

Blacks *in the* Scriptures



Blacks in the Scriptures

**USING THE WORD OF GOD TO ANSWER
QUESTIONS ON
BLACKS & THE LDS PRIESTHOOD**



Goals for our Time Together

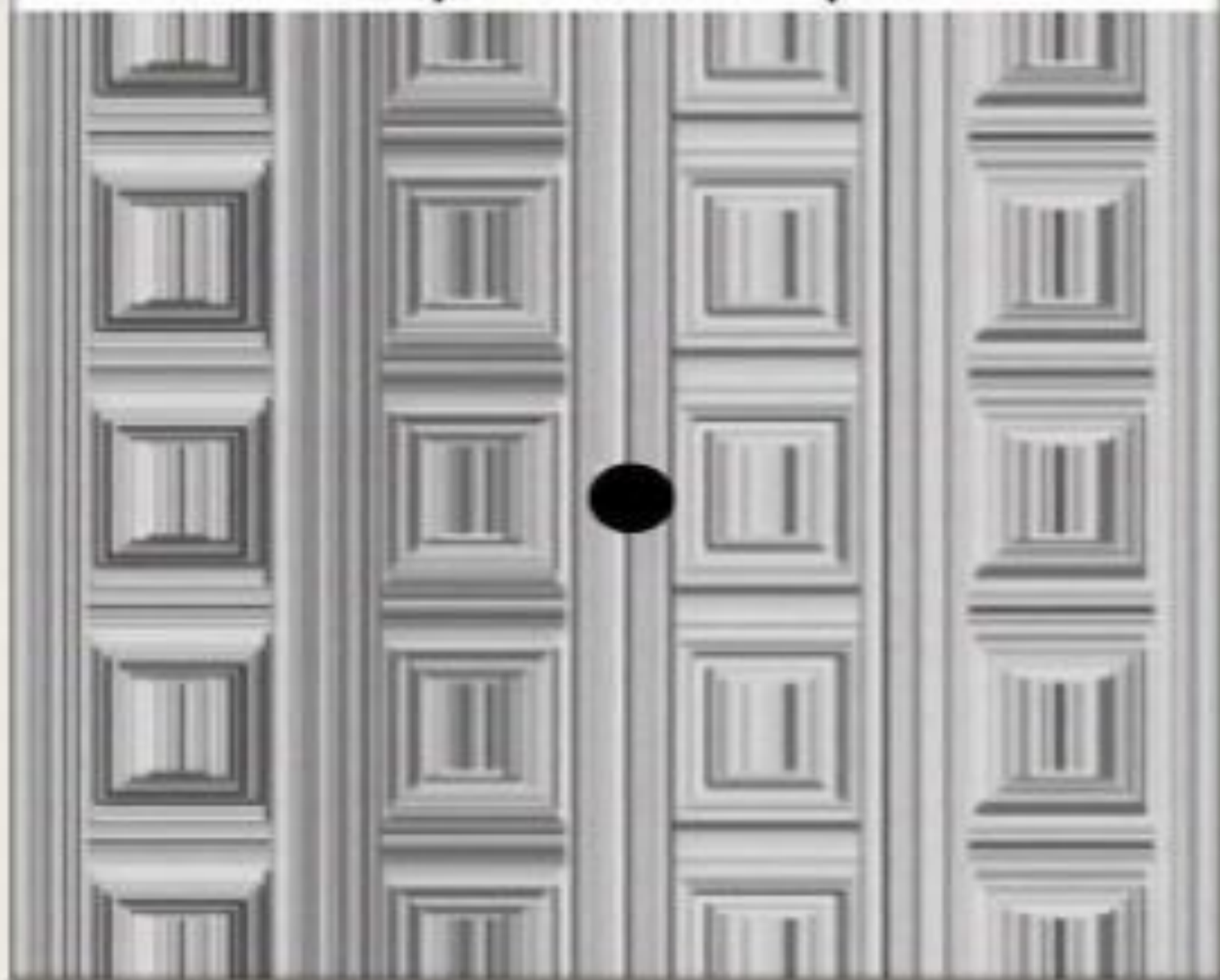
1. Provide answers to valid questions on Blacks and the LDS Priesthood
2. Create a greater reliance upon studying the scriptures, the word of God
3. Create a greater reliance upon the Holy Ghost to obtain knowledge and truth

We' ll Accomplish This By ...

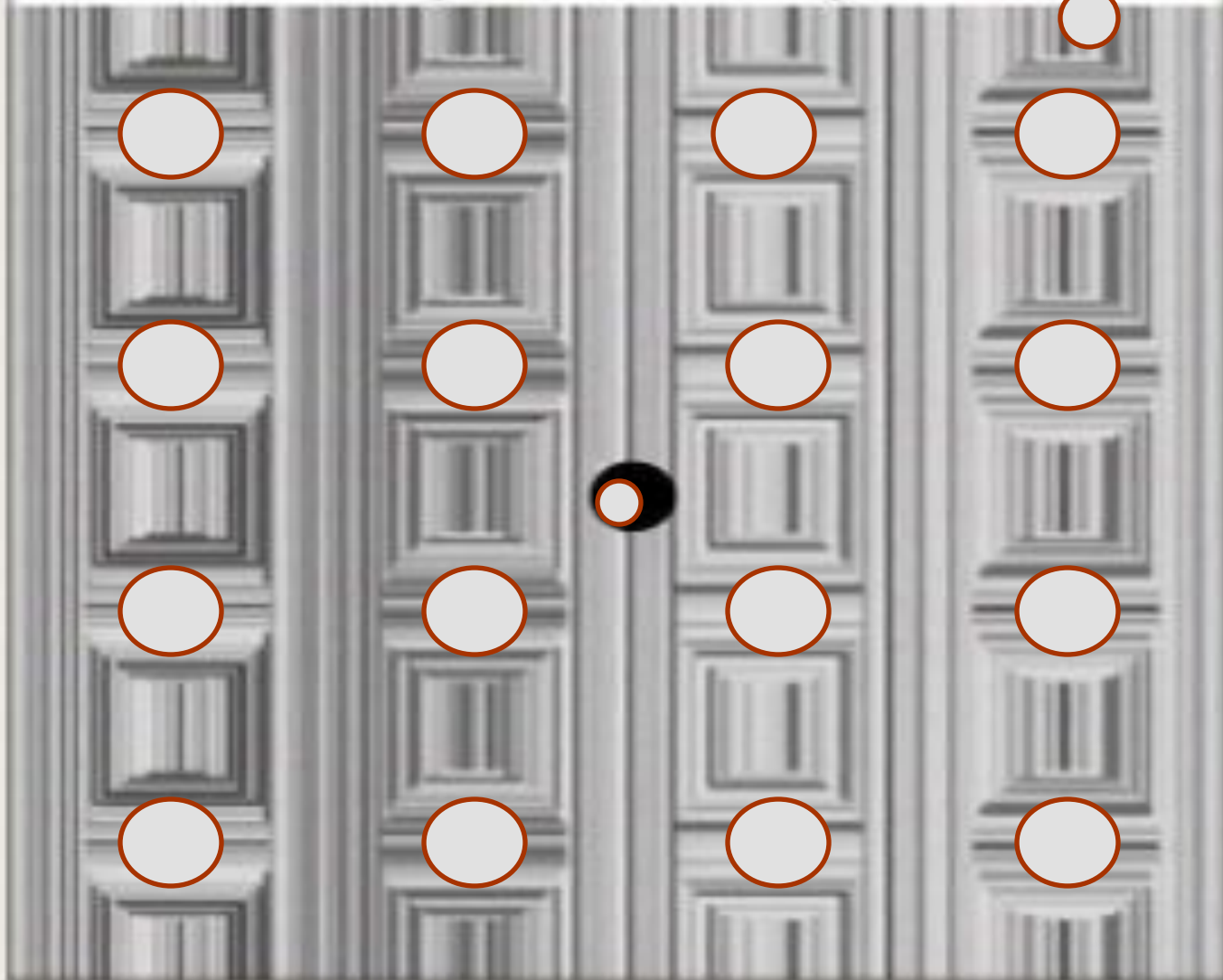
1. Shattering long standing paradigms
2. Identifying potential blockages to truth
3. Utilizing the psychological, social and scientific

