inborn truth and ability to manifest it!]

“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 and therefore every time you see the word “God” used in scripture, you must remember the little “god” comes first and must be awakened within us so

that we can manifest godliness of character, the same way the Father did and Christ followed that example].

“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* [the 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 to God [the sacrifice of false beliefs and the carnal nature], 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” [How? by keeping them from fulfilling their greatest potential] (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 the same thing] *for it is by words instead of exerting his physical powers, [through ordinances and ceremonies] 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]. Most people do not understand this simple truth, our ego wants to hold on to the “letter of the law.”

“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 or dammed in our journey because of our own choices]: ***and on this hinge turns the door of salvation. [with Father].***

“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 [true] 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 another word for “divine nature” or “spirit of the law” found in scriptures] 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,” include all the ordinances and ceremonies of organized religion, and they cannot, worlds without end, exalt a single soul to godhood; their purpose is to awaken mankind to the “spirit of the law.” The only power they have is to awaken! The “works of the law” are the “letter of the law” and their purpose is again to awaken all those who are slumbering and asleep to the ***“higher law”*** that comes only through the ***“effects of our faith,”*** alone, which is the ***“will”*** of the Father.

Godhood comes to only those who through the ***effects of their faith*** become in character and attribute like Father and Christ and this can be accomplished anywhere; inside or outside of organized religion! This is the faith that transcends

the “letter 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), this is the true mystery of godliness!

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 identical to translation. One takes place here in mortality and the other takes place after the death of the mortal body. What makes the difference is “beliefs.” Belief connected to “formalism” or beliefs connected to the **“effects of faith alone,”** applied to the two great commandments as discussed! Celestial beliefs in mortality can and will bring about translation for those who seek it diligently; or those same beliefs after a mortal death will bring about a celestial resurrection as well. Terrestrial beliefs bring about a terrestrial resurrection and Telesial beliefs bring about a telesial resurrection [1Corinthians 15:40-54].

Some Scriptures that lead and invite us into Translation and becoming a manifestation of that truth:

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 [this is mortal birth]** 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. [This is not the laying on of hands, formalism]**

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) [This is not organized religion; it is a personal journey of repentance and being born again in the Spirit]

“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, [the two great 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**. [or perpetuates the lie through the traditions of men, i.e. polygamy] (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**” *within themselves*. “**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 experience translation here in mortality or in [physical death] and experience a resurrection later on.

Principles of Translation Summary

1. Immerse myself into the two great commandments of God, this is the foundation of my body temple, and it will reveal all the attributes of godliness and holiness of character to my soul and in gratitude, I will offer a broken heart and a contrite spirit to god/God.
2. Repent! Casting out all my demons (All my false Beliefs & all my Carnal Nature) from my body temple, and thus my soul will be purified.
3. Turn over the Money changers in my body temple; these are the Idols of formalism and once gone, my soul will become sanctified.

Our foundation is what we stand on every moment of every day. What is your foundation? Is it the “tree of life” and the promise of translation here in mortality? Or “death,” the “tree of knowledge of good and evil and eventually the promise of a resurrection, the choice has always been ours.

Last Edited 03/21/2023

Essay by Ken Card

See other essays on the website

www.MarriageAndPolygamy.com