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Only excerpts from the book are included herein –
The formatting in the book may differ from that found below –
paper size is different in the book –
analysis and observations sections have been shortened –

Adam



1 Adam as God the Father

Zebedee Coltrin

9/21-22/1827

UR 2:55 par. 33-38¹

Joseph said, "Let's us kneel down here and pray." After prayer Joseph stretched himself upon his back upon a grassy spot with his arms extended like one upon the cross. He told me to lie by his side and Oliver in like manner on the other side. We did, all three of us looking heavenward. As I looked I saw the blue sky open; I beheld a throne [where] sat a man and woman. Joseph asked us if we knew who they were; we answered, "*That is Father Adam and Mother Eve.*" And their faces shown with immortal youth.

Joseph Smith

11/8/1832

HC 1:296; 2:428; 7:558

¹ This account was related by Joseph's mother in 1845. The first few quotes here presented are the least clear of any of the following statements. The italicized distinction is at the end of each account. The following account appears to corroborate some of these initial accounts as well:

Heber C. Kimball

3/17/1861

JD 9:41

This brings to mind the vision that Joseph Smith had, when he saw Adam open the gate of the Celestial city and admit the people one by one. He then saw Father Adam conduct them to the throne one by one, when they were crowned Kings and Priests of God.

[After Brigham Young spoke in tongues, some members thought it was "of the devil" but Joseph] told them it was the pure *Adamic* language [or the] *language of God*.²

Joseph Smith et al.

5/7/1834

Salt Lake School of the Prophets, Minutes, 69-70³

Once after returning from a mission, he [Zebedee Coltrin] met Bro. Joseph in Kirtland, who asked him if he did not wish to go with him to a conference at New Portage. The party consisted of Prests. Joseph Smith, Sidney Rigdon, Oliver Cowdery and myself. Next morning at New Portage, he noticed that Joseph seemed to have a far off look in his eyes, or was looking at a distance, and presently he, Joseph, stepped between Brothers Cowdery, and Coltrin and taking them by the arm, said, "lets take a walk." They went to a place where there was some beautiful grass, and grapevines and swampbeech interlaced. President Joseph Smith then said, "Let us pray." They all three prayed in turn--Joseph, Oliver and Zebedee. Bro. Joseph then said, "now brethren we will see some visions." Joseph lay down on the ground on his back and stretched out his arms and the two brethren lay on them. The heavens gradually opened, and they saw a golden throne, on a circular foundation, something like a light house, and on the throne were two aged personages, having white hair, and clothed in white garments. They were the two most beautiful and perfect specimens of mankind he ever saw. Joseph said, *They are our first parents, Adam and Eve*. Adam was a large broad shouldered man, and Eve as a woman, was as large in proportion.

UR 2:66 par. 1-6

In a meeting held in the year 1832, on the occasion of Elder Brigham Young speaking in tongues, the Prophet being present; it was the first time that the exercise of this gift had come under his notice. The congregation was at the time in a kneeling posture. As soon as Brother Brigham had concluded his prayer, the Prophet rose to his feet and invited them to rise and be seated. Joseph then addressed them, and said; "Brethren, this tongue that we have heard is the gift of God, for He has made it known unto me, and I shall never oppose anything that comes from Him. I feel the spirit that Brother Brigham has manifested in this gift of tongues, and I wish to speak myself in the tongue that it will please the Lord to give me; He accordingly spoke in what may be called an open and fluent language; more so than was commonly heard. He occupied some minutes in the exercise of the gift. After he had concluded he said, "Brethren, this is the *language of our father Adam* while he dwelt in Eden; and the time will again come, that when the Lord brings again Zion, the Zion of Enoch, this people will then all speak the language which I have just spoken.

³ This was recorded in records circa 1883.

President Peterson

5/7/1834

Journal of Abraham H. Cannon 13:89⁴

Pres. Peterson told of an incident which he often heard Zebedee Coltrin relate. One day the Prophet Joseph asked him and Sidney Rigdon to accompany him into the woods to pray. When they had reached a secluded spot, Joseph laid down on his back and stretched out his arms. He told the brethren to lie one on each arm, and then shut their eyes. After they had prayed he told them to open their eyes. They did so and saw a brilliant light surrounding a pedestal which seemed to rest on the earth. They closed their eyes and again prayed. They then saw, on opening them, *the Father* seated upon a throne; they prayed again and on looking saw *the Mother* also; after praying and looking the fourth time they saw *the Savior* added to the group. He had ___ brown, rather long, wavy hair and appeared quite young.

Parley P. Pratt

1/1/1844

The Angel of the Prairies

On entering this room, a vast and extensive hall was opened before me, the walls of which were white, and ornamented with various figures which I did not understand. In the midst of this hall was a vast throne and white as ivory, and ascended by seventy steps, and on either side of the throne, and of the steps leading to it, there were seats rising one above another. On this throne was seated an aged, venerable looking man. His hair was white with age, and his countenance beamed with intelligence and affection indescribable as if he were the father of the kingdoms and the people over which he reigned. He was clad in robes of dazzling whiteness, while a glorious crown rested upon his brow: and a pillar of light above his head seemed to diffuse over the whole scene a brilliance of glory and grandeur indescribable. There was something in his countenance which seemed to indicate that he had passed long years of struggle and exertion in the achievement of some mighty revolution, and been a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. But, like the evening sun after a day of clouds and tempest, he seemed to smile with the dignity of repose. In connection with this venerable personage sat two others scarcely less venerable, and clad and crowned in the same manner, on the next seat below were twelve personages, much of the same appearances and clad in the same manner, with crowns upon their heads; while the descending seats were filled with some thousands of noble and dignified personages, all enrobed in white and crowned with authority, power and majesty, as kings and presiding among the Sons of

⁴ This was recorded on the date 8/25/1890; Critics have suggested that President Peterson confused the individuals involved in this event. However, it is worth noting that he states that he "often heard" this account related to him; it is also worth noting that the accounts are otherwise generally consistent.

God. 'You now behold,' said the Angel of the Prairies, 'the Grand Presiding Council organized in wisdom, and holding the keys of power to bear rule over all the earth in righteousness. And of the increase and glory of their kingdoms there shall be no end.' ... The venerable council which you beheld enthroned in majesty and clad in robes of white, with crowns upon their heads, is the order of the Ancient of Days, before whose august presence thrones have been cast down, and tyrants have ceased to rule.

6/7/1844

Nauvoo Expositor 1:2, Resolution #2

Inasmuch as we have for years borne with the individual follies and iniquities of Joseph Smith, Hyrum Smith, and many of the official characters, and having labored with them repeatedly with all Christian love, meekness, and humility, yet to no effect, we feel as if forbearance has ceased to be a virtue and hope of reformation vain. And inasmuch as they have introduced false and damnable doctrines into the church such as; a plurality of Gods above the God of this universe; and *his liability to fall with all of His creations*; the plurality of wives; unconditional sealing up.

Brigham Young

Friday 4/9/1852

JD 1:50

Now hear it, O inhabitants of the earth, Jew and Gentile, Saint and sinner! When our father Adam came into the garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body, and brought Eve, one of his wives, with him. He helped to make and organize this world. He is Michael, the Archangel, the Ancient of Days! About whom holy men have written and spoken - *He is our father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do.*

Brigham Young

Friday 4/9/1852

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

Our Father begot all the spirits that were before any tabernacle was made. When our Father came into the Garden He came with his Celestial body & brought one of his wives with him and ate of the fruit of the Garden until He could beget a Tabernacle. *And Adam is Michael God and all the God that we have anything to do with.* They ate of this fruit & formed the first Tabernacle that was formed. And when the Virgin Mary was begotten with child it was by the Father and in no other way only as we were begotten. I will tell you the truth as it is in God. The world don't know that Jesus Christ our Elder Brother was begotten by our Father in Heaven. Handle it as you please, it will either seal the damnation or salvation of man. He was begotten by the Father & not by the Holy Ghost.

*Brigham Young**Friday 4/9/1852*

Journal of Hosea Stout 2:435

Another meeting this evening. President B. Young taught that *Adam* was the father of Jesus and *the only God to us*. That he came to this world in a resurrected body, etc. More hereafter.

*Heber C. Kimball**Saturday 4/10/1852*

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

Some have said that I was very presumptuous to say that Brother Brigham was my God and Savior. Brother Joseph was his God. The one that gave Joseph the keys of the Kingdom was his God,⁵ which was Peter. Jesus Christ was his God and *the God and Father of Jesus Christ was Adam*.

*Brigham Young**Friday 4/16/1852*

Journal of Samuel Holister Rogers 1:179

Conference commenced on the 6 and continued until the 11, it was held in the new tabernacle, adjourned until the 6 of next October We had the best Conference that I ever attended during the time of the Conference President Brigham Young said that our spirits were begotten before that Adam came to the Earth and that Adam helped to make the Earth, that he had a Celestial body when he came to the Earth and that he brought his wife or one of his wives with him, and that Eave was also a Celestial being, that they eat of the fruit of the ground until they begat children from the Earth, he said that *Adam was the only God that we would have*, and that Christ was not begotten of the Holy Ghost, but of the Father Adam, that Christ, was our elder brother.

*Orson Pratt**9/30/1852*

Thomas Evans Jeremy Sr Journal

Brother Orson Pratt preached on the subject of the resurrection of the dead, that they are to come out of their graves, but said that he did not know how the power of God would operate to raise them up from their graves. Also he did not believe that Father Adam had flesh and bones, when he came to the garden of Eden, but he and his wife Eve were spirits, and that God formed their bodies out of the dust of the ground, and

⁵ See "Titles & Offices: God & god" for an explanation of this statement.

⁶ Throughout this volume, I have included occasional statements of *unbelief* in various subsections. I have done this primarily because these statements serve to substantiate the position that a given doctrine *was* taught - there would have been no statements opposing a doctrine if it was never taught. These statements

the (sic) became a living souls. He also said that he believed that Jesus Christ and Adam are brothers in the Spirit, and that *Adam is not the God* that he is praying unto.⁶

Samuel W. Richards

1853

MS 15:iii (index)

Adam, our Father and our God 769

Do.⁷ the Father and God of the Human Family 801

Samuel W. Richards

Saturday 11/26/1853

MS 15:769 #48

ADAM, OUR FATHER AND GOD⁸

Samuel W. Richards

Saturday 12/10/1853

MS 15:801-04

ADAM, THE FATHER AND GOD OF THE HUMAN FAMILY

The above sentiment appeared in Star No. 48, a little to the surprise of some of its readers; and while the sentiment may have appeared blasphemous to the ignorant, it has no doubt given rise to some serious reflections with the more candid and comprehensive mind. A few reasonable and scriptural ideas upon this subject may be profitable at the present time. Then *Adam is really God!* And why not? If there are Lords many and *Gods many*, as the scriptures inform us, *why not our Father Adam be one of them?*

...