ALL THINGS TESTIFY OF CHRIST

How many circles do you see?



How many circles do you see?



Idiom

id·i·om [**id**-ee-*uhm*] :

A construction or expression of one language whose parts correspond to elements in another language but whose total structure or meaning is not matched in the same way in the second language.



Define Racism

Dictionary.com

1.a belief or doctrine that inherent differences among the various human races determine cultural or individual achievement, usually involving the idea that one's own race is superior and has the right to rule others.

2.a policy, system of government, etc., based upon or fostering such a doctrine; discrimination.

3.hatred or intolerance of another race or other races.

What I was told when investigating ...

- Fence sitters in pre-existence
- Cursed
- Seed of Cain, a murderer
- Representatives of Satan here on earth
- Lowly, uncouth, lazy & detestable to others
- Would not receive the priesthood in this lifetime
- Dark skin is a mark of unworthiness
- Any who marry them should be killed
- It was time for everybody else but you





Leon Festinger
1957

COGNITIVE DISSONANCE

**We' ll pick a side
and then only
accept what
supports our
choice.**

Matthew 6:24

¶No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Joshua 24:15

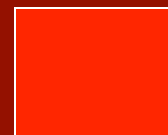
...choose you this day whom ye will serve;

White Shirts



White Shirts

Brown People



Johann Friedrich Blumenbach

1775

TWO TYPES OF MELANIN IN HUMAN HAIR & SKIN

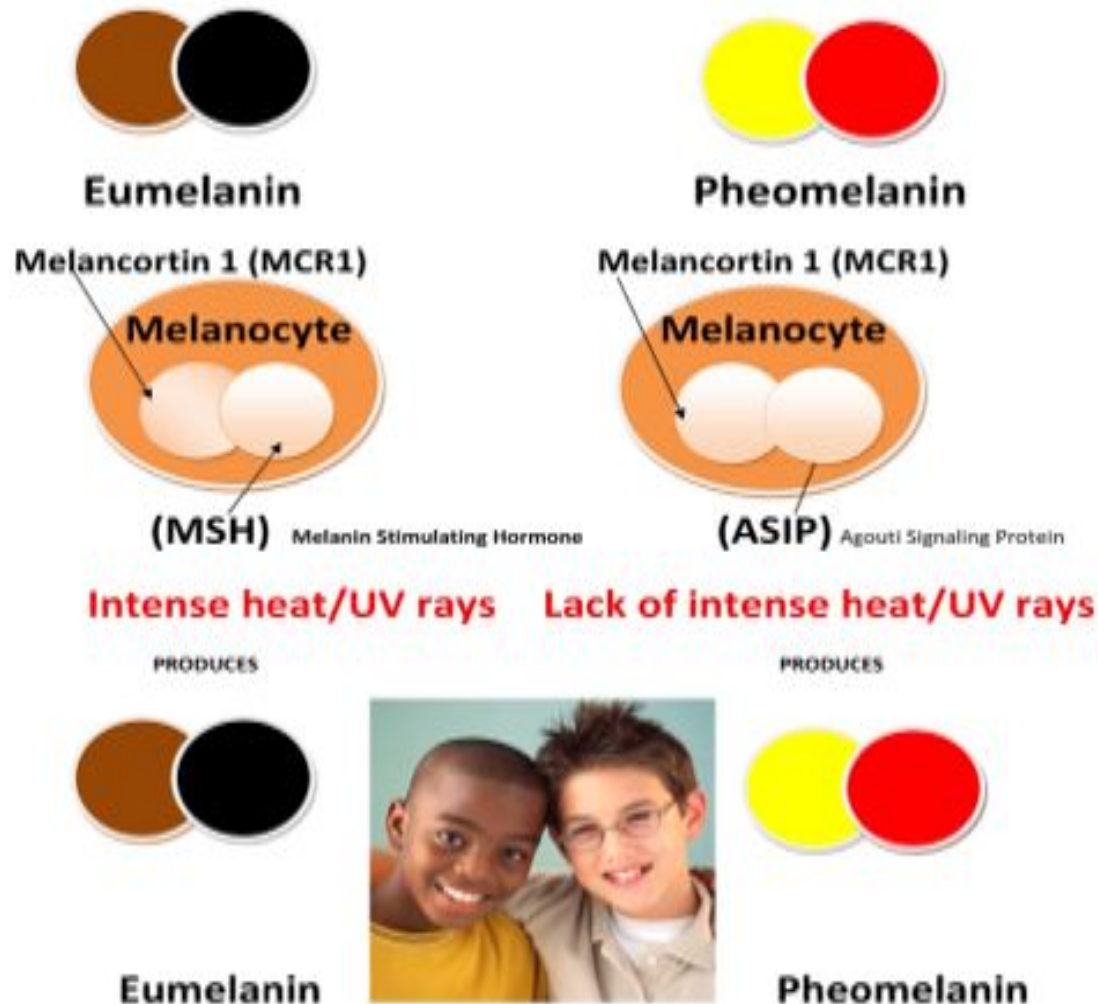
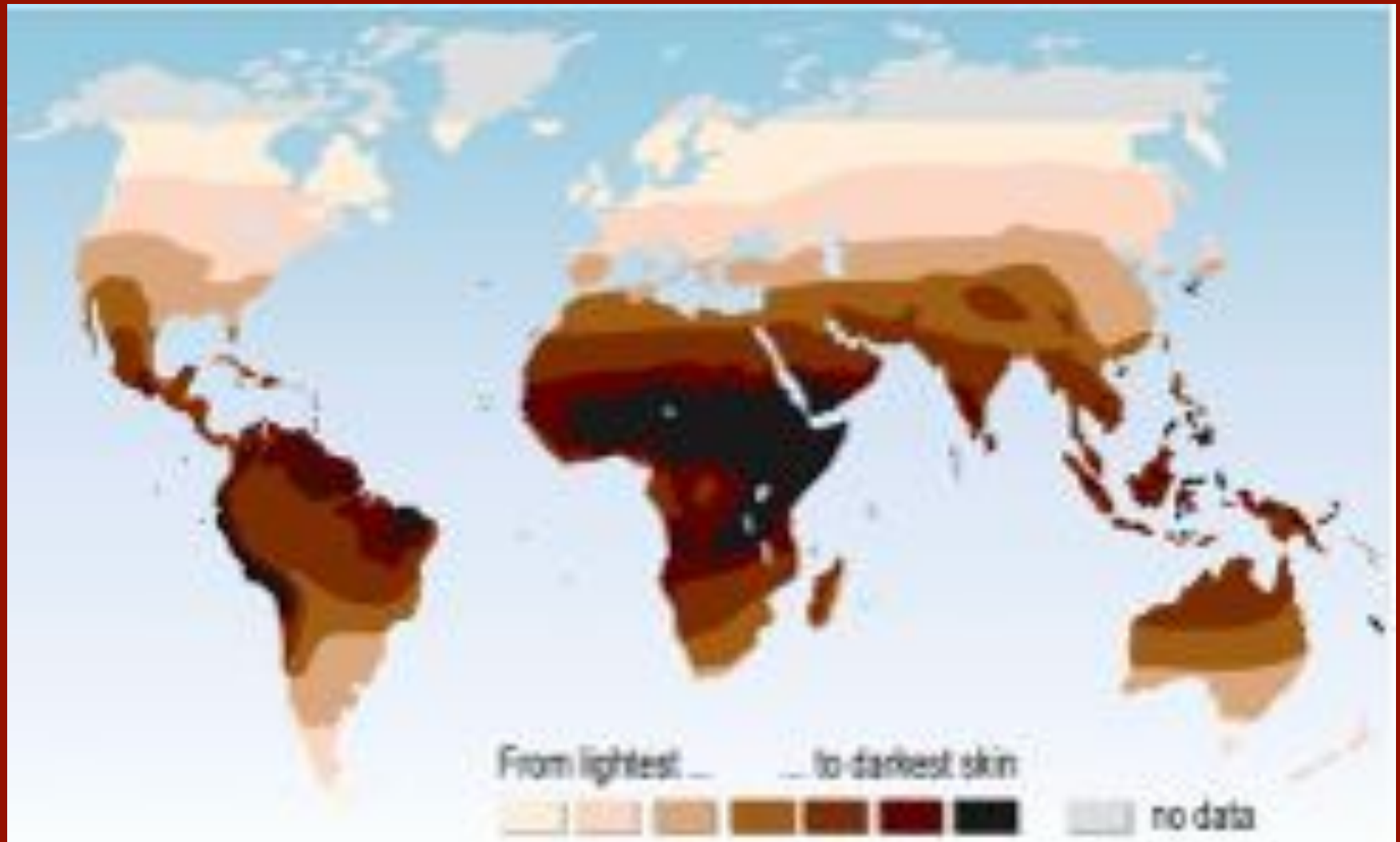


