

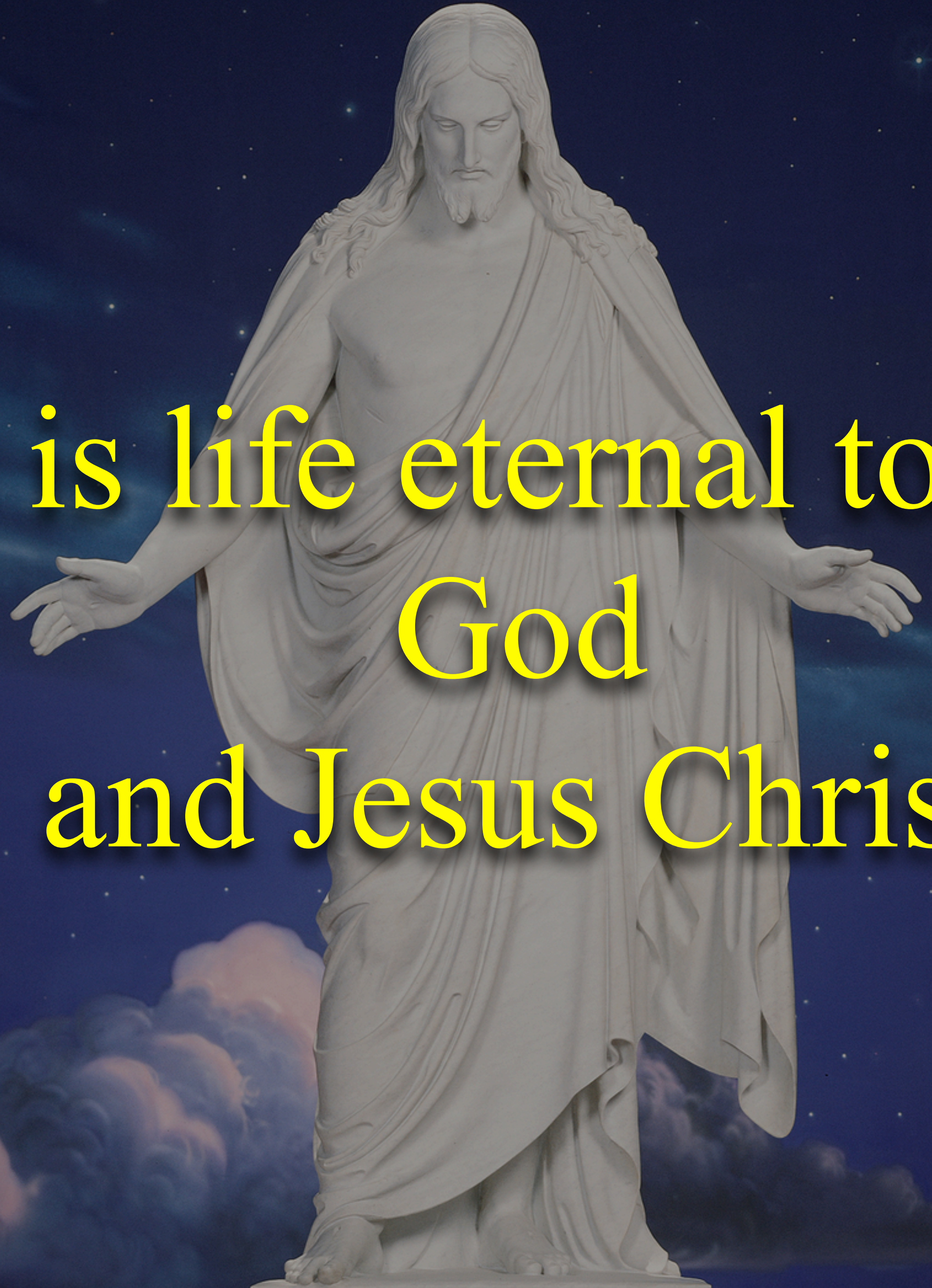
Knowing God



Knowing God

Part 1

Eternity



This is life eternal to know
God
and Jesus Christ



“It is the first principle of the Gospel to know for a certainty the Character of God”

(TPJS p 345)

