

# Translated Beings

02/07

## List of Translated Beings

- 1. Enoch and his City**  
Moses 7:69 – “And Enoch and all his people walked with God, and he dwelt in the midst of Zion; and it came to pass that Zion was not, for God received it up into his own bosom; and from thence went forth the saying, ZION IS FLED.”
- 2. Melchizedek and his City**  
JST Genesis 14:32-33 – “And men having this faith, coming up unto this order of God, were translated and taken up into heaven. And now, Melchizedek was a priest of this order; therefore he obtained peace in Salem, and was called the Prince of peace.”
- 3. Methuselah**  
Moses 7:27 – “And Enoch beheld angels descending out of heaven, bearing testimony of the Father and Son; and the Holy Ghost fell on many, and they were caught up by the powers of heaven into Zion.”  
  
“Methuselah, the son of Enoch, was not translated, 'that the covenants of the Lord might be fulfilled, which he made to Enoch; for he truly covenanted with Enoch that Noah should be of the fruit of his loins.' (Moses 8:2) But during the nearly 700 years from the translation of Enoch to the flood of Noah, it would appear that nearly all of the faithful members of the Church were translated, for 'the Holy Ghost fell on many, and they were caught up by the powers of heaven into Zion.' (Bruce R. McConkie, DNTC, 3:203)
- 4. Moses**  
Deuteronomy 34:6-7 – “And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Beth-peor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day. And Moses *was* an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.”
- 5. Elijah**  
2 Kings 2:11- “And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, *there appeared* a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.”
- 6. John the Beloved**  
John 21:23-24 – “Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what *is that* to thee? This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true.”
- 7. Alma the Younger**  
Alma 45:18-19 – “And when Alma had done this he departed out of the land of Zarahemla, as if to go into the land of Melek. And it came to pass that he was never heard of more; as to his death or burial we know not of. Behold, this we know, that he was a righteous man; and the saying went abroad in the church that he was taken up by the Spirit, or buried by the hand of the Lord, even as Moses. But behold, the scriptures saith the Lord took Moses unto himself; and we suppose that he has also received Alma in the spirit, unto himself; therefore, for this cause we know nothing concerning his death and burial.”
- 8. Nephi, son of Helaman**  
3 Nephi 1:2-3 – “And Nephi, the son of Helaman, had departed out of the land of Zarahemla, giving charge unto his son Nephi, who was his eldest son, concerning the plates of brass, and all the records which had been kept, and all those things which had been kept sacred from the departure of Lehi out of Jerusalem. Then he departed out of the land, and whither he went, no man knoweth; and his son Nephi did keep the records in his stead, yea, the record of this people.”
- 9. Many Early Christian Saints**  
Matthew 16:28 – “Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.”
- 10. The Three Nephites**  
3 Nephi 28:40 – “And in this state they were to remain until the judgment day of Christ; and at that day they were to receive a greater change, and to be received into the kingdom of the Father to go no more out, but to dwell with God eternally in the heavens.”

## 11. Others

D&C 49:8 – “Wherefore, I will that all men shall repent, for all are under sin, except those which I have reserved unto myself, holy men that ye know not of.”

### **Blessings of Translated Beings**

1. **They never taste of death** (3 Nephi 28:7)  
D&C 42:46-47 – “And it shall come to pass that those that die in me shall not taste of death, for it shall be sweet unto them; And they that die not in me, wo unto them, for their death is bitter.”
2. **They never have to endure the pains of death** (3 Nephi 28:8)
3. **They will have no pain while in the flesh** (3 Nephi 28:9)
4. **They will have no sorrow, except the sorrow for the sins of the world** (3 Nephi 28:9)  
“Theirs is not a life devoid of feeling or understanding, but neither are they hindered by the frailties of the human body. Unfortunately, because of the wickedness which covers the land, there must be numerous times when their souls are full of sorrow because of the course so many of humankind have chosen to take. Sometime between AD 245 and 300 the wickedness among the Lamanites and Nephites became so widespread that “the disciples began to sorrow for the sins of the world” (4 Nephi 1:44). By AD 326 the wickedness had become so prevalent that the Lord took the Three Nephites away from openly ministering among the people (Mormon 1:13; 8:10).” (Monte S. Nyman & Charles D. Tate, *BYU Religious Studies*, pg. 242)
5. **They have power over the evil designs of men** (3 Nephi 28:19-22)  
Daniel 3:25 – “He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”  
  
Daniel 6:16 – “Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.”
6. **They are angels, ministering servants in missionary work** (3 Nephi 28:27-30)
7. **Satan has no power over them** (3 Nephi 28:39)
8. **They will remain in that state until the Second Coming** (3 Nephi 28:40)  
Hebrews 11:35 – “Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.”