Photo: Clipart (Microsoft office Word 2007)

Figure 2: Agouti Signaling Protein (National Center For Biotechnology Information 2010).

SKIN TONE CHART OF WORLD POPULATION

From the American Journal of Physical Anthropology, updated last in 2007







Idiom

id·i·om [**id**-ee-*uhm*] :

“This doesn’t mean what you think it means. It means something totally different in another culture or language.”

Widely Accepted Views

(philosophies of men)

Doctrine of the Church

(scripture or Word of God)



Matthew 22:36-40

Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Ok with the Lord, Ok with me ...

And inasmuch as they **erred** it might be made known; And inasmuch as they **sought wisdom** they might be instructed; And inasmuch as they **sinned** they might be chastened, that they might repent; And inasmuch as they were **humble** they might be made strong, and blessed from on high, and receive knowledge from time to time.

D&C 1:25-28

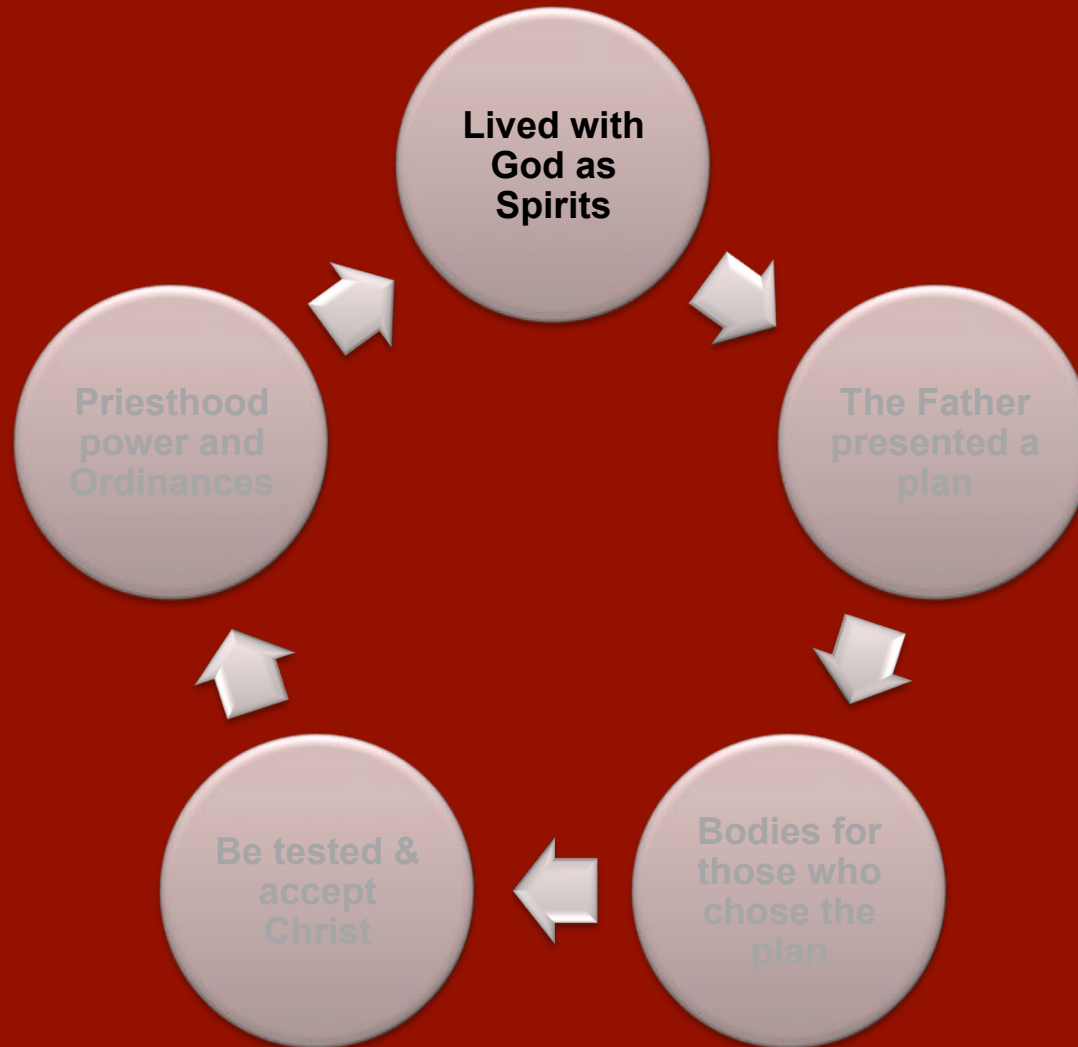
D&C 35:23

And ^ainasmuch as
ye do not write,
behold, it shall be
^bgiven unto him to
prophecy; and thou
shalt preach my
gospel and call on
^cthe holy prophets to
prove his words, as
they shall be given
him.