How are we able to

Know God

and understand the

Character of God

The Three Key Sources

Words of God- The Scriptures

The Words of The Prophet Joseph Smith

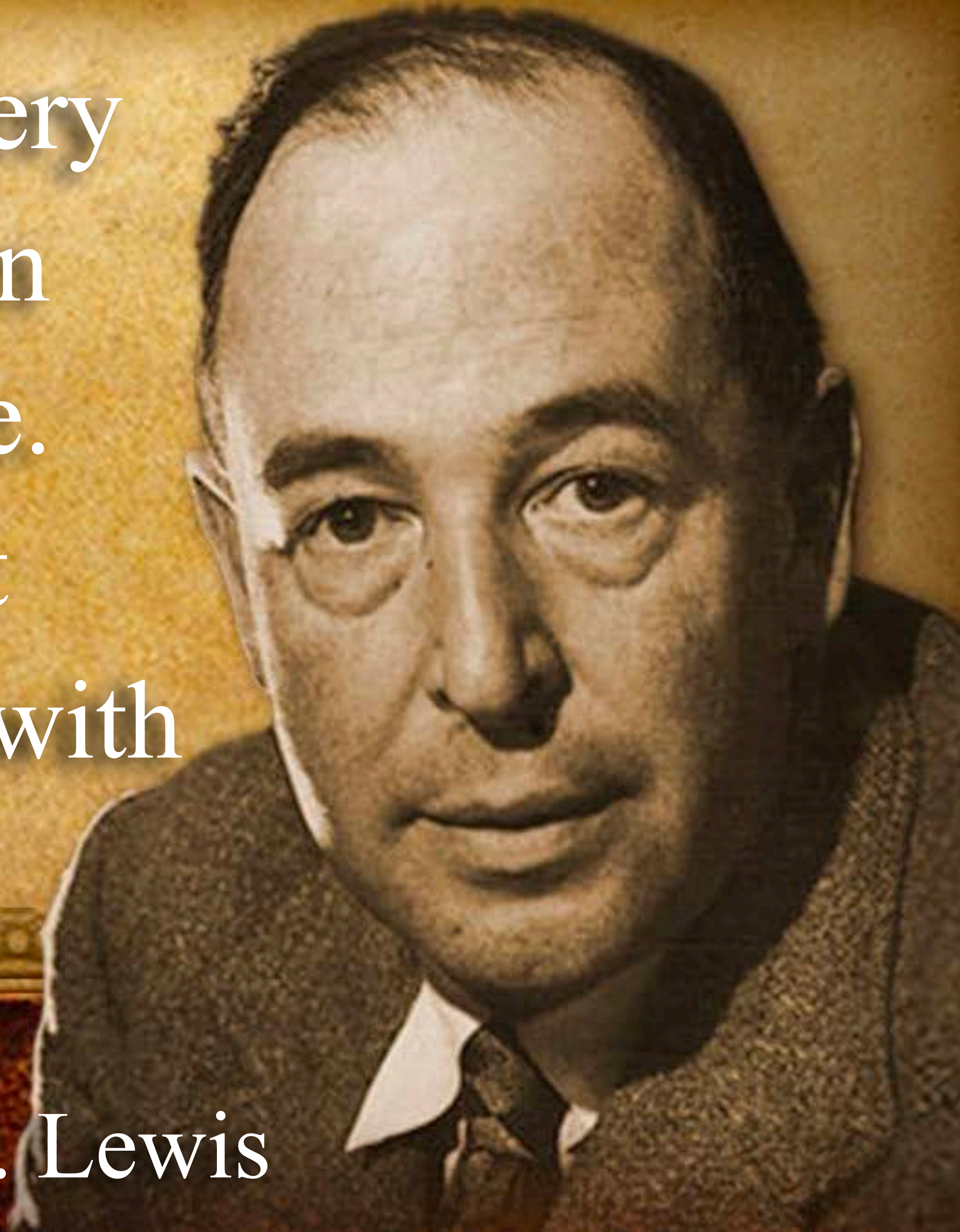
Words of the Living Prophets

D&C 93:19.

I give unto you these sayings that you
may understand,
and
know how to worship,
and
know what you worship,
that
you may come unto the Father in my name,
and
in due time receive of his fulness.

‘Our existence is like a very large book, and our life on earth is only the title page. The first chapter does not begin with our birth, but with our death.’