With these considerations before us, we can begin to see how it is that we are under obligations to our father *Adam, as to a God.* ...

Then why may not *Adam be a God*, as well as any of his sons, inasmuch as he has performed the work to which the Great Eloheim appointed him? ... This is the hope of all Saints who have a just conception of the future; and why should we not be willing for father Adam to inherit all things, as well as for ourselves? He is the first, the Father of all the human family, and his glory will be above all, for *he will be God over all*, necessarily, standing as he will through all eternity at the head of those who are the redeemed of his great family.

...

It is upon this foundation that the throne of *Michael is established as Father, Patriarch,*

generally do not directly help us to *understand* any given doctrine but they do help us to understand the dynamics of responses found in contemporary audiences who heard these teachings in person.

⁷ "Do." stands for "ditto".

⁸ The article that follows under this heading is a reprint of JD 1:50-51; see "Important Accounts" for the complete article and commentary.

God; and it is for all his children who come into this world, to learn and fully understand the eternity of that relationship.

...

While the God of unnumbered worlds is acknowledged to be his God and Father, Adam still maintains his exalted position at the head of all those who are saved from among the whole family of man; and *he will be God over all those who are made Gods from among men* As the great Elohim is supreme and Almighty over all His children and kingdoms, *so is Adam as great a ruler, or God, in his sphere*, over his children, and the kingdom which they possess. The earth and all things upon it were created for Adam, and it was given to him of his Father to have dominion over it.

...

Then shall the nations know that [*the Ancient of Days*] is their Judge, their Lawgiver, and *their God*, and upon his decree hangs the destiny of the assembled dead.

Samuel W. Richards

Saturday 12/17/1853

MS 15:824

It has been said that *Adam is the God and Father of the human family*, and persons are perhaps in fear and great trouble of mind, lest they have to acknowledge him as such in some future day. For our part we would much rather acknowledge Adam to be our Father than hunt for another and take up with the devil.

Brigham Young

2/19/1854

MABY

Who was it that spoke from the heavens and said "This is my beloved son hear ye him?" Was it God the Father? It was. ... Who did beget [Jesus]? His Father, and his father is our God, and the Father of our spirits, and he is the framer of the body, *the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Who is he? He is Father Adam; Michael; the Ancient of Days.*

Brigham Young

2/19/1854

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

He [Brigham Young] said that *our God was Father Adam*. He was the Father of the Savior Jesus Christ - *Our God was no more or less than Adam, Michael the Archangel.*

Elders Cafall, Hall, Little, & Richards

6/--/1854

MS 16:482 - Elder Thomas Cafall:

They (the members of the district) are lacking faith on one principle - the last "cat that was let out of the bag." Polygamy has been got over pretty well; that cloud has vanished away, but they are troubled about *Adam being our Father and God*. There is a very

intelligent person investigating our principles, and who has been a great help to the Saints; he has all the works, and can get along with everything else but the last "cat," and as soon as he can see that clearly, he will become a "Mormon." I instructed him to write to Liverpool upon it.

MS 16:483 - Elder Joseph Hall:

Relative to the principles recently revealed, we have not the least difficulty. If *Adam's being our Father and God* cannot be proved by the Bible, it is all right.

MS 16:530 - Elder James A. Little:

I believe in the principle of obedience; and if I am told that *Adam is our Father and our God*, I just believe it. Brethren, I feel well, and have felt well all the time.

MS 16:534 - F. D. Richards:

Concerning the item of doctrine alluded to by Elder Caffall and others, viz., that *Adam is our Father and our God*, I have to say do not trouble ourselves, neither let the Saints be troubled about that matter.

Missionaries

6/--/1854

MS 16:629

Beloved President ... It has fallen to your lot to preside over the British Saints at a time and under circumstances unparalleled in the history of the work in this country. The introduction of the Law of Celestial Marriage, which, in its operations, will revolutionize all our political, religious, and domestic arrangements; and the announcement of the position which *Adam, our great progenitor, occupies among the Gods*; have marked your Presidency as a special epoch in the history of the British Mission.

Brigham Young

9/17/1854

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

Some of his (Orson Pratt's) doctrines as contained in the Seer were being discussed. Brother Pratt also thought that Adam was made of the dust of the earth. Could not believe that *Adam was our God* or the Father of Jesus Christ. President Young said that He came from another world & made this. Brought Eve with him, partook of the fruits of the earth, begat children & they were earthly & had mortal bodies & if we were faithful, we should become Gods as He was.

Brigham Young

10/6/1854

Journal of Joseph Lee Robinson, 102-03

Attended conference. A very interesting conference; for at this meeting President Brigham Young said thus: That Adam and Eve were the names of the first man and woman of every earth that was ever organized. And that Adam and Eve were the

natural Father and Mother of every spirit that comes to this planet or that receives tabernacles on this planet. Consequently we are brothers and sisters. And that *Adam* was *God our Eternal Father*.

Brigham Young

Sunday 10/8/1854

John Pulsipher Papers, 37

[W]hen this work was made - *our God who is Adam* came & commenced the peopling of it ... There are Lords many & Gods many But *the God that we have to account to, is the father of our Spirits - Adam*.

Brigham Young

Sunday 10/8/1854

MABY

Father Adam, and Mother Eve had the children of the human family prepared to come here and take bodies; and when they come to take bodies, they enter into the bodies prepared for them, and that body gets an exaltation with the spirit, when they are prepared to be crowned in *Father's Kingdom*. "*What, into Adam's Kingdom?*" *Yes. ... I tell you, when you see your Father in the Heavens, you will see Adam; when you see your Mother that bore your spirit, you will see Mother Eve. ... What will become of the world then? It will be baptized with fire. It has been baptized with water, and it will then be cleansed by fire, and become like a sea of glass, and be made Celestial; and Jesus Christ our Elder Brother will take the whole of the Earth, with all the Saints and go with them to the Father, even to Adam.*

Brigham Young

Sunday 10/8/1854

John Pulsipher Papers, 35-37

So we had a grandfather & great-great-great-great grandfather So far back there is no beginning - They always Existed on some world - & when this work was made - our God who is *Adam* came & commenced the peopling of it - Tho *he is God* & had lived & died & been reserected on some other plannet - & obtained his exaltation & begat the Spirits of children enough people this world he came down & brot some of the animal & vegetable productions of some other world so that they might grow & increase here - He by eating the mortal fruits of the Earth, it caused & produced mortal children or commenced the increase of men on the Earth which is the bodies for the Spirits to live in There never was a time when Worlds were not created - The work of creation was always in Progress - An Adam & Eve is necessary for every world The oldest Son, if faithful, is the Saviour of the family - There are Lords many & Gods many But *the God that we have to account to, is the father of our Spirits - Adam*.

Eliza R. Snow

1/9/1855

MS 17:320

Father Adam, our God,
let all Israel extol,
And Jesus, our Brother,
who died for us all.

Franklin D. Richards

3/31/1855

MS 17:194-96

The Mosaic account of the creation states that, after the earth had been prepared, 'there was not a man to till the ground.' This was not the only, nor perhaps the greatest, deficiency. There was no one to commence and carry out the order of the higher spheres. There was no one to partake of mortality, and propagate the race of the Gods in a descending scale, that their spiritual children might become beings of tabernacle, and receive all knowledge in a school of experience. It is evident that for this great purpose Adam and Eve were placed upon the earth, from the fact, that the first and most prominent command given them was to increase and multiply.

...

While there is nothing to refute, the whole tenor of revelation substantiates, the supposition, that Adam has continued to bear rule over the earth, and control the destinies of his never ending posterity. From the time he received his commission in the Garden of Eden, he has been laboring diligently to fulfill the instructions there given him by the Lord God concerning his dominions, and to bring them under subjection to his will. This will be fully accomplished when every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that *he is the God of the whole earth*. Then will the words of the Prophet Brigham, *when speaking of Adam*, be fully realized - '*He is our Father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do.*'

Having now observed how *Adam*, the first man, *became God*, we inquire why may not millions of his children receive the same Godlike knowledge and power? The Apostles, Prophets, and Seers, who have lived on the earth since the days of Adam, have been a succession of intelligences, who by doing the will of the Father receive of His glory, and become the heirs of His increasing dominions.

...

[Brigham Young] declared that Jesus Christ is the actual spirit and mortal son of Michael *Adam God*; that Michael *Adam is the supreme god* and father of the spirits of our mortal world.

Brigham Young

4/25/1855

MABY

When we come to that great and wise and glorious being that the children of Israel were afraid of whose countenance shone so that they could not look upon him. I say when we get to him whom they could not look upon, to that man, that is I conclude he was a man for it says that he had hands and you know men have hands. And it says that he put his hands out before Moses in the cleft of the rock until his glory passed by and would not suffer Moses to see his face but his parts only. Seeing then that he had parts I conclude that he was a man. When we can see that very character and talk and live with him in our tabernacles, if we are so fortunate as to get there into his society, then we can say that to us *there is but one living and true God*, and he is the father of our Lord Jesus Christ and of our spirits. And when we get back to him and learn that *he is actually our father*, we shall not feel any anxiety to call upon anybody else for the blessings we are in need of. It is a subject I am aware that does not appear so close to our understandings at present as we could wish it or as it will be some day, and *it is one that should not trouble us at all*, all such things will become more clear to your minds bye and bye. I tell you this as my belief about that personage who is called *the Ancient of Days*, the Prince and so on ...

F. D. Richards

12/15/1855

MS 17:785-86

Not only do the Old and New Testament, and other ancient and modern revelations through the Holy Priesthood assert the fact but mankind of every grade, condition, and religion, whether Christian, Jew, Mohamedan, or Pagan, all believe in leading personages or influences which are the sources of good and evil. One of these is *God the Father, Michael or Adam*, from whose loins the earth is peopled, and who is now laboring for the redemption of his children. The great captain of evil is Satan, formerly Lucifer, but now a fallen "Son of the Morning" who with his followers are diligently laboring to destroy the works of God by reducing them to a like condition with themselves.

Samuel W. Richards

3/11/1856

History of Samuel W. Richards, 15

Orson Pratt does not understand how *Adam could be God*.*Heber C. Kimball*

6/29/1856

JD 4:1

I have learned by experience that there is but one God that pertains to this people, and

He is the God that pertains to this earth - *the first man*.⁹ That first man sent his own Son to redeem the world, to redeem his brethren; his life was taken, his blood shed, that our sins might be remitted.

John Jacques

1856

Sacred Hymns #306

WE BELIEVE IN OUR GOD

We believe in our God, the great Prince of his race,
The Archangel, Michael, the Ancient of Days,
Our own Father Adam, earth's Lord is his plane,
Who'll counsel and fight for his children again.

We believe in his Son Jesus Christ, who in love
For his brothers and sisters, came down from above;
To die to redeem them from death, and to teach
To mortals and spirits the Gospel we preach.