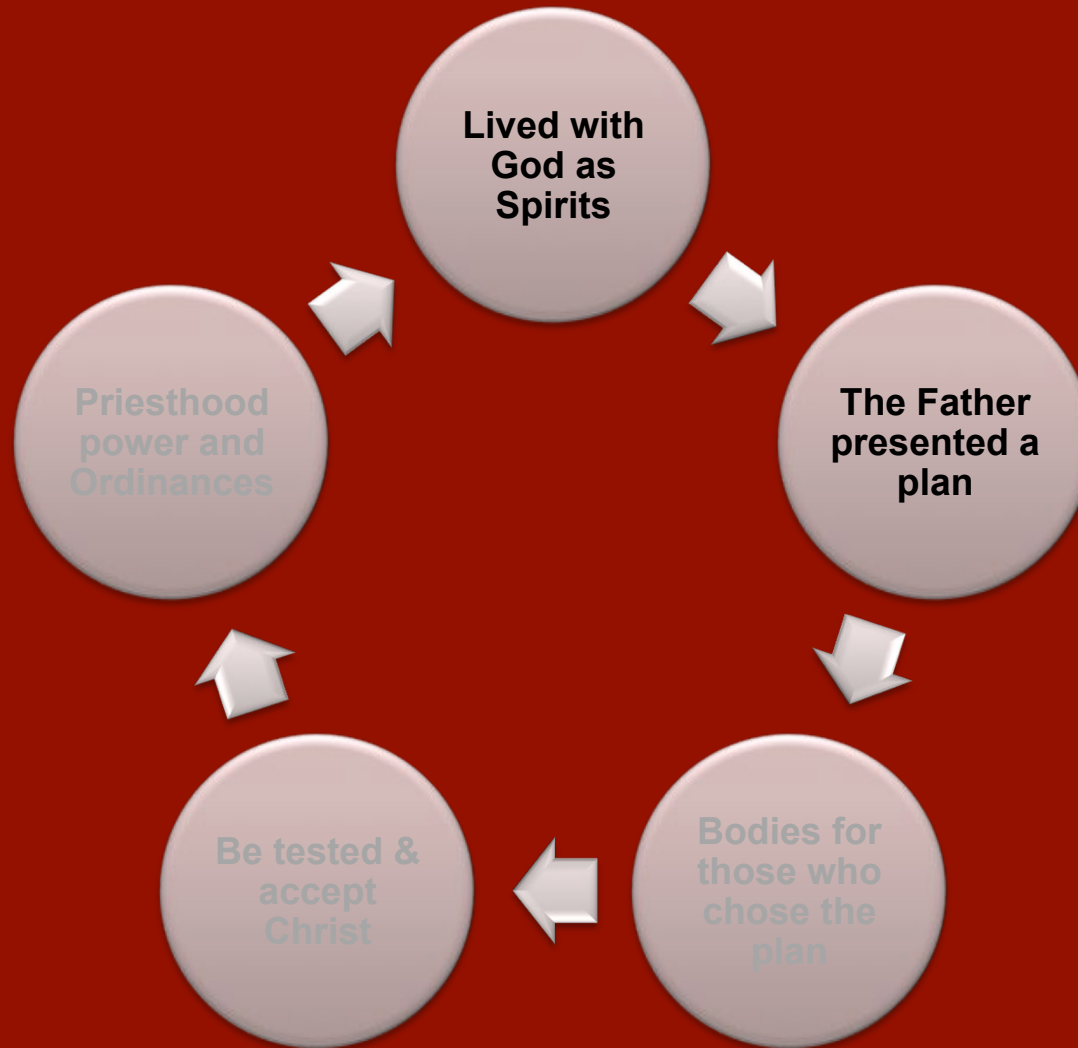
Plan of Salvation

For behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man.



