

Continue Your Progression
(Priest Lesson November 2014 – Roald Peterson)

You Were Chosen Long Before Birth

As we start, we need to understand two very important facts. First, God's glory is made of intelligence, or intelligences, tiny vibrations of light and truth. Second, spirit is nothing more, or less, than organized intelligence.

22 Now the Lord had shown unto me, Abraham, the intelligences that were organized before the world was; and among all these there were many of the noble and great ones;

23 And God saw these souls that they were good, and he stood in the midst of them, and he said: These I will make my rulers; for he stood among those that were spirits, and he saw that they were good; and he said unto me: Abraham, thou art one of them; thou wast chosen before thou wast born. (Abraham 3:22–23)

Long ago, the great Jehovah sent out intelligences from himself as a stream of glory. These intelligences joined a great cloud of other intelligences known as the Spirit of truth, or light of Christ. This cloud of spirit not only fills all creation, it defines, organizes, and rules all of God's creations.

Each of you was one of those intelligences. You did not suddenly spring into being, you came out of Christ, and Christ came out of the Father. You always existed as part of the Christ, or part of the Father. And Father always existed as part of his father. In other words, you have always existed, just not as a separate intelligence with agency.

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

26 The Spirit of truth is of God. I am the Spirit of truth, and John bore record of me, saying: He received a fulness of truth, yea, even of all truth; ...

29 Man was also in the beginning with God. Intelligence, or the light of truth, was not created or made, neither indeed can be.

30 All truth is independent in that sphere in which God has placed it, to act for itself, as all intelligence also; otherwise there is no existence.

31 Behold, here is the agency of man, and here is the condemnation of man; because that which was from the beginning is plainly manifest unto them, and they receive not the light.

32 And every man whose spirit receiveth not the light is under condemnation.

33 For man is spirit. The elements are eternal, and spirit and element, inseparably connected, receive a fulness of joy;

34 And when separated, man cannot receive a fulness of joy. ...

36 The glory of God is intelligence, or, in other words, light and truth. (Doctrine and Covenants 93:23–36)

The reason you were born here and now, and not somewhere else is because you progressed beyond

other intelligences. You pressed forward, learning and growing when others did not. You made covenants that others did not make. You did things that others didn't do, and made promises that others didn't make. That is why you are not imprisoned in a nation or religion or time or place that doesn't allow you to pursue exaltation. It's also why you are not a cat, or dog, or amoeba, or tree, or rock, or proton.

The Test: Will You Continue Your Progression?

You have been placed in exile, on a fallen planet, living in Babylon, and without your memory, to see if you are worthy of exaltation by choosing the single path that leads there, instead of getting lost in the maze that leads to lesser and limited possibilities.

24 And there stood one among them that was like unto God, and he said unto those who were with him: We will go down, for there is space there, and we will take of these materials, and we will make an earth whereon these may dwell;

25 And we will prove them herewith, to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them;

26 And they who keep their first estate shall be added upon; and they who keep not their first estate shall not have glory in the same kingdom with those who keep their first estate; and they who keep their second estate shall have glory added upon their heads for ever and ever. (Abraham 3:24–26)

What you choose to do and learn in this life will carry you to a certain glory or lack thereof in eternity. The way you act here is the way you will act there. What you become here is what you will be there, forever.

18 Whatever principle of intelligence we attain unto in this life, it will rise with us in the resurrection.

19 And if a person gains more knowledge and intelligence in this life through his diligence and obedience than another, he will have so much the advantage in the world to come. (Doctrine and Covenants 130:18–19) (See also Alma 34:34)

You Have Entered The Critical Eight Years

You will choose to serve a mission or not. You will choose your level of education. You will choose your career or career direction. Choose your eternal companion, or choose other things over her. You will choose the path to Babylon or Zion.

- Turn off the television – telestial Urim & Thummim.
- Stop wasting your time – you're already behind.
- Learn to obey the word of wisdom, all of it. Every single thing you put in your body, your mind, & your spirit takes you toward life or death. Everything!
- Make the 13th article of faith a personal creed.

The story of travelers and rocks/precious stones.

- Tomorrow you will be both happy and sad.