C.S. Lewis



Before Birth

Eternity

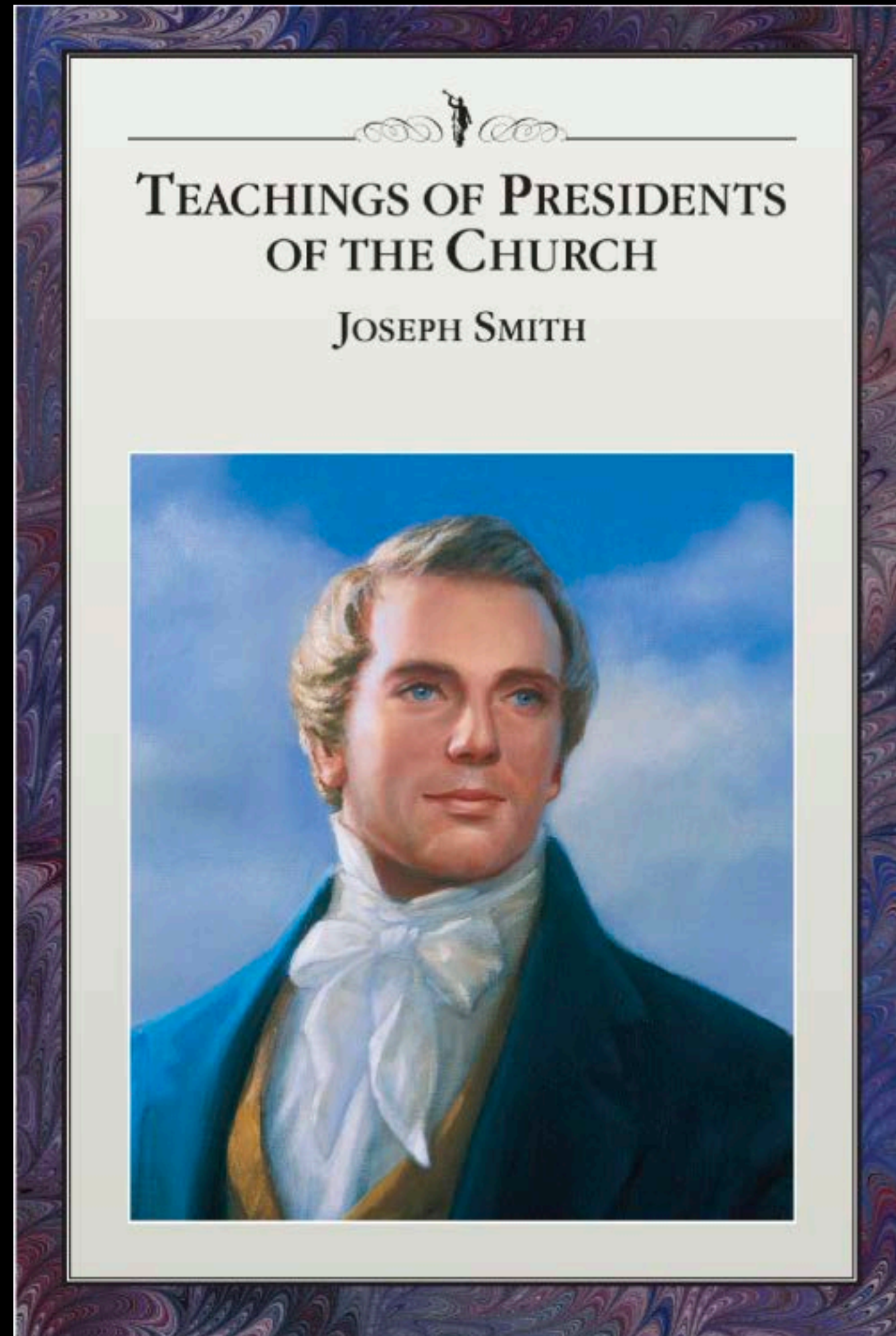
After Death



Pre-Earth

Eternity

Post-Earth



“Man was also in the beginning with God. Intelligence, or the light of truth, *was not created or made, neither indeed can be.*”

(D&C 93:29)

In April 1844, the Prophet taught:

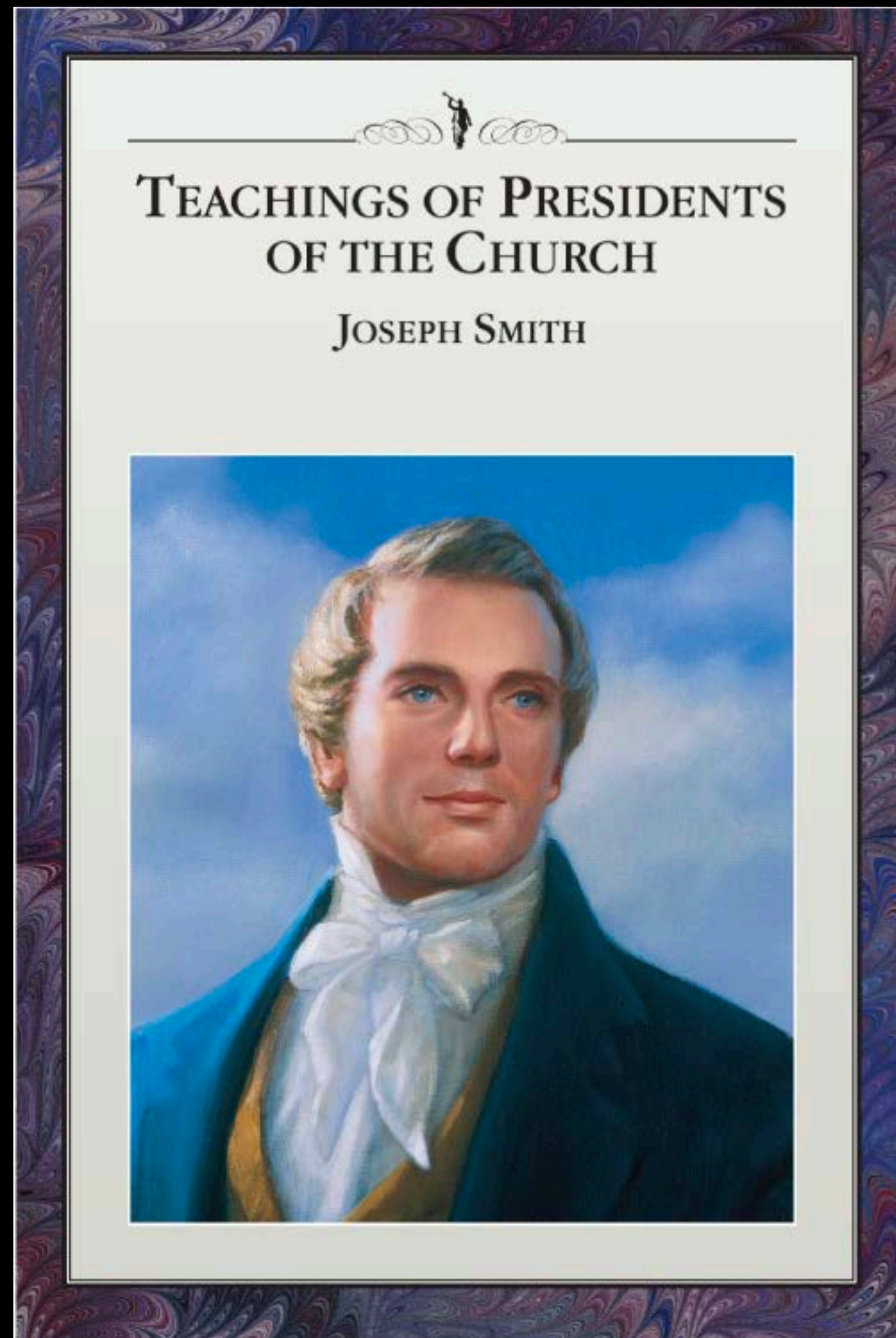
“I have another subject to dwell upon, which is calculated to exalt man. . . . —*namely, the soul—the mind of man—the immortal spirit.* Where did *it* come from? All learned men and doctors of divinity say that God created *it* in the beginning; *but it is not so:* the very idea lessens man in my estimation. I do not believe the doctrine; I know better. Hear it, all ye ends of the world; *for God has told me so;* and if you don’t believe me, it will not make the truth without effect. . .