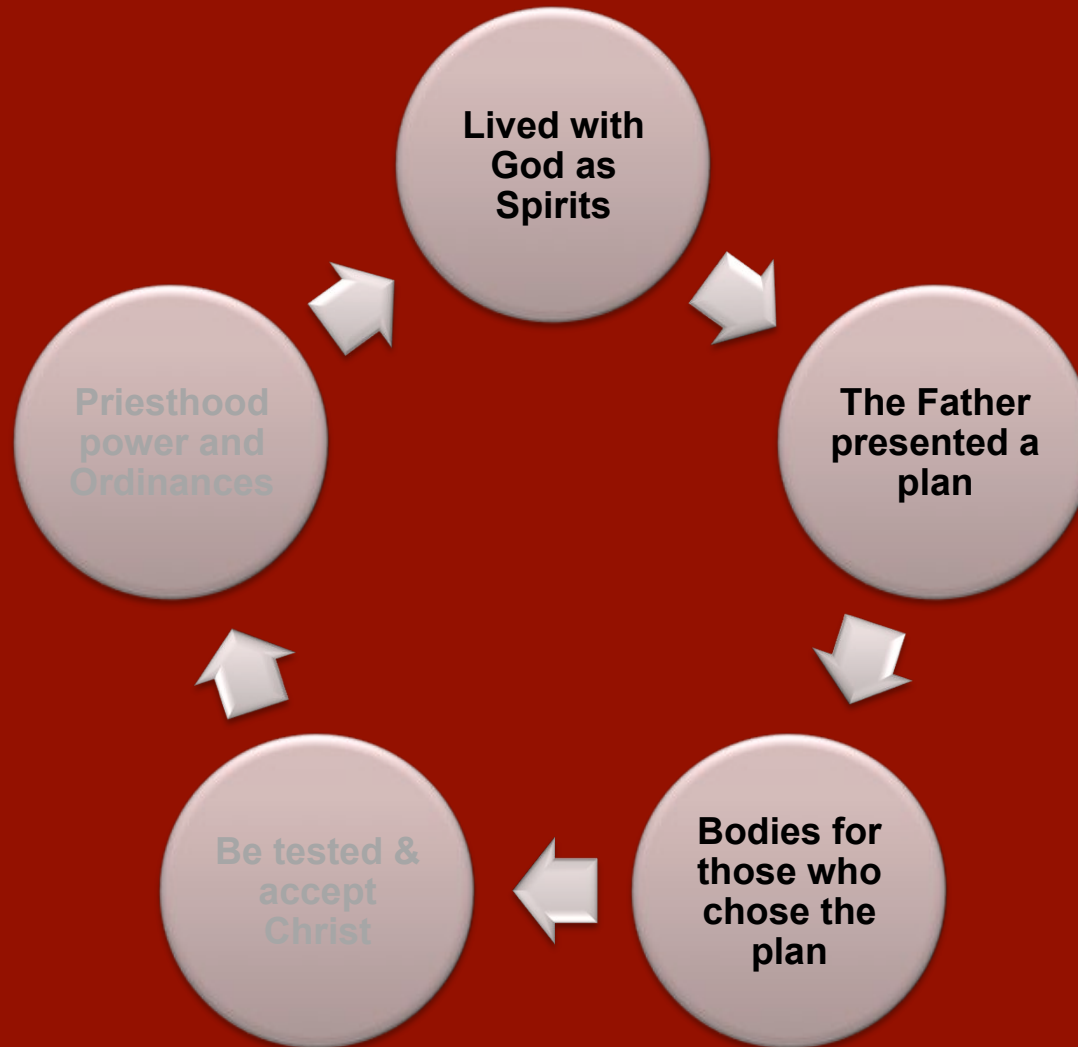
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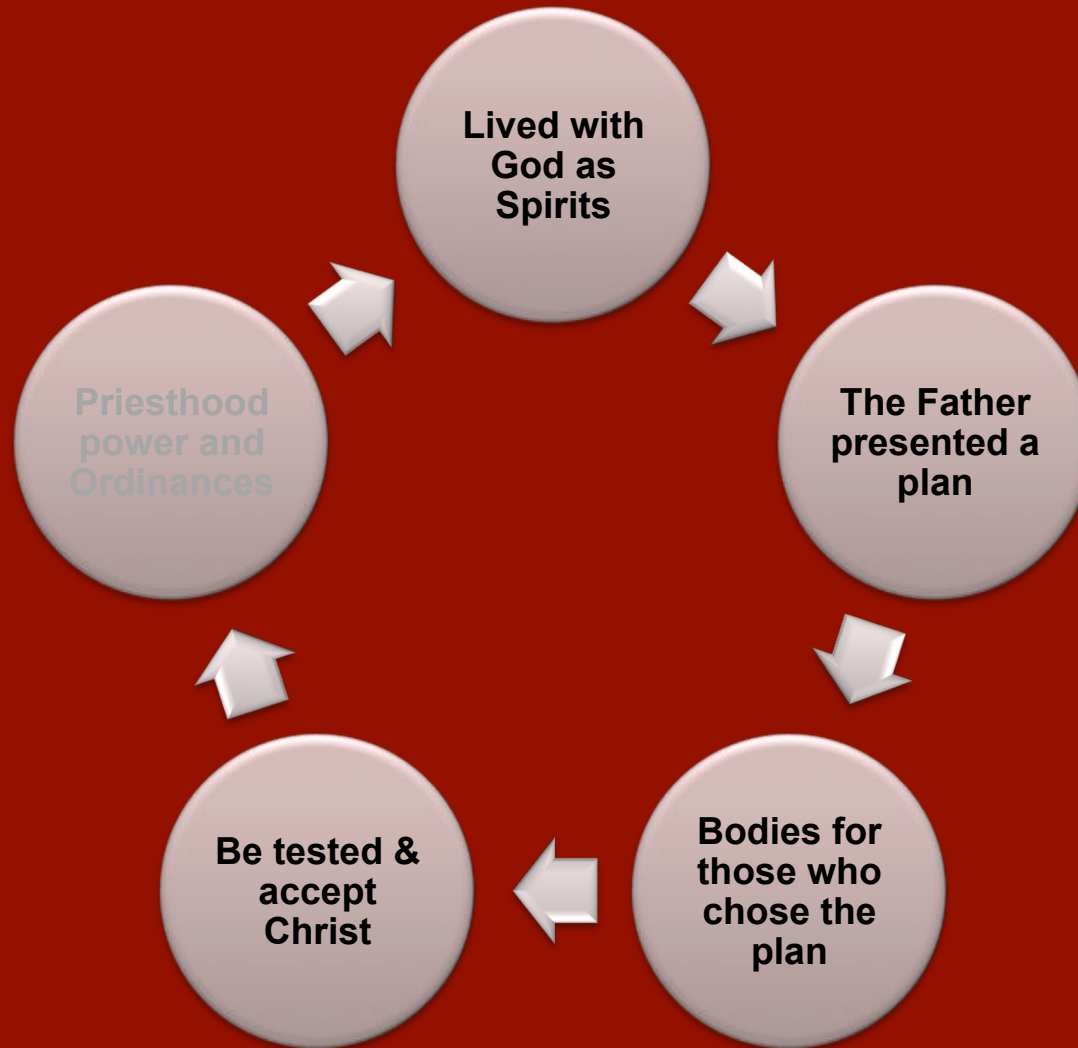
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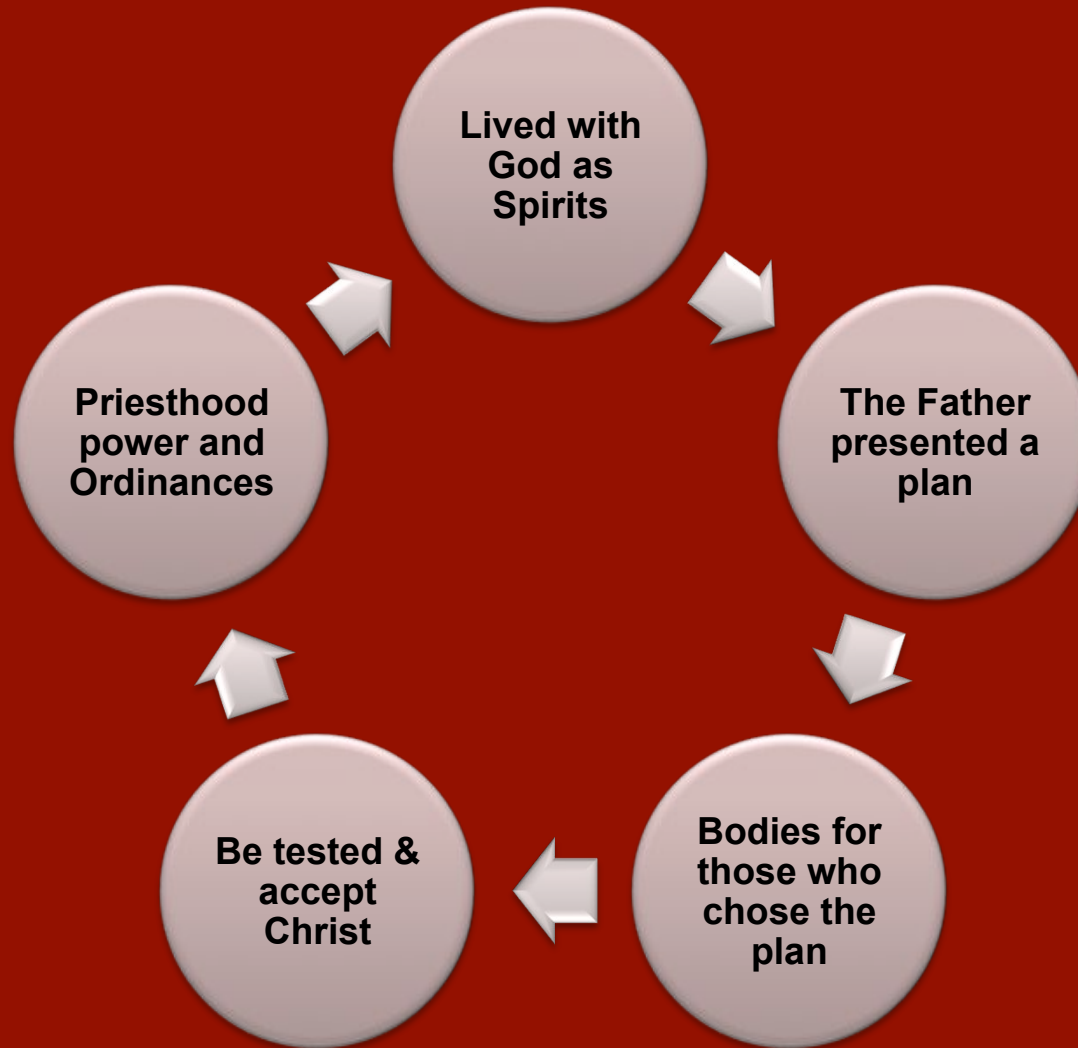