Brigham Young

2/8/1857

JD 4:217-19

Whether *Adam is the personage that we should consider our heavenly Father*, or not, is considerable of a mystery to a good many. I do not care for one moment how that is; it is no matter whether we are to consider Him our God, or whether His Father, or His Grandfather, for in either case we are of one species - of one family - and Jesus Christ is also of our species.

Brigham Young

Wednesday p.m. 10/7/1857

JD 5:331-32

Some have grumbled because *I believe our God to be so near to us as Father Adam*. There are many who know that doctrine to be true. Where was Michael in the creation of this earth? Did he have a mission to the earth? He did. Where was he? In the Grand Council, and performed the mission assigned him there. Now if it should happen that we have to pay tribute to Father Adam what a humiliating circumstance it would be! Just wait till you pass Joseph Smith; and after Joseph lets you pass him, you will find Peter; and after you pass the Apostles and many of the Prophets, you will find Abraham, and he will say, 'I have the keys, and except you do thus and so, you cannot pass;' and after awhile you come to Jesus; and when you at length meet Father Adam,

⁹ See TPJS, 167; HC 4:207; D&C 84:16; Moses 1:34; Abraham 1:3; HCK Journal 10/28/1854.

how strange it will appear to your present notions. If we can pass Joseph and have him say, 'Here; you have been faithful, good boys' I hold the keys of this dispensation; I will let you pass.' Then we shall be very glad to see the white locks of Father Adam.

Wilford W. Woodruff

3/24/1858

Wilford W. Woodruff Journal

Orson Pratt promises not to oppose Brigham Young's doctrine that Adam is our God.

Orson Pratt & Brigham Young

4/4/1860

Minutes of Meeting at Historian's Office

I would like to enumerate items, firstly - preached & publish, that Adam is the fa[ther] of our spirits, & father of Spirit & father of our bodies - When I read the Rev given to Joseph I read directly the opposite - Lord spake to Adam, which Man eventually became Adam's (3 blank lines)

B. Y.: Your statements tonight, You come out to night & place them as charges, & have as many against me as I have you. One thing I have thought that I might still have omitted. It was Joseph's doctrine that *Adam was God* &c When in Luke Johnson's at O. Hydes the power came upon us, or shock that alarmed the neighborhood. God comes to earth & eats & partakes of fruit. Joseph could not reveal what was revealed to him, & if Joseph had it revealed, he was not told to reveal it. The Spirit is sent when the mother feels earth, God put it into his mouth, & when God, to translate he had the power. Not a contradictory thing in what I have said.

Orson Hyde & Orson Pratt

4/5/1860

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of the Twelve

O. Hyde:

Who is our Heavenly Father. I would as soon it was Father Adam, or any other good and lawful being. I shall see him some time, if I do right. What do I know about Adam, in the Councils of the Great God before he came here, or his privileges. I don't know. ...

O. Pratt:

[I]n regard to *Adam being our Father and our God*, I have not published it, although I frankly say, I have no confidence in it, although advanced by bro. Kimball in the stand, and afterwards approved by bro. Brigham. ...

George Q. Cannon

9/4/1860

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

Brother Cannon said there was a learned Doctor that wanted to be baptized. ... He (the doctor) is satisfied that the doctrine of the plurality of God and that *Adam is our Father* is

a true doctrine revealed from God to Joseph & Brigham. For this same doctrine is taught in some of the old Jewish records which have never been in print and I know Joseph Smith nor Brigham Young have had access to, and the Lord has revealed this doctrine unto them or they could not have taught it. President Young said if all that God had revealed was in fine print it would more than fill this room but very little is written or printed which the Lord has revealed.

Brigham Young

Sunday 2/3/1861

A Mormon Chronicle - The Diaries of John D. Lee 1:293

Evening I attended Prayer meeting & instruct the Saints on the points of Doctrine referred to by the true Latter-day Saints Herald & their Bombarding Pres. B. Young for saying that *Adam is all the God* that we have to do with & those that know no better, it is quite a stumbling Block & all Enemies to the cause.

Brigham Young

10:30 a.m. 10/8/1861

Brigham Young Papers

Some years ago, I advanced a doctrine with regard to *Adam being our Father and God*. That will be a curse to many of the Elders of Israel, because of their folly with regard to it.

W. W. Phelps

1/20/1862

Letter to President Brigham Young

To end the whole matter, we must be heard by the Gods; fearing: and, according to the commandments, watch, - for this sustained *Adam our Father, who is the Almighty* before mentioned. When Israel was in the Wilderness, they kept the word of wisdom, as did like Achan for stealing, god and garments. My voice is Virtue and Victory. Amen!

Francis M. Lyman

2/15/1862

MS 24:99-100

I have heard of a man who was cut off because he would not believe that *Adam was our Father and God*. ... As for believing that *Adam was our God*, I do not know but that we are gods ... Then it is well to think that God is our Father; and whether *it be Adam* or anyone else, ever struggle upwards, upwards; always keep your hearts and faces upwards ...

Heber C. Kimball

4/30/1862

Heber C. Kimball, Memorandum

The Lord told me that *Adam* was my father and that He *was the God and father* of all the

inhabitants of this earth.

Brigham Young

11/30/1862

MABY

[E]ach person who we crown in the celestial kingdom of God will be a father of fathers, a king of kings, a lord of lords, a *god of gods* ... Each person will reign over his posterity. *Adam*, Michael, the Ancient of Days, will sit as the judge of the quick and dead, for he is the father of all living, and Eve is the mother of all living, pertaining to the human family, and *he is* their king, their Lord, *their God*, taking and holding his position in the grand unbroken chain of endless increase, and eternal progression.

Brigham Young

1/8/1865

JD 11:41-42

No mortal man has ever seen God in His glory at any time and lived. We may have seen the Lord and angels many times, and did not know it. I will be satisfied with seeing and associating with His children whom I now behold, for there is not a son or daughter of *Adam* and Eve before me today but what is the offspring of that God we worship. *He is our Heavenly Father; He is also our God*, and the Maker and upholder of all things in heaven and on earth. ...

One of the prophets describes *the Father of us all*, saying, "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the *Ancient of days* did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool; his throne was like the fiery flame," etc. The prophet further says, "thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him," etc. Again "and, behold, one like the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him." Now, *who is the Ancient of days?* You may answer this question at your pleasure, I have already told the people. But *the Savior would answer* the question as to the appearance of the Father of us all, *by saying*, "Look at me, for *I am the very express image of my Father.*"

W. W. Phelps

Monday 10 a.m. 10/9/1865

General Conference Report, "The Spirit"

O may the Saints be perfect

As *God our Father* was,

When he *got back to Eden*,

By her celestial laws.

W. W. Phelps

5/6/1867

Letter from W. W. Phelps
Pres. Young. ...

"And it shall come to pass, that I the Lord God will send one mighty and strong, holding the sceptre of power in his hand, clothed with light for a covering; whose mouth shall utter words, eternal words, while his laurels shall be a fountain of truth: - to set in order the house of God, and to arrange by lot the inheritance of the saints, etc. etc. while that man who was called of God, and appointed that put forth his hand to steady the Ark of God, shall fall by the shaft of death" - etc. now this revelation was sent to me in Zion, and has reference to the time when *Adam our father and God*, comes at the beginning of our Eternal Lot of inheritance, - according as our names are found in the Law of the Lord, while the fools that received the priesthood, like the fool that took his "one Talent" and hid it; - or reached out to steady the ark, will find themselves where the rich man did - in hell, with plenty of fire - but no water. Love begets lives eternal; our grace begets glory, but sin seeks secession, where goats and skunks can enjoy the lower room fog of a more dismal prison, than the nether room of Noah's Ark. Now should I be wrong in my belief as to these quotations: - please let me have your views, for I am for God, light and life as his "steward"

yours etc.

/s/ W. W. Phelps

Brigham Young

12/16/1867

Wilford Woodruff Journal

At meeting of School of the Prophets: President Young said Adam was Michael the Archangel, & he was the Father of Jesus Christ & was our God & that Joseph taught this principle.

Wilford W. Woodruff

1/24/1868

The School of the Prophets

I feel thankful for the privilege of speaking a few words to this school. I wish to refer to the first doctrine preached that *Adam was our Father & God* in the revelation called the olive leaf it says that "the devil gathered together the hosts of hell and Michael the ark angel gathered together the hosts of heaven and he overcame the devil & his angels & this is the battle of *the great God*" who is this Michael the ark angel it is Adam who was Michael in the creation of the world.

Elders McDonald & Bywater

6/8/1868

Minutes of the School of the Prophets, 37-42

The doctrine preached by Pres. Young for a few years back, wherein he says that *Adam is our God* - the God we worship - that most of the people believe this - some believe it because the President says so - others because they can find testimony in the Book of Mormon and Book of Doctrine and Covenants. ... I have heard President Young avow the truth of *Adam being our Father and God* but have never heard him argue the question at all.

A. F. McDonald:

I thought I would speak briefly in relation to *Adam being our God*. Since the year 1852 when the President first spoke on this subject, I have frequently endeavored to reconcile what I have read with regard to this matter. I believe what the President says on the subject although it comes in contact with all our tradition. I have not any doubt in my mind but that *Adam is our God*. Who his God and Father may be, I have no knowledge. President Kimball spoke on this question recently and very plainly illustrated the character and relationship of our Father and God.

George G. Bywater:

I am not disposed to question the discrepancies on this question of doctrine; if we live faithful all will become clear to us. We cannot become united only as we get united in understanding. When I first heard the doctrine of *Adam being our Father and God*, I was favorably impressed - enjoyed, and hailed it as a new revelation. It appeared reasonable to me, as the Father of our spirits that he should introduce us here. And what we do not see is only evidence that we have not the light necessary.

George Q. Cannon

10/15/1870

Meeting of the School of the Prophets

[George Q. Cannon] fully endorsed the doctrine that father *Adam was our God* and Father - or as He in many places is called, Michael the great prince - the Arch Angel, Ancient of Days, & c. It was not only wisdom, but perfectly consistent, that Adam & Eve should partake of the forbidden fruit and start the work of increase of their species. The above doctrine had been revealed to him, so that he knew it was true.

Daniel H. Wells et al.

10/15/1870

Salt Lake School of the Prophets Minute Book (as cited in Buerger, 63)

Daniel Wells of the First Presidency asked his colleagues whether they endorsed the "doctrine pertaining to Adam being our Father & our God." He personally "bore a powerful testimony to the truth of the doctrine, remarking that if ever he had received a testimony of any doctrine in this church he had of the truth of this. The Endowments

plainly teach it and the Bible & other revelations are full of it." Others who "approved or endorsed" the doctrine at the meeting were Henry Grow, D. B. Huntington, John Lyon, George B. Wallace, and Joseph F. Smith, the latter stating that "the enunciation of that doctrine gave him great joy."