(p. 209)

Pre-Earth

Eternity

Post-Earth



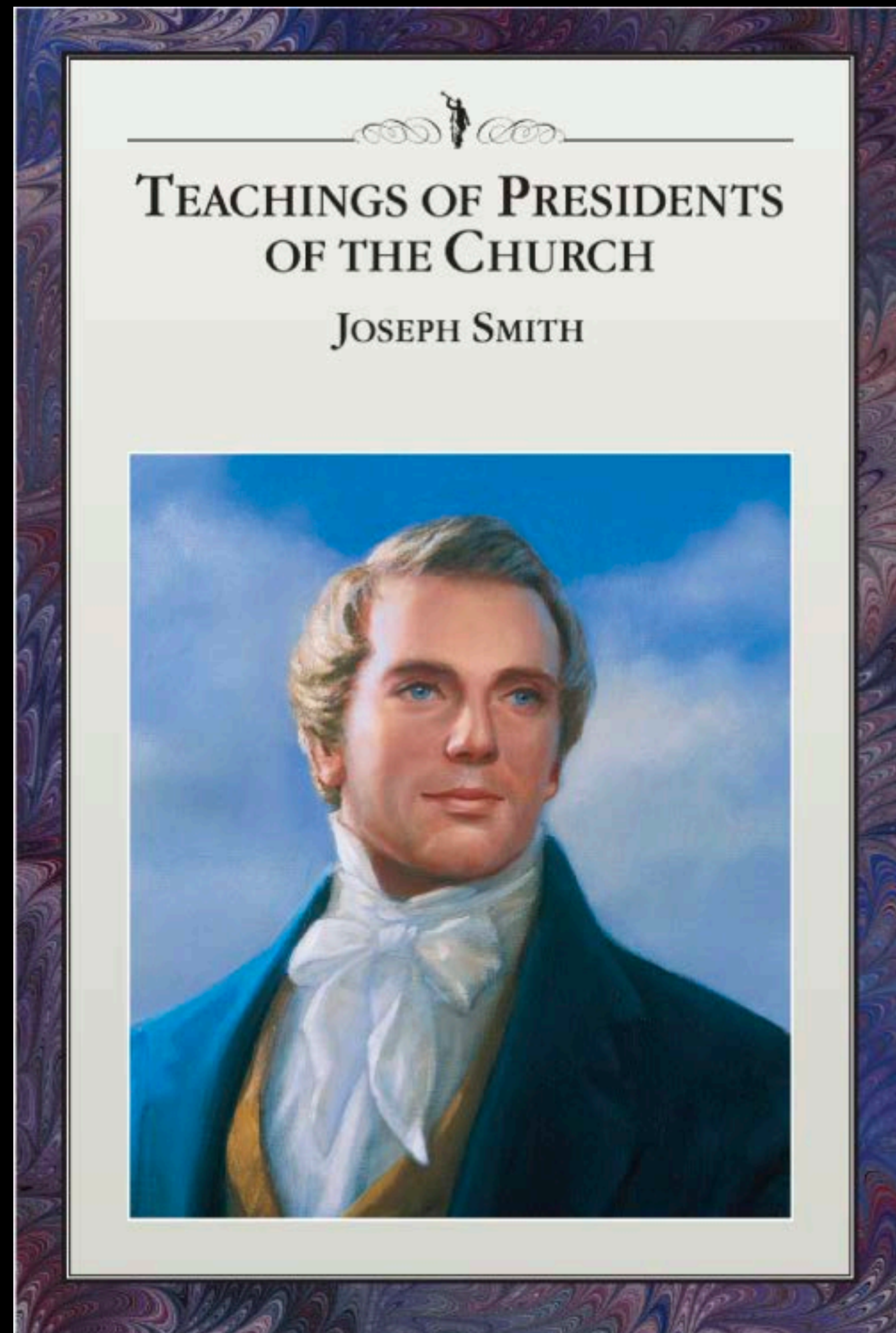
“I am dwelling on the *immortality of the spirit of man*. Is it logical to say that the *intelligence of spirits* is immortal, and yet that *it* has a beginning? The *intelligence of spirits* had no beginning, neither will *it* have an end. That is good logic. *That which has a beginning may have an end.*

There never was a time when there were not spirits. ...