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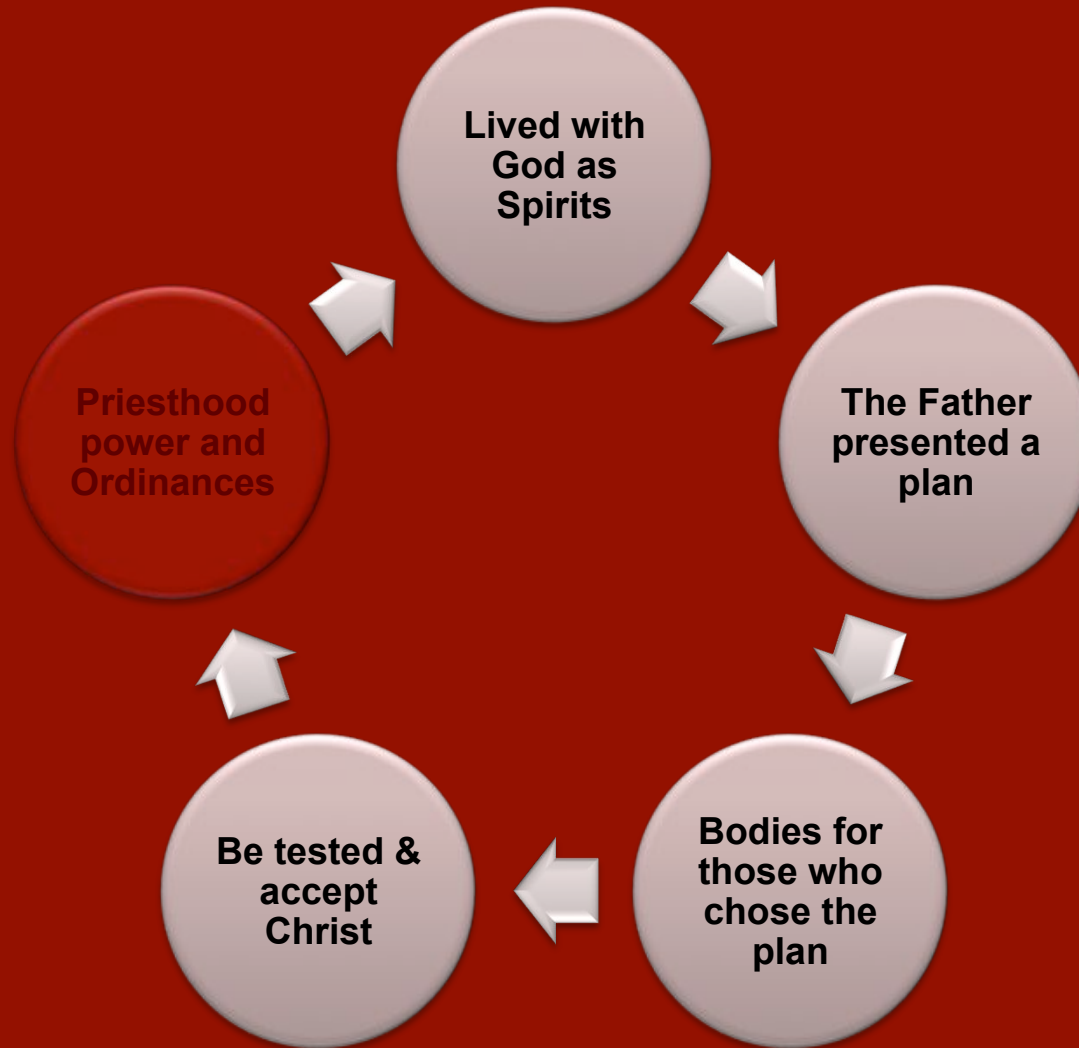
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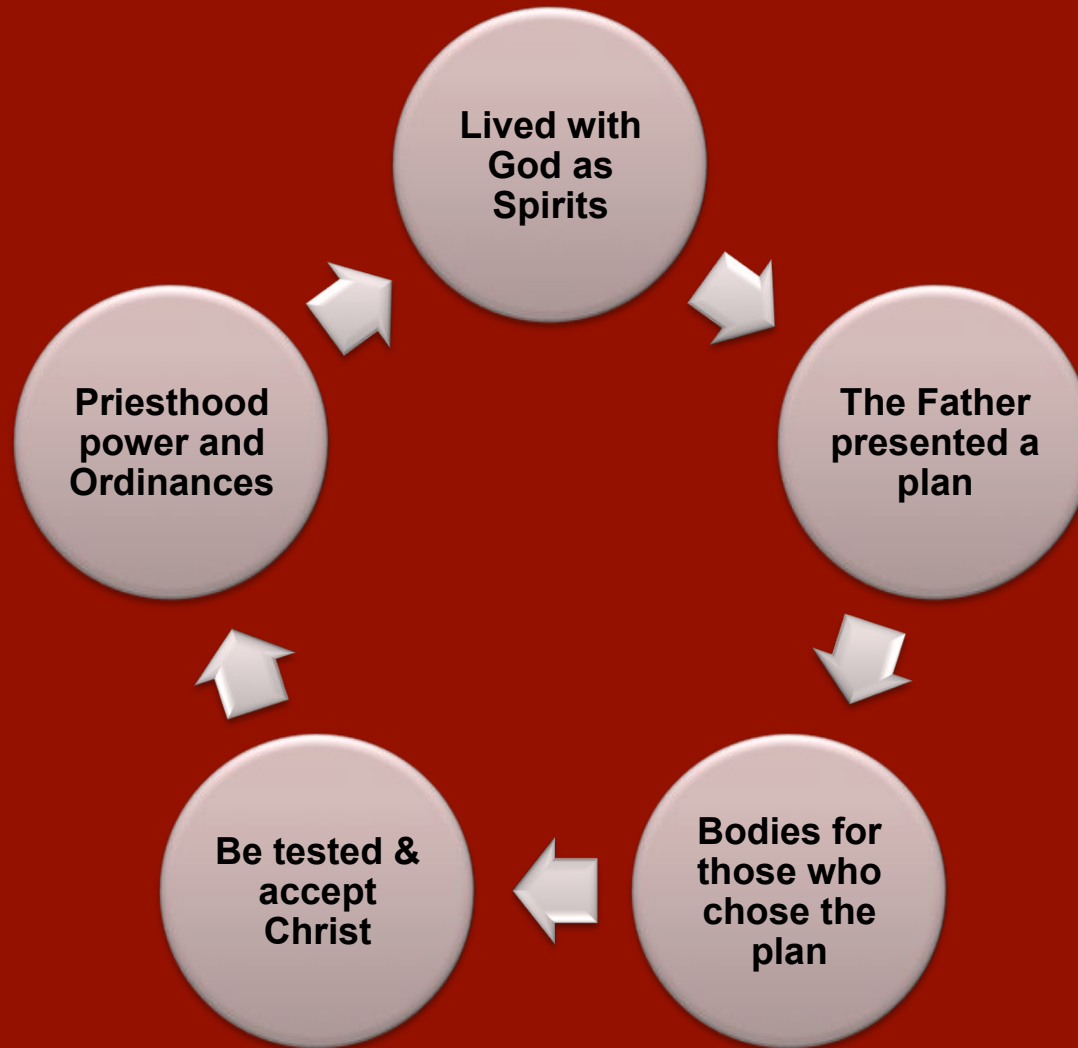
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Plan of Salvation