Joseph F. Smith

10/15/1870

Journal of Joseph F. Smith, Church Archives

School of the prophets - opening prayer by bro. W. Woodruff, who spoke a short time on the Subject of Adam being Michael, the arch-Angel & c referred to D&C p. 79 & Dan. 7 ch. See also D&C p. 106 sec. 50, p. 200. Bro. Cannon made a few remarks on the Same Subject. bro [sic] Henry said he felt like shouting "Glory Hallelujah." ... Prest. Young spoke on the subject of *Adam and God*, "whom to know is life eternal" - who knows him? It is certainly important to know. He wanted the brethren to meditate on the subject, pray about it and keep it to themselves.

Orson Hyde

Wednesday 1/25/1871

Jans Christian Anderson Weibye Daybooks

I attended meeting, Orson Hyde preached to us, and he told us that what we heard before that *Adam is our God*, we had a splendid good meeting. At Manti, Jan 25th Orson Hyde preached to us here in Manti, that, *Adam is our God* for this planet (Earth).

Brigham Young

Sunday p.m. 6/18/1873

DN 22:308

I frequently think, in my meditations, how glad we should be to instruct the world with regard to the things of God, if they would hear, and receive our teachings in good and honest hearts and profit by them. ... How pleased we would be to place these things before the people if they would receive them! How much unbelief exists in the minds of the Latter-day Saints in regard to one particular doctrine which I revealed to them, and which God revealed to me - namely that *Adam is our father and God*.

T. B. H. Stenhouse [an apostate]

1873

The Rocky Mountain Saints, 92, 492

Orson [Pratt]'s submission [to the twelve] was painful to his friends, but the thoughtful hoped for the growth and development of his soul outside the iron cast of infallible priesthood. From the hour of that trial he was silently accounted an "Apostate" He bore it all in silence, and returned to Utah determined to stand by his convictions of truth against the *Adam deity*. ...

Orson Pratt, for presuming to teach a *deity contrary to Brigham's Adam*, was for years

upon the point of being severed from the Church; at last, ten years ago, he was tried for rebellion. ...

[T]he mass of the Mormon people do not believe the doctrine of the Adam deity.

Brigham Young

5/14/1876

Journal History

Is there in the heaven of heavens a leader? Yes, and we cannot do without one and that being the case, whoever [t]his is may be called God. Joseph said that *Adam was our Father and God*.

The Lecture at the Veil

Tuesday 2/7/1877

Journal of L. John Nuttall

Adam was an immortal being when he came. On this earth he had lived on an earth similar to ours he had received the Priesthood and the Keys thereof. and had been faithful in all things and gained his resurrection and his exaltation and was crowned with glory immortality and eternal lives and *was numbered with the Gods* for such he became through his faithfulness.

Byron Allred

3/1/1877

Jans Christian Anderson Weibye Daybooks

Byron Allred preaches at Manti on *Adam as God*, with the following remarks in part: Adam was buried by God (God his Father) and was only dead like a twinkling of an eye, and his God exalted him immediately. Mary was sealed to Adam, and was his wife when she had Jesus. Mary will be the Queen to people another world; Mary was the second wife to Adam; and unless we have two wives, we can never be Gods. Adam will worship his God and *we will worship Adam*, and our children will worship us.

Edward Tullidge

3/--/1877

Women of Mormondom, 179, 191

"*Adam is our Father and God. He is the God of the earth.*" So says Brigham Young. Adam is the great archangel of this creation. He is Michael. He is the Ancient of Days. He is the father of our elder brother, Jesus Christ - the father of him who shall also come as Messiah to reign. He is the father of the spirits as well as the tabernacles of the sons and daughters of man. Adam! ...

Brightest among these spirits, and nearest in the circle to *our Father* and Mother *in heaven (the Father being Adam)*, were Seth, Enoch, Noah and Abraham, Moses, David, and Jesus Christ - indeed that glorious cohort of men and women, whose lives have left immortal records in the world's history. ... These are the sons and daughters of *Adam* -

the Ancient of Days - the Father and God of the whole human family. These are the sons and daughters of Michael, who is Adam, the father of the spirits of all our race. These are the sons and daughters of Eve, the Mother of a world.

Edward Tullidge

3/--/1877

Women of Mormondom, 193-94

The oracle of this last grand truth of women's divinity and of her eternal Mother as the partner with the Father in the creation of worlds, is none other [than] the Mormon Church. It was revealed in the glorious theology of Joseph and established by Brigham in the vast patriarchal system which he has made firm as the foundations of the earth, by proclaiming *Adam as our Father and God*. The Father is first in name and order, but the Mother is with him - these twain, one from the beginning.

Edward Tullidge

3/--/1877

Women of Mormondom, 200

The Mormons exalt the grand parents of our race. Not even is the name of Christ more sacred to them than the names of Adam and Eve. It was to them the poetess and high priestess addressed her hymn of invocation; and Brigham's proclamation that *Adam is our Father and God* is like a hallelujah chorus to their everlasting names. The very earth shall yet take it up; all the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve shall yet shout it for joy, to the ends of the earth, in every tongue!

Eliza R. Snow

1877

The Ultimatum of Human Life

Adam, your God, like you on earth, has been
 Subject to sorrow in a world of sin:
 Through long gradation he arose to be
 Cloth'd with the Godhead's might and majesty.
 And what to him in his probative sphere,
 Whether a Bishop, Deacon, Priest, or Seer?
 Whate'er his offices and callings were,
 He magnified them with assiduous care:
 By his obedience he obtain'd the place
 Of God and Father of this human race.

...

Life's ultimatum, unto those that live
 As saints of God, and all my pow'rs receive;

Is still the onward, upward course to tread -
 To stand as Adam and as Eve, the head
 Of an inheritance, a new-form'd earth,
 And to their spirit race, give mortal birth -
 Give them experience in a world like this;

Then lead them forth to everlasting bliss,
 Crown'd with salvation and eternal joy
 Where full perfection dwells, without alloy.

Shortened Lecture at the Veil

between 1877-1894

He [*Adam*] had been true and faithful in all things and gained his resurrection and exaltation.
 He was crowned ~~in which~~ with glory, immortality and eternal lives and was *numbered*
with the Gods - for such he became through his faithfulness.

L. John Nuttall

3/6/1879

L. John Nuttall Journal, 254
 Attended fast day Meeting [sic]. several [sic] spoke and the question as to *Adam being our*
Father & God was presented. I explained this matter as I got it from Prest B [sic] Young
 and as I understand it - this question has been on the minds of several of the brethren
 since Bro. Wandel Mace spoke on it about a Month [sic] ago and gave a wrong
 impression [sic] I spoke to correct him & set the people right - which correction he
 accepted.

Court: Lake County, Ohio

2/23/1880

The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints v. Lucien Williams,
 Joseph Smith, Sarah F. Videon, Mark H. Forscutt, the Church in Utah of which John
 Taylor is President and commonly known as the Mormon Church, and John Taylor,
 President of said Utah Church
 The following are the findings of the Court in which the late suit of the Reorganized
 Church for the quieting the title to the Kirtland Temple, was tried. ...
 That the church in Utah, the Defendant of which John Taylor is President, has
 materially and largely departed from the faith, doctrines, laws, ordinances and usages of
 said original Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and has incorporated into its
 system of faith the doctrines of Celestial Marriage and a plurality of wives, and the
 doctrine of Adam-God worship, contrary to the laws and constitution of said original
 Church.

President Jensen

2/24/1880

Minutes of the High Priests Quorum

Pres. Jensen referred to the condition of some of the High Priests in the Malad Ward who were contending one with another concerning some point of doctrine, which they did not understand. The point in dispute being, was *Adam our God*, some taking the affirmation and some the negative of the question.

Scott Anderson

9/22/1884

Letter to Pres. John Taylor

I joined your Church on the 20th of May 1879 and during the first 2 years of my membership I faithfully adhered to it and would have given my life to defend it, during all this time I never heard of *Adam being God*, never heard of Blood Atonement, never heard of polygamy being required of all men before they could attain to highest glory. Never dreamed that Brigham Young or any one else coolly threw the Bible overboard and preached whatever they pleased which I was bound to accept as the revelations of God. ...

What did I find? I found that God, the God of the Bible is not even worshiped by the Church over which you preside, *the God you worship is Adam*. Brigham Young teaches [sic] his words, "When our Father *Adam* came into the Garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body and brought Eve one of his wives with him. *He is our Father and our God* and the only God with whom we have to do." At first I could not bring myself to believe that this doctrine was accepted by the Church, but on careful enquiry found to my horror and astonishment that it was really so. It is true a great many know nothing about it and are simply in ignorance. Those who do know accept it as far more to be relied on than any portion of the Bible, for say they the Bible has been translated over and over again and may be wrong but this is the direct teaching of a Great Prophet. I reject this as abominable and horrible idolatry and give it as one reason why I cannot remain in your Church. ...

As I have shown *Adam is made God* but you do not give him much power or rather leave him much for you do teach that he has given you the power to wield, that however matters little you hold it and he has parted with it. that is my point you teach that. If a faithful son of Adam's is called behind the veil and has no priesthood God (Adam) cannot give him any. He must wait until he gets it from the earth where you have all the power. If he has no wife or wives (and you teach that he must have at least three or he cannot have the highest glory) *God (Adam)* is utterly unable to help him You have the keys and he must wait your leisure and pleasure.

Brigham Young (as quoted by Scott Anderson)

9/22/1884

Letter to Pres. John Taylor

One morning about three or four, a vision of the pre-existence, and the future was shown me. It was all so clear. My parents were my brother and sister. They were simply a medium in helping *God (which is Adam)* in bringing his children from the spirit to the mortal stage. This is necessary that we might have the opportunity to being celestial beings like the Father. If I could so conduct myself in this stage of action, to be worthy of the celestial kingdom with eternal increase, then and only *then, would I gain an inheritance of my own to be as a Father Adam, and my wife, a mother Eve.*

George Q. Cannon

4/7/1889

MS 51:278

We believe that *we are the literal offspring of Deity*. We have descended from the great Being who formed this earth, and from Him we have inherited the glorious aspirations to be like unto Him. ... We believe in a God of revelation, who will give more and more light to us til we can become like Him. We worship the Being who has revealed Himself to us. It was necessary at the outset of this work to have a revelation from Him. There were many erroneous ideas about God, and the first revelation to Joseph Smith was the appearance of the Father and the Son. I have heard that there are some among us who say that both are one person. This is a fallacy. There are two personages, the Father and the Son. *God is the Being who walked in the Garden of Eden*, and who talked with the Prophets. This revelation came to us in certainty.