Pre-Earth

Eternity

Post-Earth

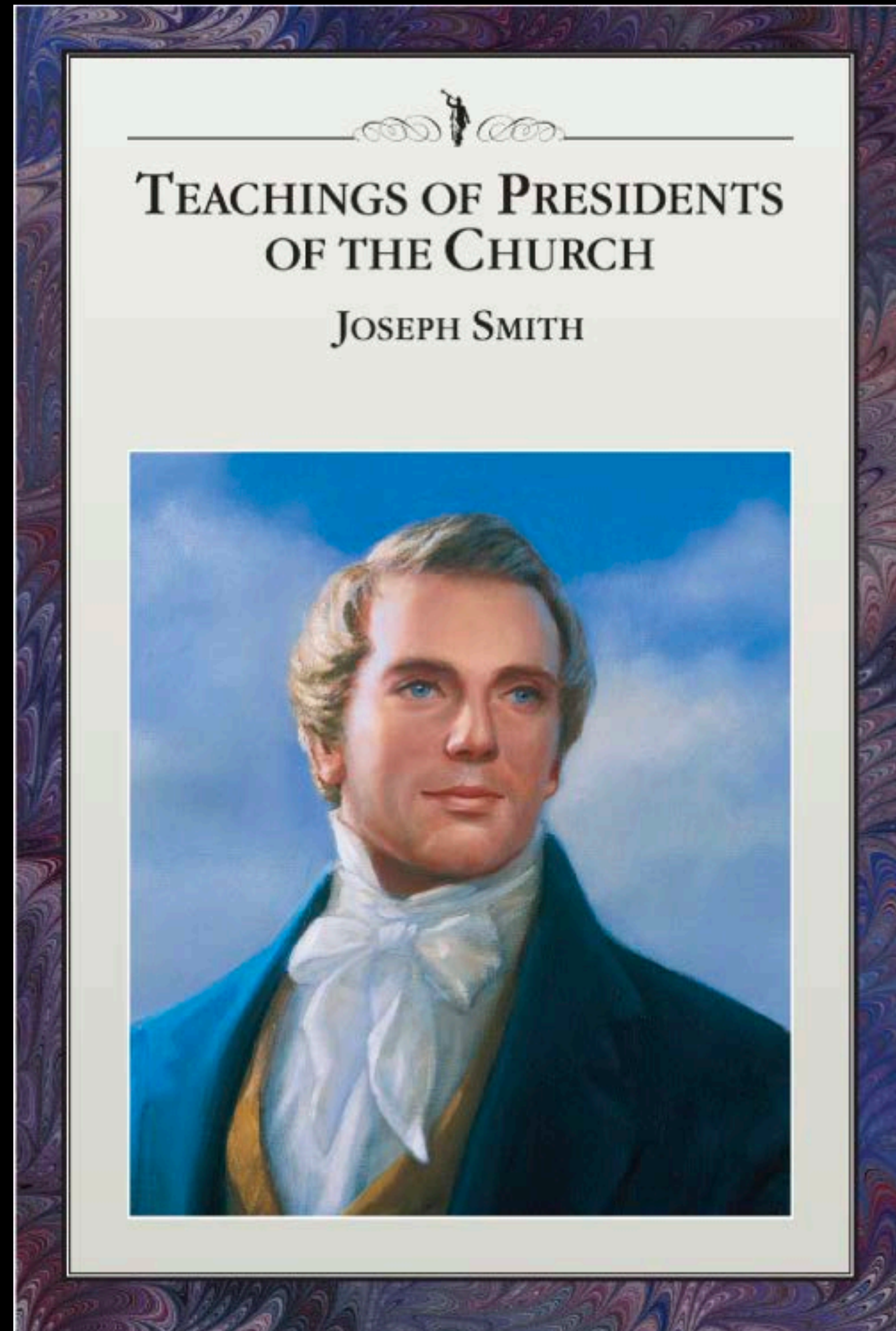


“... I take my ring from my finger and liken it unto the mind of man—the immortal part, because it had no beginning. Suppose you cut it in two; then it has a beginning and an end; but join it again, and it continues one eternal round. *So with the spirit of man.* As the Lord liveth, *if it had a beginning, it will have an end.* All the fools and learned and wise men from the beginning of creation, who say that the *spirit* of man had a beginning, prove that *it* must have an end; and if that doctrine is true, then the doctrine of annihilation would be true. But if I am right, I might with boldness proclaim from the house-tops that *God never had the power to create the spirit of man at all.* God himself could not create himself.

Pre-Earth

Eternity

Post-Earth



“Intelligence is eternal and exists upon a self-existent principle. It is a spirit from age to age and there is no creation about it.”