### **Mission of Translated Beings:**

1. **Ministering Servants in Missionary Work** (3 Nephi 28:27-30, D&C 7:1-8, D&C 77:9, 14)  
“You will find that many districts where the Elders of Israel cannot reach will be penetrated by these men who have power over death; and when the honest in heart see the power and authority that is with them, they will feel like Nicodemus did of old, (but I trust they will have more faith and courage) when he said, “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.” These three men are going to perform a great work in the program of the last days, as is the beloved disciple, John, whom Christ refers to when He says, “If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?” According to a revelation given through the Prophet Joseph Smith, the Savior said unto Peter, “If I will that he tarry till I come, what’s that to thee? for he desired of me that he might bring souls unto me, but thou desiredst that thou mightest speedily come unto me in my kingdom. I say unto thee, Peter, this was a good desire, but my beloved has desired that he might do more, or a greater work ye among men than what he has done before; yea, he has undertaken a greater work; therefore I will make him as flaming fire and a ministering angel; he shall minister for those who shall be heirs of salvation who dwell on the earth.” My testimony is that these men are going abroad in the nations of the earth before the face of your sons, and they are preparing the hearts of the children of men to receive the Gospel. They are administering to those who are heirs of salvation, and preparing their hearts to receive the truth, just as the farmer prepares the soil to receive the seed. The Lord has promised that He would send his angels before the face of His servants, and His does so.” (John Taylor, *CR*, October 1902, pg. 75)
2. **Restore Gospel Keys** (Matthew 17:1-13)
3. **Keep Satan in Check during Apostasy through the Keys of the Melchizedek Priesthood** (Moses 6:7; D&C 84:17)  
“If the power of the priesthood were not upon the earth, the adversary would have freedom to roam and reign without restraint. There would be no gift of the Holy Ghost to direct and enlighten us; no prophets to speak in the name of

the Lord; no temples where we could make sacred, eternal covenants; no authority to bless or baptize, to heal or comfort. Without the power of the priesthood, 'the whole earth would be utterly wasted'. There would be no light, no hope—only darkness." (Robert D. Hales, *Ensign*, November 1995, pg. 32)

"Moreover, the Lord, of necessity, has kept authorized servants on the earth bearing the priesthood from the days of Adam to the present time; in fact, there has never been a moment from the beginning that there were not men on the earth holding the Holy Priesthood. Even in the days of apostasy, and apostasy has occurred several times, the Lord never surrendered this earth and permitted Satan to have complete control. Even when the great apostasy occurred following the death of the Savior's apostles, our Father in heaven held control and had duly authorized servants on the earth to direct his work and to check, to some extent at least, the ravages and corruption of the evil powers. These servants were not permitted to organize the Church nor to officiate in the ordinances of the gospel, but they did check the advances of evil as far as the Lord deemed it necessary." (Joseph Fielding Smith, Answers to Gospel Questions, 2:45)

"I believe there has never been a moment of time since the creation but what there has been someone holding the priesthood on the earth to hold Satan in check." (Joseph Fielding Smith; Harold B. Lee, CES address, *The Place of the Living Prophet, Seer, and Revelator*, July 8, 1964)

"It is my faith that the gospel plan has always been here, that his priesthood has always been on the earth, and that it will continue to be so until the end comes." (J. Reuben Clark; Harold B. Lee, Stand Ye in Holy Places, pg. 161-162)

#### 4- Minister to Other Planets

"As to the status of translated personages, he said: 'Many have supposed that the doctrine of translation was a doctrine whereby men were taken immediately into the presence of God, and into an eternal fulness, but this is a mistaken idea. Their place of habitation is that of the terrestrial order, and a place prepared for such characters He held in reserve to be ministering angels unto many planets, and who as yet have not entered into as great a fullness as those who are resurrected from the dead.'" (Joseph Smith, History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4: xli; Joseph Smith, TPJS, pg. 170)