George Q. Cannon

6/23/1889

Journal of Abraham H. Cannon

He (George Q.) believes that Jesus Christ is Jehovah, and that *Adam is His Father and our God*: that under certain unknown conditions the benefits of the Savior's atonement extend to our entire solar system. ... He asked me what I understood concerning Mary conceiving the Savior; and as I found no answer, he asked what was to prevent Father Adam from visiting and overshadowing the mother of Jesus. Then said I: "he must have been a resurrected Being." "Yes," said he, "and though Christ is said to have been the first fruits of them that slept, yet the Savior said he did nothing but what He had seen His Father do, for He had power to lay down His life and take it up again. Adam, though made of dust, was made, as President Young said, of the dust of another planet than this." I was very much instructed by the conversation and this days services.

11/8/1890; 5/22/1890

 Manuscript History of St. George Stake

Myron Abbott, counselor to Bishop Edward Bunker, Jr., stated that for a number of years, questions on church teachings have been agitated in Bunkerville Ward. Bishop Bunker had stated he did not believe *Adam was our God*, and Bishop Bunker had expressed his opinion that some teachings in the Temples were wrong, notably part of the lecture at the veil. ...As a result of the investigation the following was passed as the action of the Council: It is the sense of this Council that it is an error to teach that Adam was not an immortal or resurrected being, when he came to this earth, also, that we pray to *Adam as our God*; and it is wrong to teach that *Adam is one of the Godhead*.

5/26/1892

 Journal of Abraham H. Cannon 16:119

At two o'clock I was at my Quorum meeting where were present all the Presidency and myself, as also Bro. Lyman; Geo. Gibbs, clerk. Bro. Jos. F. Smith was mouth in prayer. Thereafter some conversation followed as to whether *Adam is our God* or not. There are some in the Church who do not accept of the statement of Pres. Young that such is the case, but to me it seems reasonable to think that Adam has at least much to do with our present condition, and will control greatly our future destiny.

 Lorenzo Snow

10/12/1897

 Brigham Young Jr. diary

At meeting of all the apostles except Grant and Merrill, Pres. Snow led out on *Adam being our father and God*. How beautiful the thought - it brot [sic] God nearer to us. Bro Franklin [D. Richards] said it made him thrill through his whole body - it was new & it was inspiring. I followed.

 Franklin D. Richards

Thursday 12/16/1897

 Journal of Franklin D. Richards

At 11 at Council with WW GQC & JFS - LS, FDR, BY, J.H.S., G.T., HJG, AH Lund. ... Letter & Article by E. H. Nye was read & highly approved but no action as to the dealing with *Adam our F. & God* subject.

 Brigham Young, Jr.

Thursday 12/16/1897

 Brigham Young, Jr. Journal

Adam is our father and God and no use to discuss it with Josephites or any one else. Gave in my report on Bluff, that city will be maintained for the present.

George Q. Cannon

11/28/1898

 Proceedings of the First Sunday School Convention

Many questions come up from theological classes - questions that are, to say the least, somewhat abstruse, and concerning which there is no written revelation; questions, too, that are not pertinent at all to the work of the schools. I was stopped yesterday afternoon by a young man, who wanted to know whether *Adam* was the father of our Lord and Savior - *whether he was the being we worshiped*, etc. ... Concerning the doctrine in regard to Adam and the Savior, the Prophet Brigham taught some things concerning that; but the First Presidency and the Twelve do not think it wise to advocate these matters.

A. T. Schreader, ed. [anti-Mormon]

circa 1899

 Zion - Lucifer's Lantern 4: 65

If I can get any intelligent idea of the after life of mormons by the study of there inane sermons it is something like this: There are two resurrections one of the spirit, the other of the flesh. After the second resurrection the spirit and the body are united and transplanted to some place in the universe where they gather up enough raw planetary material out of which to "organize a world."

To this world the resurrected man now [sic] himself and by virtue of the "sealing power" of the Mormon priesthood all the women who have been "sealed" to him for eternity are attracted or transplanted to this same planet. Here they set up housekeeping as Adam did in the Garden of Eden, and they will live eternal lives unless some walking or talking snake should put up a jot on them as it did on Eve.

To this world of his own creation the man will be the God, even as *Adam in Mormon theology is the God* of this world. He is the King and his wives queens. Their kingdom will consist of their own "eternal progeny." Hence polygamy is essential because the extent and glory of every man's kingdom in the hereafter must depend on the number of wives sealed to him for eternity.

Edward Bunker

2/9/1902

 President Joseph F Smith

Dear Bro.

One of our recently returned missionary from the North Western States is advicating [sic] the Doctorn [sic] that *Adam is the very eternal Father in the Godhead* and the Father of Jesus Christ and that Pres Kelch so taught the Elders in that mission. I say the Doctorn is Faulse and while every Person enjoying the spirit of the Lord may know of a Doctorn whether it is true or faulse; but that they have no right (Except the President of the

Church) to advance any Doctorn not clearly set forth and defined in the written Law, and in doing so they stand on dangerous ground, and until we are able to live up to the reveled Law in the spirit thereof, can we hope to enjoy suficient of the spirit of the Lord to understand fully the plan of life and salvation. As a Bp my position cared if not where in am I in error. Your answer through the meidim of the Juvenil instructor or other wise will be greatly apreasiated by your Brothr in the Gospel.

Edw Bunker Jr

B. H. Roberts

1903

The Mormon Doctrine of Deity, 11, 42-43

Dr. Paden ... After calling attention to the material view of God as set forth in these teachings, the speaker said that he thought he could see a tendency towards a more spiritual idea of God among the younger and more enlightened members of the dominant church, and noticed this in the writings of Dr. Talmage especially. Referring to *the Adam-God idea*, the speaker said that he had not investigated it much, but thought that the "Mormon" Church was ashamed of such an idea. He placed special stress on the idea that when men attempted to give God a human form they fashioned him after their own weaknesses and frailties. ...

I take it that we may classify under three heads the complaints here made against us with reference to the doctrine of Deity.

First, we believe that God is a being with a body in form like man's; that he possesses body, parts and passions; that in a word, God is an exalted, perfected man.

Second, we believe in a plurality of Gods.

Third, we believe that somewhere and some time in the ages to come, through development, through enlargement, through purification until perfection is attained, man at last, may become like God - a God.¹⁰

I think these three complaints may be said to cover the whole ground of what our reverend critics regard as our error in doctrine on the subject of Deity. ...

Some of the sectarian ministers are saying that we "Mormons" are ashamed of the doctrine announced by President Brigham Young to the effect that *Adam will thus be God* of this world. No, friends, it is not that we are ashamed of that doctrine. If you see any change come over our countenances when this doctrine is named, it is surprise, astonishment, that anyone at all capable of grasping the largeness and extent of the

¹⁰ Note that none of these deny Adam-God teachings and that they suggest that these three issues are really what Adam-God teachings are all about. It is not unreasonable therefore to suggest that when Joseph taught these principles to the saints, they understood that he was in fact promoting Adam-God teachings. More on this will be discussed later in this volume.

universe - the grandeur of existence and the possibilities in man for growth, for progress, should be so lean of intellect, should have such a paucity of understanding, as to call it in question at all. That is what our change of countenance means - not shame - for the doctrine Brigham Young taught.

Orson F. Whitney

1904

Elias, an Epic of the Ages, 18, 76, 77

"Father!" - the voice like music fell,
 Clear as the murmuring flow
 Of mountain streamlet, trickling down
 From heights of virgin snow -
 "Father," it said, "since One must die
 Thy children to redeem,
 Whilst Earth - as yet unformed and void -
 With pulsing life shall teem;

"And thou, great Michael, foremost fall¹¹
 That mortal man may be,
 And chosen Savior yet must send,
 Lo, here am I, send me!¹²
 I ask - I seek no recompense,
 Save that which then were mine;
 Mine be the willing sacrifice,
 The endless glory - Thine!"

...

One are the human twain, as sheath and sword--
 Woman and man, the lady and the lord;
 Each pair the Eve and Adam of some world,
 Perchance unborn, into space unhurled.

...

¹¹ Gospel Themes, 19-20: In 1914, Orson F. Whitney changed lines 5-9 as follows:

"Father," it said, "Since one must die,
 Thy children to redeem,
 From spheres all formless now and void,
 Where pulsing life shall teem:

"And mighty Michael foremost fall.

¹² Isaiah 6:8; 2 Nephi 16:8; Moses 4:1; Abraham 3:27

Chosen, omniscient, children of the Sun,
 Offspring of Adam, Michael, Ancient One,
 Who comes anon his fiery throne to rear,
 His council summoning from far and near.
 Ten thousand times ten thousand bow the knee,
 And "Father" hail him, "King," eternally.

Brigham H. Roberts

circa 1905

Defense of the Faith and the Saints 2:268

In fact, the Mormon Church teaches that God the Father has a material body of flesh and bone's; that Adam is the God of the human race; that this Adam-God was physically begotten by another God; that the Gods were once as we are now; that there is a great multiplicity of Gods ...

W. W. Phelps

1912

Sacred Hymns, 327-28 #283

Come to me; here are *Adam and Eve* at the head
 Of a multitude quickened and raised from the dead;
 Here's the knowledge that was, or that is, or will be,
 In the gen'ral assembly of worlds. Come to me.

Come to me; here are mysteries man hath not seen,
 Here's our *Father in heaven, and Mother, the Queen*,
 Here are worlds that have been, and the worlds yet to be,
 Here's eternity endless; amend. Come to me.

Bishop Heber Bennion

1920

Supplement to Gospel Problems, 8-9

The Mosaic account of the creation states that, after the earth had been prepared, 'there was not a man to till the ground.' This was not the only, nor perhaps the greatest, deficiency. There was no one to commence and carry out the order of the higher spheres. There was no one to partake of mortality, and propagate the race of the Gods in a descending scale, that their spiritual children might become beings of tabernacle, and receive all knowledge in a school of experience. It is evident that for this great purpose Adam and Eve were placed upon the earth, from the fact, that the first and most prominent command given them was to increase and multiply. After Adam and Eve had partaken of the seeds of mortality, it appears from the

Scriptures that the Gods held a council on the subject. We read in Gen. 3:22: 'And the Lord God said, Behold, the man has become as one of us, to know good and evil.' From this we learn that Adam was not only in form like unto the Gods, as previously stated, but that this knowledge of good and evil was that which would exalt him among the Gods; and then that his resemblance to the Gods might be complete, the Lord God bestowed the right to exercise full power and dominion over the earth, and all its creations. 'And God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air; and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.' (Gen. 1:28.) If the Lord God has ever withdrawn from Father Adam the authority here bestowed upon him, He has not seen fit to make it known to the world.

While there is nothing to refute, the whole tenor of revelation substantiates, the supposition, that *Adam* has continued to bear rule over the earth, and control the destinies of his never ending posterity. From the time he received his commission in the Garden of Eden, he has been laboring diligently to fulfill the instructions there given him by the Lord God concerning his dominions, and to bring them under subjection to his will. This will be fully accomplished when every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that *he is the God of the whole earth*. Then will the words of the Prophet Brigham, when speaking of Adam, be fully realized - '*He is our Father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do.*'

Having now observed how Adam, the first man, became God, we inquire why may not millions of his children receive the same Godlike knowledge and power? The Apostles, Prophets, and Seers, who have lived on the earth since the days of Adam, have been a succession of intelligences, who by doing the will of the Father receive of His glory, and become the heirs of His increasing dominions. ...