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CURSE

**A separation from God,
His path, His ways**

Webster's Dictionary

noun, verb, cursed or curst, curs-ing.

8. *Slang.* the menstrual period; menstruation (usually prec. by *the*).

9. an ecclesiastical censure or anathema.

10. to wish or invoke evil, calamity, injury, or destruction upon.

11. to swear at.

12. to blaspheme.

13. to afflict with great evil.

14. to excommunicate.

15. to utter curses; swear profanely.

In Reference to Cain

36 And now thou shalt be acursed from the earth which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand. 38 And Cain said ... my bpunishment is greater than I can bear. 39 Behold thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the Lord, and from thy face shall I be hid;

Moses 5:36, 38-39

In Reference to Adam

Wherefore, I, the Lord God, caused that he should be ^acast out from the Garden of ^bEden, from my presence, because of his transgression, wherein he became ^cspiritually ^ddead, which is the first death, even that same death which is the last ^edeath, which is spiritual, which shall be pronounced upon the wicked when I shall say: Depart, ye ^fcursed.

D&C 29:41

BLACK & WHITE

Spiritual darkness, gloominess, dejected

And

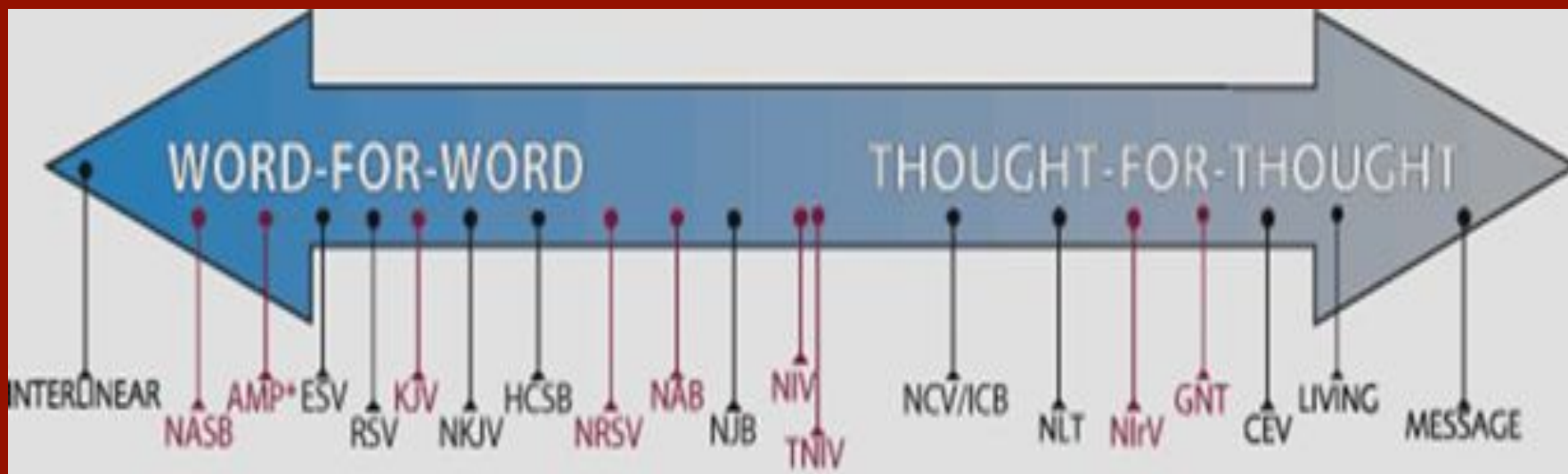
Righteousness, purity

Jeremiah 8:21 - For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt; I am a~~black~~; astonishment hath taken hold on me.

21a: Heb. idiom meaning 'gloomy.'

Jeremiah 14:2 - Judah mourneth, and the gates thereof languish; they are a~~black~~ unto the ground; and the cry of Jerusalem is gone up.

2a: OR Dejected



NASB	New American Standard Bible (1971; update 1995)	NIV	New International Version (1984)
AMP	Amplified Bible (1965)	TNIV	Today's New International Version (NT 2001, OT 2005)
ESV	English Standard Version (2001)	NCV	New Century Version
RSV	Revised Standard Version (1952)	NLT ¹	New Living Translation (1 st ed. 1996; 2 nd ed. 2004)
KJV	King James Version (1611; significantly revised 1769)	NIrV	New International reader's Version
NKJV	New King James Version (1982)	GNT	Good News Translation (also Good News Bible)
HCSB	Holman Christian Standard Version (2004)	CEV	Contemporary English Version
NRSV	New Revised Standard Version (1989)	Living	Living Bible (1950). Paraphrase by Ken Taylor. Liberal treatment of 'blood.'
NAB	New American Bible (Catholic, 1970, 1986 (NT), 1991 (Psalms))	Message	The Message by Eugene Peterson (1991-2000s)
NJB	New Jerusalem Bible (Catholic, 1986; revision of 1966 Jerusalem Bible)		



Jeremiah 14:2 - Judah mourneth, and the gates thereof languish; they are a^{black} unto the ground; and the cry of Jerusalem is gone up.

2a: OR Dejected

Joel 2:6 - Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather a blackness.

6a: Heb. idiom meaning 'gloom.'

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Job 30:30 - My skin is **black** upon me, and my bones are burned with heat.

Lamentations 5:10 - Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine.

