

ENOS: A Sacred Grove Experience

Enos 1	Joseph Smith History
2. And I will tell you of the <i>wrestle</i> which I had before God, before I received a remission of my sins. [same as Jacob's temple account - Genesis 32:24]	
3. Behold, ¹ I went to hunt beasts in the forests ;	15. ¹ After I had retired to the place where I had previously designed to go,
and ² the words which I had often heard my father speak concerning eternal life, and the joy of the saints, sunk deep into my heart.	12. ² Never did any passage of scripture come with more power to the heart of man than this did at this time to mine. It seemed to enter with great force into every feeling of my heart.
4. And ³ my soul hungered ;	13. ³ I at length came to the determination to "ask of God," concluding that if he gave wisdom to them that lacked wisdom, and would give liberally, and not upbraid, I might venture.
and ⁴ I kneeled down before my Maker,	15. ... ⁴ having looked around me, and finding myself alone, I kneeled down and began to offer up the desires of my heart to God.
and ⁵ I cried unto him in mighty prayer and supplication for mine own soul ; and all the day long did I cry unto him; yea, and when the night came I did still raise my voice high that it reached the heavens.	— ⁵ At about the age of twelve years my mind became seriously impressed with regard to the all important concerns for the welfare of my immortal soul... (Joseph Smith History-1832 account)
5. And there came a voice unto me, saying: ⁶ Enos,	17. ...One of them spake unto me, ⁶ calling me by name and said, pointing to the other—This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!
⁷ thy sins are forgiven thee , and thou shalt be blessed.	—After it was truly manifested unto this first elder that he had received a remission of his sins , he was entangled again in the vanities of the world; (D&C 20:5)
6. And I, Enos, <i>knew that God could not lie</i> ; wherefore, my guilt was swept away. [same as Brother of Jared's temple account - Ether 3:12]	
7. And I said: Lord, how is it done?	— "...I pondered many things in my heart concerning the situation of the world of mankind, the contentions and divisions, the wickedness and abominations and the darkness which pervaded the minds of mankind. My mind became exceedingly distressed for I became convicted of my sins... ⁸ and I felt to mourn for my sins and for the sins of the world... " (Joseph Smith History-1832 account)
8. And he said unto me: Because of thy faith in Christ, whom thou hast never before heard nor seen. And many years pass away before he shall manifest himself in the flesh; wherefore, go to, thy faith hath made thee whole.	
9. Now, it came to pass that when I had heard these words ⁸ I began to feel a desire for the welfare of my brethren , the Nephites; wherefore, I did pour out my whole soul unto God for them.	
10. ⁹ And while I was thus struggling in the spirit...	15. ... ⁹ I had scarcely done so, when immediately I was seized upon by some power which entirely overcame me,
19. ¹⁰ And now it came to pass that I, Enos, went about among the people of Nephi, prophesying of things to come, and testifying of the things which I had heard and seen.	25. So it was with me. I had actually seen a light, and in the midst of that light I saw two Personages, and they did in reality speak to me; and though I was hated and persecuted for saying that I had seen a vision , yet it was true; and while they were persecuting me, reviling me, and speaking all manner of evil against me for so saying, I was led to say in my heart: Why persecute me for telling the truth? I have actually seen a vision ; and who am I that I can withstand God, or why does the world think to make me deny what I have actually seen? For I had seen a vision ; I knew it, and I knew that God knew it, and I could not deny it, neither dared I do it; at least I knew that by so doing I would offend God, and come under condemnation.