It seems strange that people will believe that 'as man now is, God once was, and that as God now is, man may be;' that 'God is an exalted man' and still repudiate the *Doctrine of Adam God*. ... It seems presumptuous indeed for them to ever aspire to be the God of anything, if Adam cannot be the God of the world He created and peopled. If a man is not to become the God of His own posterity, what will he be the God of? *The whole superstructure for a plurality of the Gods is based upon this doctrine of Adam God, and must stand or fall together.*

Bishop Heber Bennion

1920

Supplement to Gospel Problems, 8-9, 13

It seems strange that people will believe that 'as man now is, God once was, and that as God now is, man may be'; that 'God is an exalted man' and still repudiate the doctrine of *Adam-God*. These incredulous people believe that Elohim, Jehovah and Michael

(Adam) the 'Father of all living,' created the world and yet cannot believe that He is the God of this world. It seems presumptuous indeed for them to ever aspire to be the God of anything, if Adam cannot be the God of the world he created and peopled. If a man is not to become the God of his own posterity what will he be the God of? Evidently, if God the Father of Jesus Christ was once a man like ourselves, he had a father as we have, a God to pray to, and that God in turn, was once a man also, and so on ad infinitum, without beginning or end. As Brigham Young says, 'there never was a time when men were not passing through this ordeal in preparation to become Gods.' Joseph Smith says, 'Wherever was there a father without first being a son?' Jehovah means son, and is used interchangeably as the Son and a son.

In the dedicatory prayer of the Kirtland Temple the Prophet Joseph repeatedly applies the name of Jehovah to the Father whom he is addressing, as any one may see by careful perusal of the prayer as recorded in the Doctrine and Covenants, Sec. 109. Elohim may signify the Father or Grandfather, or Great Grandfather - God or the Council of the Gods, and Jehovah may be applied to any of them in the capacity or relationship of a son, as they all are, for 'where was there ever a father without first being a son?'

(Joseph Smith in Church History, 6:476.) Adam is in line with his progenitors, the Gods, and by the genealogical record cannot be deposed from his position as the God of this world under the council and direction of the Gods above him, 'intelligences one above another without end.' (D&C 78) The whole superstructure for a plurality of the Gods is based upon this doctrine of *Adam-God*, and must stand or fall together. ...

T[he unbelieving gentiles] mocked at Brigham Young, *Adam-God*, and we seek to mollify and pacify them by telling them that is not the doctrine of the Church, but only the doctrine of Brigham Young. But we are making matters worse, for next we will have to explain that it was only an idea of Joseph Smith, and the Prophet Daniel, and of Jesus Christ, for Jesus gave this revelation to Joseph Smith. 'Adam-ondi-Ahman, because, said he, it is the place where Adam shall come to visit his people, or the Ancient of Days shall sit, as spoken of by Daniel, the prophet.' - D&C 116.

Now let us turn to Daniel, and see what he says about the *Adam-God doctrine*. 'I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of Days did sit, whose garments were white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool; his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him; thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; and the judgment was set, and the books were opened.' - Daniel 7:9, 10. The above revelation of Joseph Smith, together with the prophecy of Daniel seems to corroborate Brigham Young's doctrine of *Adam-God* - beyond question.

J. Arthur Horne, Patriarch

5/28/1963

C. Jess Gorewsbeck's Elder's Journal 1:291

Elder Horne and I chatted again tonight about the Gospel and the *Adam-God Doctrine*, as we have done many times before. Brother Horne, who grew up in Salt Lake City and was the son of Richard Horne and grandson of Joseph Horne said, in reference to the *Adam-God Doctrine*, that when he first went through the Temple [Salt Lake] for his Endowment in 1902 before going on his mission he was surprised to hear the teachings during the Temple ceremony [in the Sermon before the veil] that, '*Adam was our God*' and that 'he came here with Eve, one of his wives'. Also, it was taught that 'Eve bore our spirits.'

Merle H. Graffam

Fall 1982

Dialogue 15:4-5 #3

I found one further link which no one to my knowledge has previously explored in the "Grammar and Alphabet of the Egyptian Language" attributed by many to Joseph Smith, Jr. The document consists of a series of lists of glyphs (not really hieroglyphs) which were purportedly the working sheets Joseph Smith used in his translation of the papyrus found on mummies in his possession.

The glyphs appear in the left column, followed by lines of explanation to the right, supposedly translations of the strange markings. If one checks the list it will be found that one glyph appears to be a kind of checkmark stroke written backwards. In the several lists the explanatory note appears similar but with more information as the lists develop.

For this glyph the notes give the following information:

(glyph represented) = Phah-eh:

the first man-Adam, first father

(glyph represented) = Ah lish:

the first being clothed with supreme glory (supreme power)

(glyph represented) = Ah lish:

the first being - supreme intelligence; supreme power; supreme glory - supreme justice; supreme mercy without beginning of life or end of life; comprehending all things, seeing all things - the invisible and eternal godhead.

All of these notes occur after the same glyph represented in each list. It can be seen that *the glyph representing Adam also represents the eternal godhead and the first being, supreme intelligence*. It must be said, also, however that another glyph also represents "Adam or the first man, or first king."

This document needs, however, to be further studied in light of the question of

whether Joseph and Brigham taught the same doctrine (however secretly) about Adam being God. Photocopies of the "Egyptian Grammar" are, of course, obtainable at some Salt Lake City bookstores.

Analysis & Observations



At first blush, it may appear that since this first section only addresses a very simple and concise doctrinal concept (viz., Adam is God the Father), there could only be a trivial amount of commentary worthy of placement here. If commentary were relegated only to a textual analysis, this would quite possibly be true. However, beyond that textual analysis, little could be further from that initial first blush impression. ...

2 Adam as Father of Our Spirits

See also

God as Father of Our Bodies

Adam Presides Over Our Spirits & has the Keys

Procreation: Mortal & Spiritual Offspring

Jehovah is the Father of Our Spirits

Joseph Smith

Monday 10/5/1840

TPJS, 167

Commencing with *Adam*, who was the first man, who is spoken of in Daniel as being the "Ancient of Days," or in other words, the first and oldest of all, the great, grand progenitor of whom it is said in another place he is Michael, because he was the first and *father of all, not only by progeny*, but the first to hold the spiritual blessings, to whom was made known the plan of ordinances for the salvation of his posterity unto the end, and to whom Christ was first revealed, and through whom Christ has been revealed from heaven, and will continue to be revealed from henceforth.

Brigham Young

4/9/1852

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

Our Father begot all the spirits that were before any tabernacle was made. *When our Father came into the Garden* He came with his Celestial body & brought one of his wives with him and ate of the fruit of the Garden until He could beget a Tabernacle. And Adam is Michael God and all the God that we have anything to do with. They ate of this fruit & formed the first Tabernacle that was formed.

Brigham Young

8/28/1852

JD 6:274-75

After men have got their exaltations and their crowns - have become Gods, even the sons of God - are made Kings of kings and Lords of lords, they have the power then of propagating their species in spirit; and that is the first of their operations with regard to organizing a world. Power is then given to them to organize the elements, and then commence the organization of tabernacles. How can they do it? Have they to go to that earth? Yes, and *Adam will have to go there, and he cannot do without Eve*; he must have Eve to commence the work of generation, and they will go into the garden, and continue to eat and drink of the fruits of the corporeal world, until this grosser matter is diffused sufficiently through their celestial bodies to enable them, according to the established laws, *to produce mortal tabernacles for their spiritual children*. This is a key for you. The faithful will become Gods, even the sons of God; but this does not overthrow the idea that we have a father.

Brigham Young

2/19/1854

TPBY 3:252

Who did beget [Jesus]? His Father, and his Father is our God, and *the Father of our spirits*, and He is the framer of the body. The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ - *Who is He? He is Father Adam - Michael - the Ancient of Days*.

Brigham Young

10/6/1854

Diary, Joseph Lee Robinson, 102-03

Attended conference. A very interesting conference; for at this meeting President Brigham Young said thus: That Adam and Eve were the names of the first man and woman of every earth that was ever organized. And that *Adam and Eve were the natural Father and Mother of every spirit that comes to this planet* or that receives tabernacles on this planet. Consequently we are brothers and sisters. And that Adam was God our Eternal Father.

Brigham Young

Friday 10/6/1854

Journal of the Southern Indian Mission - Diary of Thomas D. Brown, 87- 89

[T]he *Father of our Spirits* is the Father of Jesus Christ: He is the Father of Jesus Christ, Spirit & Body and he *is the beginner of the bodies of all men*. ... *Adam & Eve had children in the spirit* - and their children married - brother & sister - then the bodies followed.

Brigham Young

Sunday 10/8/1854

John Pulsipher Papers, 37

[W]hen this work was made - our God who is Adam came & commenced the peopling of it - Tho he is God & had lived & died & been reserected on some other plannet - & obtained his exaltation & *begat the Spirits of children enough people this world* he came down & brot some of the animal & vegetable productions of some other world so that they might grow & increase here - He by eating the mortal fruits of the Earth, it caused & produced mortal children or commenced the increase of men on the Earth which is the bodies for the Spirits to live in ... There are Lords many & Gods many But the God that we have to account to, is the father of our Spirits - Adam.

Brigham Young

Sunday 10/8/1854

MABY

I tell you more, *Adam is the father of our spirits ... [O]ur spirits and the spirits of all the heavenly family were begotten by Adam, and born of Eve.*

Brigham Young

3/31/1855

MS 17:195-96

[Brigham Young] declared that Jesus Christ is the actual spirit and mortal son of Michael Adam God; that Michael *Adam is the supreme god and father of the spirits* of our mortal world.

Brigham Young

4/25/1855

MABY

We begin with *the father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of our spirits - who is he?* Do you know anything about him? Can you find out who he is? ... If we can get to him, *the Ancient of Days* whose hair is like wool, a man of age, a man of experience, and can learn of him to understand, I am that I am, we shall then hear him say, *I am your father* and leader, I will be your front and your rearward ... When we can see that very character and talk and live with him in our tabernacles, if we are so fortunate as to get there into his society, then we can say that to us there is but one living and true God, and *he is the father of our Lord Jesus Christ and of our spirits.* And when we get back to him and learn that he is actually our father, we shall not feel any anxiety to call upon anybody else for the blessings we are in need of. It is a subject I am aware that does not appear so close to our understandings at present as we could wish it or as it will be some day, and it is one that should not trouble us at all, all such things will become more clear to your minds bye and bye.

