

## Answering a Latter-Day Saint [Mormon] “THE LAW OF ETERNAL PROGRESSION”

“As man is, God once was, and as God is, man may become.” –prophet Lorenzo Snow

### ① God the Father has a physical body which we can see

[D&C 130: 22] The <sup>a</sup>Father has a <sup>b</sup>body of flesh and bones as tangible as man’s; the Son also; but the Holy Ghost has not a body of flesh and bones, but is a personage of <sup>c</sup>Spirit. Were it not so, the Holy Ghost could not <sup>d</sup>‘dwell’ in us.”

“If the veil [veil] was rent to-day, and the great God, who holds this world in its orbit, and upholds all things by his power; if you were to see him to-day, you would see him in all the person, image and very form as a man” [Times & Seasons Vol 5, No. 15, p. 613]

Answers: I Timothy 6:16; John 4:24\*Matthew 16:17 KJV

Alma 18:28 “And Ammon said: This is God. And Ammon said unto him again: Believest thou that this Great Spirit, who is God, created all things which are in heaven and in the earth?”

### ② Father God [Elohim] was created by another God

"Some people are troubled over the statements of the Prophet Joseph Smith.... The matter that seems such a mystery is the statement that our Father in heaven at one time passed through a life and death and is an exalted man. This is one of the mysteries. The Prophet taught that our Father had a Father and so on."

(Joseph Fielding Smith, *Doctrines of Salvation*, vol. 1, pp.10, 12).

"We were begotten by our Father in Heaven; the person of our Father in Heaven was begotten on a previous heavenly world by His Father; and again, He was begotten by a still more ancient Father; and so on, from generation to generation.." (Orson Pratt, *The Seer*, p.132).

Answers: Isaiah 43:10-11; 44:6-8; 45:21-22; 46:9

Alma 11:26-31; “And Zeezrom said unto him: Thou sayest there is a true and living God?

And Amulek said: Yea, there is a true and living God.

Now Zeezrom said: Is there more than one God?

And he answered, No.

Now Zeezrom said unto him again: How knowest thou these things?

And he said: An angel hath made them known unto me.”

### ③ God has evolved from man to exalted man

“God himself was once as we are now and is an exalted man.”

[Joseph Smith, *Journal of Discourses* vol. 6 p. 3]

Answers: Malachi 3:6; “For I am the Lord, I change not.”

Psalm 90:2; “from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.”

### ④ Man has the potential to become like God

“You have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves; to be kings and priests to God, the same as all gods have done; by going from a small degree to another, from grace to grace, from exaltation to exaltation, until you are able to sit in glory as doth those who sit

enthroned in everlasting power...” [Joseph Smith, *Times and Seasons*, Vol. V. no. 15, p. 614]

Answers: Isaiah 46:9; 44:7; 43:10-11; comment also that satan tempted Eve by telling her that she could be like God.

### Should we pray for the burning in the bosom to confirm the testimony of the LDS?

Answer:

**Deuteronomy 13:1-5—test of a prophet**—he doesn’t lead you into believing in other gods.

Acts 17:11—We should be like the Bereans and confirm teaching by comparing it to Scripture.

Times and Seasons Vol 3 no. 1 p. 580:

*“But there are some that say, show us a sign and we will believe. We answer; that Christ, and the apostles, never worked miracles to gratify the curiosity of any man. When Satan tempted Jesus, saying, make bread out of stones, he said get behind me Satan, &c. A set of wicked priests afterwards sought a sign of him; but he said, "a wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign and none shall be given unto it," &c.-This is the only rule that is laid down in the scriptures, by which we can judge of the character of sign-seekers”*—[E. Snow and B. Winchester]

### Who is Jesus?

The first spirit to be born in heaven was Jesus.

*Mormon Doctrine, Bruce McConkie, page 129*

Mormons refer to Jesus as a god:

[www.scriptures.lds.org](http://www.scriptures.lds.org):

“God the Son: The God known as Jehovah is the Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus works under the direction of the Father and is in complete harmony with him. All mankind are his brothers and sisters, for he is the eldest of the spirit children of Elohim. Some scripture references refer to him by the word God. For example, the scripture says that “God **created** the heaven and the earth” (Gen. 1: 1), but it was actually Jesus who was the **Creator** under the direction of God the Father.”

Answers: Isaiah 43:10—no God after God.

John 1:3: Jesus is the uncreated Creator

**NOTES:**