2 NEPHI 5:21

And he had caused the ^acursing to come upon them, yea, even a **sore cursing**, because of their iniquity. For behold, they had **hardened their hearts** against him, that they had become **like unto a flint**; wherefore, as they were **white**, and **exceedingly fair** and ^bdelightsome, that they might not be ^centicing unto my people the Lord God did cause a ^dskin of ^eblackness to come upon them.

Follow new footnote “d” to **2 Nephi 30:6** to get an idea of what is meant by “skin”.

And then shall they rejoice; for they shall
aknow that it is a blessing unto them from the hand of God; and their
bscales of darkness shall begin to fall from their eyes; and many
generations shall not pass away among them, save they shall be a
pure and a cdelightsome people.

2 Nephi 30:6

Follow new footnote “b” to the bottom of the page

bscales - TG Darkness, Spiritual, TG Spiritual Blindness

1 Samuel 16:7

But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the Lord* ^aseeth not as ^bman seeth; **for man looketh on the outward ^cappearance, but the ^dLord looketh on the ^eheart.**

O my brethren, I fear that unless ye shall repent of your sins that their skins will be ^awhiter than yours, when ye shall be brought with them before the throne of God.

Jacob 3:8

Follow new footnote “a” for “whiter”

8 a 3 Ne. 2:15

And their ^acurse was taken from them, and their skin became ^bwhite like unto the Nephites;

3 Nephi 2:15

Follow new footnote for “white” b

2 Ne. 5:21; 30:6; Jacob 3:8

Alma 3:4-6

4 And the ^aAmlicites were distinguished from the Nephites, for they had ^bmarked themselves with red in their foreheads after the manner of the Lamanites; nevertheless they had not shorn their heads like unto the Lamanites.

Alma 55:8-9

8 And when it was evening Laman went to the guards who were over the Nephites, and behold, they saw him **coming** and they hailed him; but he saith unto them: Fear not; behold, I am a Lamanite. Behold, we have escaped from the Nephites, and they sleep; and behold we have taken of their wine and brought with us.

9 Now when the Lamanites heard these words they received him with joy;

For none of these iniquities come of the Lord; for he doeth that which is good among the children of men; and he doeth nothing save it be plain unto the children of men; and he ^ainviteth them ^ball to ^ccome unto him and partake of his goodness; and he ^ddenieth none that come unto him, **black and white,** ^ebond and free, male and female; and he remembereth the ^fheathen; and all are alike unto God, both Jew and Gentile.

2 Nephi 26:33

Also Compare Alma 1:30 & 11:44

Now, this restoration shall come to all, both old and young, both bond and free, both male and female, both the wicked and the righteous;

Alma 11:44

...and they did not set their hearts upon ^criches; therefore they were ^dliberal to all, both old and young, both bond and free, both male and female, whether out of the church or in the church, having no ^erespect to persons as to those who stood in need.

Alma 1:30

**All Of This Confirmed
By October, 2010
Changes To
Scriptures on LDS.org**

MORMON 5 - Chapter heading removes *“The Lamanites shall be a dark, filthy and loathsome people”* and replaces it with *“Because of their unbelief, the Lamanites will be scattered, and the Spirit will cease to strive with them”*

MOSES 7:8,22- The words *“blackness”* and *“black”* both **get new footnotes** which lead to **2 Nephi 26:33**.

1 NEPHI 12:23- The footnotes for “dark” have been removed (Jacob 3:3 and Alma 3:7, [6-19]) and replaced with 2 Nephi 26:33

2 NEPHI 5 - The words in the chapter heading “*the Lamanites are cursed, receive a skin of blackness*” were changed to “*the Lamanites are cut off from the presence of the Lord, are cursed,*”

Priesthood

Elijah Abel



AFRICAN AMERICANS WERE ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD IN THE 1800'S & 1900'S

Black Pete 1832

Joseph T. Ball 1833 by Brigham Young

Elijah Abel, by Joseph Smith in 1836

Isaac Van Meter 1837

Walker Lewis in 1844

William McCary 1846

Enoch Able 1900

Elijah Abel (Grandson of the first Elijah Abel) 1934, 1935

**All Of This Confirmed
By March 1, 2013
Changes To
Declaration 2**

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

An excerpt from the March 1, 2013 addition to
Official Declaration 2

... During Joseph Smith's lifetime, a few **black male members of the Church were ordained to the priesthood**. Early in its history, Church leaders stopped conferring the priesthood on black males of African descent. **Church records offer no clear insights into the origins of this practice.**

What qualifies one for priesthood?

And ^afaith, ^bhope, ^ccharity and ^dlove, with an ^eeye single to the ^fglory of God,
^gqualify him for the work.

D&C 4:5

Follow the **new** footnote for “5g” to the bottom of the page to find the following:

TG Priesthood, Qualifying for

More direct revelation on who to give Priesthood

And now this **calling** and **commandment** give I unto you concerning **all men**—

That as many as shall come before my servants Sidney Rigdon and Joseph Smith, Jun., embracing this calling and commandment, shall be aordained and sent forth to bpreach the everlasting gospel among the nations—

D&C 36:4-5

5a D&C 4: 3 (3-6); D&C 63: 57; TG Priesthood, Ordination.

More direct revelation on who to give Priesthood

And this commandment shall be given unto the elders of my church, that every man which will ^aembrace it with ^bsingleness of heart may be ordained and sent forth, even as I have spoken.

D&C 36:7

7a TG Commitment; Priesthood, Magnifying Callings within; Priesthood, Qualifying for.

Clear guidance on priesthood repeated

And again, verily I say unto you, ^athose who desire in their hearts, in meekness, to ^bwarn sinners to repentance, let them be **ordained** unto this power.

D&C 63:57

Follow the **new** footnote “57a” for “those” which says:

D&C 4:3 Therefore, if ye have desires to serve God ye are ^acalled to the work;

D&C 36:5 That as many as shall come before my servants Sidney Rigdon and Joseph Smith, Jun., embracing this calling and commandment, shall be ^aordained and sent forth to ^bpreach the everlasting gospel among the nations

D&C 121:21-23

- 21 They shall not have right to the ^apriesthood, nor their posterity after them from generation to generation.
- 22 It had been ^abetter for them that a millstone had been hanged about their necks, and they drowned in the depth of the sea.
- 23 Wo unto all those that ^adiscomfort my people, and drive, and ^bmurder, and testify against them, saith the Lord of Hosts; a ^cgeneration of vipers shall not escape the damnation of hell.

**However, the Lords,
speaking of the same people:**

And I will answer ajudgment, wrath, and indignation, wailing, and anguish, and gnashing of teeth upon their heads, unto the third and fourth generation, **so long as they repent not**, and hate me, saith the Lord your God.

D&C 124:52

IN CONCLUSION

1. Race and black and white terms - 1775
2. Black and white skin in the scriptures refer to spirits of man, not literal skin
3. How skin color changes – A sign of God's love
4. Idioms and their use in scriptures
5. A curse is a separation from God, His paths or ways
6. Several direct revelations to give all men the priesthood
7. Changes to scripture helps in 1981, 2010 & 2013

Blacks *in the* Scriptures



Q&A