Brigham Young

2/8/1857

JD 4:217-18

Things were first created spiritually; *the Father actually begat the spirits*, and they were brought forth and lived with Him. *Then He commenced the work of creating earthly tabernacles*, precisely as He had been created in this flesh himself, *by partaking of the course material* that was organized and composed this earth, *until His system was charged with it*, consequently the tabernacles of His children were organized from the course materials of this earth.

Brigham Young

10/9/1859

JD 7:290

Adam and Eve are the parents of all pertaining to the flesh, and I would not say that they are not also the parents of *our spirits*.

Orson Pratt

7 p.m. 4/4/1860

Minutes of Meeting at Historian's Office, Great SLC

I would like to enumerate items, firstly - preached & published, that *Adam is the fa[ther] of our spirits*, & father of Spirit & father of our bodies - When I read the Rev given to Joseph I read directly the opposite - Lord spake to Adam, which [sic] Man eventually became Adam's (3 blank lines)

Orson Pratt

10 a.m. 4/5/1860

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of the Twelve

I have heard brother Brigham say that *Adam is the Father of our Spirits*, and he came here with his resurrected body, to fall for his own children; and I said to him, it leads to an endless number of falls, which leads to sorrow and death.

George G. Bywater

6/8/1868

Minutes of the School of the Prophets, 40-42

I am not disposed to question the discrepancies on this question of doctrine; if we live faithful all will become clear to us. We cannot become united only as we get united in understanding. When I first heard the doctrine of *Adam being our Father and God*, I was favorably impressed - enjoyed, and hailed it as a new revelation. *It appeared reasonable to me, as the Father of our spirits that he should introduce us here*. And what we do not see is only evidence that we have not the light necessary.

Brigham Young

12/11/1869

Journal History, 131, School of the Prophets

Some may think what I have said concerning Adam strange, but the period will come when the people will be willing to adopt Joseph Smith as their prophet, Seer, and Revelator and God! but not *the Father of their spirits, for that was our Father Adam*.

Brigham Young

12/11/1869

Wilford Woodruff Journal

Some have thought it strange what I have said concerning Adam. But the period will come when this people, if faithful, will be willing to adopt Joseph Smith as their Prophet, Seer, Revelator, and God, but not *the Father of their spirits, for that was our Father Adam*.

Gilbert Belnap

1870

Autobiography of Gilbert Belnap, 23

When contrasting the present conditions of the inhabitants of the earth with their primeval state in the Garden of Eden, the period *when the Father of our spirits condescended that through the partaking of the fruits of the earth* that man might be ... I am caused to mourn.

Brigham Young

Sunday p.m. 6/18/1873

DN 22:308

My brother said that God is as we are. He did not mean those words to be literally understood. He meant simply, that in our organization we have all the properties in embryo in our bodies that our Father has in his, and that literally, morally, socially, *by the spirit and by the flesh we are his children*. Do you think that God, who holds the eternities in his hands and can do all things at his pleasure, is not capable of sending forth his own children, and forming this flesh for his own offspring? Where is the mystery in this? We say that Father Adam came here and helped to make the earth. Who is he? He is Michael, a great prince, and it was said to him by Elohim: Go ye and make an earth." What is the great mystery about it? He came and formed the earth. ... Adam found it in a state of chaos, unorganized and incomplete. ... Adam came here and got it up in a shape that would suit him to commence business. Father Adam came here, and then they brought his wife. "Well," says one, "Why was Adam called *Adam*?" He was the first man on the earth, and its framer and maker. He with the help of his brethren, brought it into existence. Then he said, "*I want my children who are in the spirit world to come and live here*. I once dwelt upon an earth something like this, in a mortal

state, I was faithful, I received my crown and exaltation. I have the privilege of extending my work, and to its increase there will be no end. *I want my children that were born to me in the spirit world to come here and take tabernacles of flesh, that their spirits may have a house, a tabernacle or a dwelling place as mine has, and where is the mystery?*

The Lecture at the Veil

Tuesday 2/7/1877

Journal of L. John Nuttall

Adam was an immortal being when he came. On this earth he had lived on an earth similar to ours he had received the Priesthood and the Keys thereof. and had been faithful in all things and gained his resurrection and his exaltation and was crowned with glory immortality and eternal lives and was numbered with the Gods for such he became through his faithfulness. and had begotten all the spirit that was to come to this earth. and Eve our common Mother who is the mother of all living bore those spirits in the celestial world. And when this earth was organized by Elohim, Jehovah & Michael who is Adam our common Father. Adam & Eve had the privilege to continue the work of Progression. consequently came to this earth and commenced the great work of forming tabernacles for those spirits to dwell in.

Shortened Lecture at the Veil

between 1877-1894

[Adam] had begotten all the spirits that was to come to this earth, and Eve, our common mother - who is the mother of all living - bore our spirits in the celestial world. And when this earth was organized by Elohim, Jehovah and Michael - who is Adam our common father - Adam and Eve had the privilege to continue the work of progression. They consequently came to this earth and commenced the great work of forming tabernacles for those spirits to dwell in.

Edward Tullidge

3/--/1877

Women of Mormondom, 179-80, 191

"Adam is our Father and God. ... He is the father of the spirits as well as the tabernacles of the sons and daughters of man. Adam! ...

These were father and mother of a world of spirits who had been born to them in heaven.

...

These are the sons and daughters of Adam - the Ancient of Days - the Father and God of the whole human family. These are the sons and daughters of Michael, who is Adam, the father of the spirits of all our race. These are the sons and daughters of Eve, the Mother of a world.

Eliza R. Snow

1877

 THE ULTIMATUM OF HUMAN LIFE

Life's ultimatum, unto those that live
 As saints of God, and all my pow'rs receive;
 Is still the onward, upward course to tread -
 To stand as *Adam and as Eve*, the head
 Of an inheritance, a new-form'd earth,
And to their spirit race, give mortal birth -
 Give them experience in a world like this.

John Taylor

1/13/1880

L. John Nuttall Papers

Adam is the father of our bodies. Who is to say he is not the father of our spirits.

Edward Stevenson

3/7/1880

Edward Stevenson Diary; Davis Stake Conference

[T]herefore *Adam is the Father of my Spirit* & also of my body, the body being Bone of his Bone & Flesh of his Flesh. I Spoke 45 Minutes & Bp. Hess said that he could endorse all that had been said although he did not understand all, yet it made him feel good & like living his religion.

Joseph E. Taylor

12/29/1888

Deseret Weekly News 38:27

I think these two quotations¹³ from such a reliable authority fully solve the question as to the relationship existing between Father Adam and the Savior of the world, and prove beyond question the power that *Adam* possessed in regard to taking his body [up] again after laying [it] down - which power he never could have attained unless he had first a resurrection from the grave to a condition of immortality. We further say that this power was not forfeited when as a celestial being he *voluntarily partook of the forbidden fruit and thereby rendered his body mortal in order that he might become the father of mortal tabernacles, as he was already the father of immortal spirits* - thus giving opportunity to the offspring of his own begotten to pass through the ordeals necessary to prepare them for a resurrection from the dead, a celestial glory.

¹³ TPJS 346-47; HC 5:426.

Myron Abbott

12/13/1890

St. George Stake High Council Minutes

[Spirits] were begotten in the spirit world the same as we are begotten here and that
Adam is the father of our spirits.

Analysis & Observations



... The reader may note that this subsection could have been significantly larger; if one accepts Adam-God teachings, the materials under "God as Father of our Bodies" are doctrinally identical to this subsection and those statements ought to be studied in connection with this section. However, for academic reasons noted in that subsection, these two subsections have been separated in this book. ...

3

Adam as Father of Christ

See also

Adam Presides Over Our Spirits & has the Keys

Procreation: Mortal & Spiritual Offspring

Brigham Young

Friday 4/9/1852

JD 1:50

He [Adam] is our Father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do. ... When the Virgin Mary conceived the child *Jesus*, *the Father had begotten him* in his own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. *And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family*; and when he took a tabernacle, it was begotten by his Father in heaven, after the same manner as the tabernacles of Cain, Abel, and the rest of the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve; from the fruits of the earth, the first earthly tabernacles were originated by the Father, and so on in succession. ... What a learned idea! *Jesus*, our elder brother, *was begotten in the flesh by the same character that was in the garden of Eden*, and who is our Father in Heaven.

Brigham Young

Friday 4/9/1852

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

When our Father came into the garden He came with his celestial body & brought one of his wives with him and ate of the fruit of the garden until He could beget a tabernacle. *And Adam is Michael or God* and all the God that we have anything to do with. They ate of this fruit & formed the first tabernacle that was formed. *And when the Virgin Mary was begotten with child it was by the Father* and in no other way only as we were begotten. I will tell you the truth as it is in God. The world don't know that *Jesus Christ* our elder brother was begotten by our Father in Heaven. Handle it as you please, it will either seal the damnation or salvation of man. He was begotten by the

Father & not by the Holy Ghost.

Brigham Young

Friday 4/9/1852

Journal of Hosea Stout 2:435

President B. Young taught that *Adam was the father of Jesus* and the only God to us. That he came to this world in a resurrected body, etc. More hereafter.

Heber C. Kimball

Saturday 4/10/1852

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

The one that gave Joseph the keys of the Kingdom was his God,¹⁴ which was Peter. Jesus Christ was his God and *the God and Father of Jesus Christ was Adam*.

Brigham Young

Friday 4/16/1852

Journal of Samuel Holister Rogers 1:179

[H]e said that Adam was the only God that we would have, and that *Christ was not begotten of the Holy Ghost, but of the Father Adam*, that Christ, was our elder brother.

Brigham Young

2/19/1854

TPBY 3:251-52

I will notice another idea touching the Holy Ghost begetting the Son of God. Who was it that spoke from the heavens and said, "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him"? Was it God the Father? It was. The Apostles bear testimony that such a voice was actually heard, "This is my beloved Son," and if it is true [that] the Holy Ghost begat him, I would add, "which was begotten by one of my neighbors, hear ye him." Who was the Saviour begotten by? Oh, by his Father or his brother, or some other person. So the Holy Ghost begetting the Saviour looks to me. It makes me think of a story I heard in a dramatical performance once, that a certain individual was born of one of his aunts but he had no mother. It appears as reasonable to me to say a cousin or a fellow laborer of the Saviour begat him, as to say the Holy Ghost begat him. Who did beget him? His Father, and his Father is our God, and the Father of our spirits, and He is the framer of the body. *The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ - Who is He? He is Father Adam - Michael - the Ancient of Days*. Has he a Father? He has! Has he a Mother? He has! Now to say that the Son of God was begotten by the Holy Ghost, is to say the Holy Ghost is God the Father, which is inconsistent, and contrary to all the revelations of God, both modern, and ancient. ...

I will however, add, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God as I am the son of my father,

¹⁴ See "Titles & Offices: God & god" for an explanation of this statement.

and was born of the virgin Mary. On this all Christians have stumbled and fallen in ignorance, and they will remain until they are willing to admit the truth. In Jesus Christ we have God manifest in the flesh, He was the only one begotten of the Father full of grace and truth; was born in humble circumstances, placed in a manger, grew up to manhood, preached the Gospel, established His Church, suffered martyrdom and went back to the Father.

Brigham Young

2/19/1854

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

He (BY) said that our God was Father *Adam*. He was the Father of the Savior Jesus Christ - Our God was no more or less than Adam, Michael the Archangel.

Orson Pratt

9/17/1854

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

Some of his [Orson Pratt's] doctrines as contained in the Seer were being discussed. Brother Pratt also thought that Adam was made of the dust of the earth. Could not believe that *Adam was our God or the Father of Jesus Christ*.

Brigham Young

Friday 10/6/1854

Journal of the Southern Indian Mission, 87- 89

[T]he *Father of our Spirits is the Father of Jesus Christ: He is the Father of Jesus Christ, Spirit & Body* and he is the beginner of the bodies of all men. ... There is no time when worlds have not been created and exalted; there have always been an Adam and an Eve - the first man and woman, and *their oldest son is heir*, and should be our Savior. ... When Jesus has done his work he will take this planet back to his Father.

Brigham Young

3/31/1855

MS 17:195-96

[Brigham Young] declared that *Jesus Christ is the actual spirit and mortal son of Michael Adam God*; that Michael Adam is the supreme god and father of the spirits of our mortal world.

Brigham Young

4/25/1855

MABY

We begin with the father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of our spirits - who is he? Do you know anything about him? Can you find out who he is? Suppose we go to the scriptures and enquire who he is. At one time he says "I am that I am," at another time when the question was proposed by somebody, he replied, "I am the Lord your God";

at another time he is spoken of as a Man of War, a General and so on. You may trace the scriptures through, and you will find that he is known to one people by one title today, and tomorrow by another, and the next day by another, and there he leaves it ... When we can see that very character [*Michael*] and talk and live with him in our tabernacles, if we are so fortunate as to get there into his society, then we can say that to us there is but one living and true God, and he *is the father of our Lord Jesus Christ* and of our spirits. And when we get back to him and learn that he is actually our father, we shall not feel any anxiety to call upon anybody else for the blessings we are in need of. ... [when we] get there into his society then we can say that to us there is but one living and true *God* and he is the *father of our Lord Jesus Christ* and of our spirits. I tell you this as my belief about that personage *who is called the Ancient of Days*, the Prince, and so on.

Heber C. Kimball

6/29/1856

JD 4:1

*That first man*¹⁵ *sent his own Son to redeem the world*, to redeem his brethren; his life was taken, his blood shed, that our sins might be remitted.

John Jacques

1856

Sacred Hymns #306

WE BELIEVE IN OUR GOD

We believe in our God, the Prince of his race,
The archangel Michael, the Ancient of Days
Our own *Father Adam*, earth's Lord as is plain,
Who'll counsel and fight for His children again.

We believe in *His Son, Jesus Christ* who in love
To His brothers and sisters came down from above,
To die, to redeem them from death, and to teach
To mortals and spirits the gospel we preach.

Brigham Young

2/8/1857

JD 4:217-18

Things were first created spiritually; the Father actually begat the spirits, and they were brought forth and lived with Him. Then He commenced the work of creating earthly tabernacles, precisely as He had been created in this flesh himself, by partaking of the

¹⁵ This must be Adam - see TPJS, 167; HC 4:207; D&C 84:16; Moses 1:34; Abraham 1:3; HCK Journal 10/28/1854.

course material that was organized and composed this earth, until His system was charged with it, consequently the tabernacles of His children were organized from the course materials of this earth. When the time came that *His first-born, the Savior*, should come into the world and take a tabernacle, the Father came Himself and favored that spirit with a tabernacle instead of letting any other man do it. *The Savior was begotten by the Father of His spirit*, by the same Being who is the Father of our spirits, and that is all the organic difference between Jesus Christ and you and me. And a difference there is between our Father and us consists in that He has gained His exaltation, and has obtained eternal lives.

Heber C. Kimball

3/11/1857

Journal of Heber C. Kimball 20:17

The Lord told me that *Jesus Christ was the son of Adam*.¹⁶

Brigham Young

1/8/1865

JD 11:41-42

One of the prophets describes the *Father of us all*, saying, "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the *Ancient of days* did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool; his throne was like the fiery flame," etc. The prophet further says, "thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him," etc. Again "and, behold, one like the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven and came to the *Ancient of days*, and they brought him near before him." Now, who is the *Ancient of days*? You may answer this question at your pleasure, I have already told the people. But the Savior would answer the question as to the appearance of the *Father of us all*, by saying, "Look at me, for I am the very express *image of my Father*."

Brigham Young

12/16/1867

Journal of Wilford Woodruff

President Young said *Adam* was Michael the Archangel, & he was the *Father of Jesus Christ* & was our God & that Joseph taught this principle.¹⁷

¹⁶ Musser, 49 adds that J. Golden Kimball testified on February 10, 1931 that he had read this statement in his father's (Heber C. Kimball) Journal.

¹⁷ This is the twelfth statement by Brigham Young in this subsection that declares that Jesus Christ was the son of Adam. Compare this observation with the following statement by Joseph Fielding Smith: "President Brigham Young did not believe and did not teach, that Jesus Christ was begotten by Adam." Mechizedek Priesthood Manual, "Answers to Gospel Questions," 22; 1972.

Lecture at the Veil

Tuesday 2/7/1877

Journal of L. John Nuttall 1:18-21

Father *Adam's oldest son* (*Jesus the Savior*), who is the heir of the family is *Father Adams first begotten in the spirit World*, who according to the flesh is the only begotten as it is written. In his divinity he having gone back into the spirit world, and come in the spirit to Mary and she conceived ...

Byron Allred

3/1/1877

Jans Christian Anderson Weibye Daybooks 5:20-22

Mary was sealed to Adam, and was his wife when she had Jesus.

Edward Tullidge

3/--/1877

Women of Mormondom, 179

"*Adam is our Father and God. He is the God of the earth.*" So says Brigham Young. Adam is the great archangel of this creation. He is Michael. He is the Ancient of Days. He *is the father of our elder brother, Jesus Christ* - the father of him who shall also come as Messiah to reign.

Joseph E. Taylor

6/2/1888

Deseret Weekly News 38:19-27

It is recorded in the fifth chapter of Genesis that Adam died at the advanced age of 930 years. But it is often asked, 'Did Adam lie in the grave until he was redeemed therefrom through the death and resurrection of the Only Begotten?' I will ask a question in reply: 'Did Jesus have power to lay down his life and take it up again?' He so declared.¹⁸ It might be well at this point to inquire *who was the Savior of the world; and what relation did he bear to our father Adam?* For the veil of the mysterious past has been lifted just a little to enable us to see within. I will first quote from a discourse preached by President Brigham Young, in Salt Lake City, April 9th, 1852.

[He here quotes JD 1:50-51.]

We will now quote some of the sayings of Joseph Smith upon this point, as uttered by him in Nauvoo, April 6, 1844. 'It is the first principle of the Gospel to know for a certainty the character of God, and to know that we may converse with Him, as one man converses with another, and that he was made a man like us. Yea, that God Himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on our earth the same as Jesus Christ did. ... What did Jesus say? ... 'As the Father hath power in himself, so hath the Son power.' To do what? Why, what the Father did. The answer is obvious, in a manner, to lay down his

¹⁸ John 10:18.

body and take it up again. 'Jesus, what are you going to do?' 'To lay down my life and take it up again.' Do you believe it? If you do not believe it, you do not believe the Bible. The Scriptures tell it, and I defy all the learning and wisdom of all the combined powers of earth and hell together to refute it. What did Jesus do? Why, 'I do the thing I saw my Father do when worlds came rolling into existence. My Father worked out His Kingdom with fear and trembling; and I must do the same; and when I get my kingdom, I shall present it to my Father, so that He may obtain kingdom upon kingdom and it will exalt Him in glory. He will then take a higher exaltation and I take His place, and thereby become exalted myself; so that Jesus treads in the track of his Father and inherits what God did before.'¹⁹

I think these two quotations from such a reliable authority fully solve the question as to the relationship existing between Father Adam and the Savior of the world, and prove beyond question the power that Adam possessed in regard to taking his body again after laying it down - which power he never could have attained unless he had received first a resurrection from the grave to a condition of immortality.

George Q. Cannon

6/23/1889

Journal of Abraham H. Cannon

He [George Q.] believes that *Jesus Christ* is Jehovah, and that *Adam is His Father* and our God: that under certain unknown conditions the benefits of the Savior's atonement extend to our entire solar system. ... He asked me what I understood concerning Mary conceiving the Savior; and as I found no answer, he asked what was to prevent *Father Adam from visiting and overshadowing the mother of Jesus*. Then said I: "he must have been a resurrected Being." "Yes," said he, "and though Christ is said to have been the first fruits of them that slept, yet the Savior said he did nothing but what He had seen His Father do, for He had power to lay down His life and take it up again. Adam, though made of dust, was made, as President Young said, of the dust of another planet than this." I was very much instructed by the conversation and this days services.

George Q. Cannon

6/11/1892

Diary of Charles Lowell Walker 2:740-41

Pres Cannon said that it was not necessary that we should or endorse the doctrine that some men taught that *Adam was the Father of Jesus Christ*.

¹⁹ TPJS 345, 346, 347; HC 6:305, 306; JD 6:3.

George Q. Cannon

11/28/1898

 Proceedings of the First Sunday School Convention

I was stopped yesterday afternoon by a young man, who wanted to know whether *Adam was the father of our Lord and Savior* - whether he was the being we worshiped, etc. ... Concerning the doctrine in regard to Adam and the Savior, the Prophet Brigham taught some things concerning that; but the First Presidency and the Twelve do not think it wise to advocate these matters.

Edward Bunker

2/9/1902

 Letter to President Joseph F Smith

Dear Bro.

One of our recently returned missionary from the North Western States is advocating [sic] the Doctorn [sic] that *Adam is the very eternal Father in the Godhead and the Father of Jesus Christ* and that Pres Kelch so taught the Elders in that mission.

Brigham H. Roberts

 Defense of the Faith and the Saints 2:268

In fact, the Mormon Church teaches that God the Father has a material body of flesh and bones; that *Adam is the God of the human race* ... that *Jesus Christ was physically begotten by the Heavenly Father of Mary, His wife*; that, as we have a Heavenly Father, so also we have a Heavenly Mother ...

Analysis & Observations



The above statements give greater meaning to passages of scripture that refer to Jesus as the "Son of Man", an appellation that refers to Christ in over eighty New Testament passages and in over a dozen more modern scriptural passages. ... more in the book.