(p. 210)

18. Howbeit that he made the greater star; as, also, if there be two *spirits*, and one shall be more intelligent than the other, yet these two *spirits, notwithstanding one is more intelligent than the other, have no beginning; they existed before, they shall have no end, they shall exist after, for they are gnolaum, or eternal.*

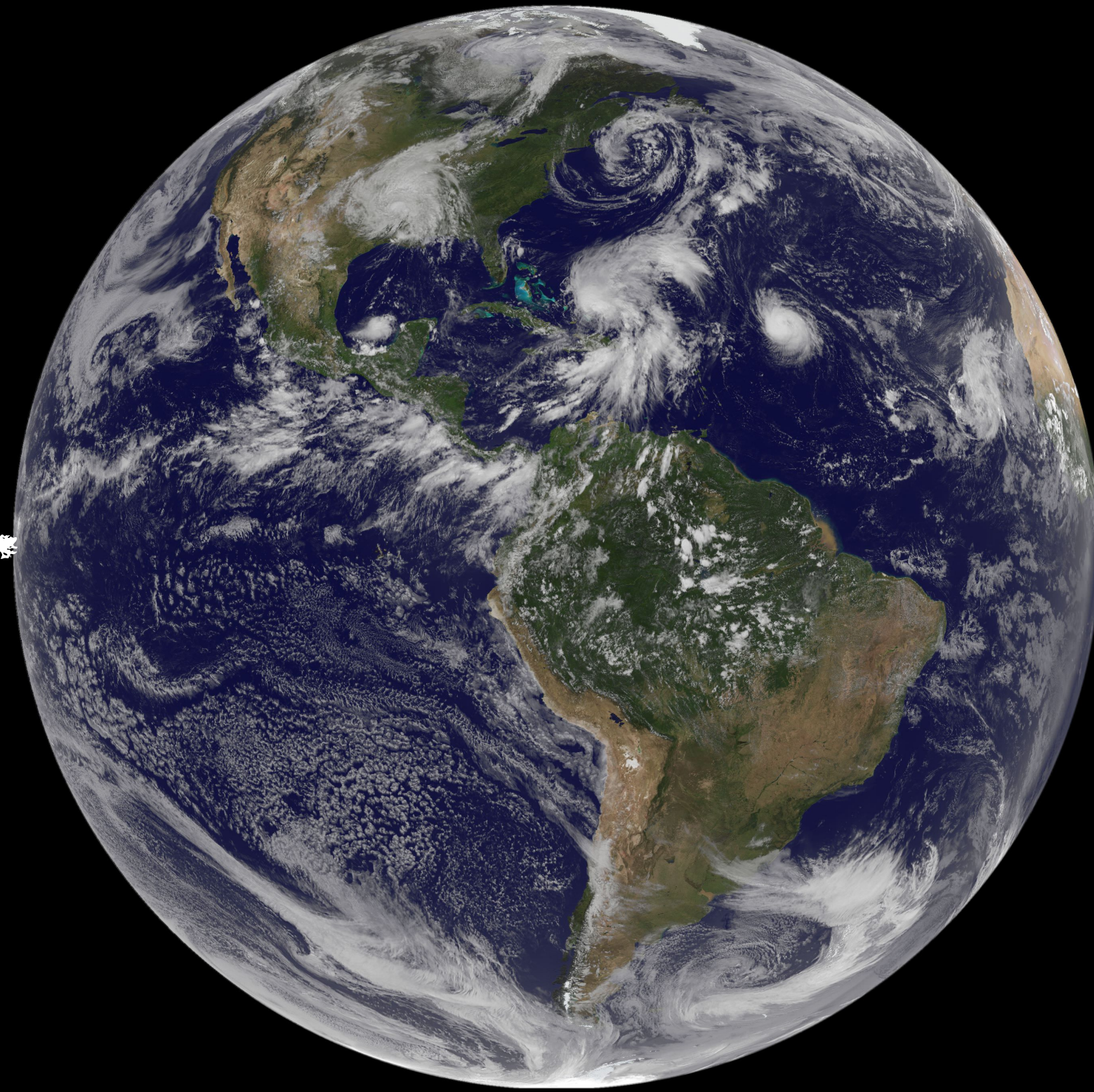
23. And God saw *these* souls that *they* were good, and he stood in the midst of *them*, and he said: *These* I will make my rulers; *for he stood among those that were spirits*, and he saw that *they* were good; and he said unto me: Abraham, thou art one of *them*; thou wast chosen before thou wast born.

(Abr. 3:18, 23)

Pre-Earth

Eternity

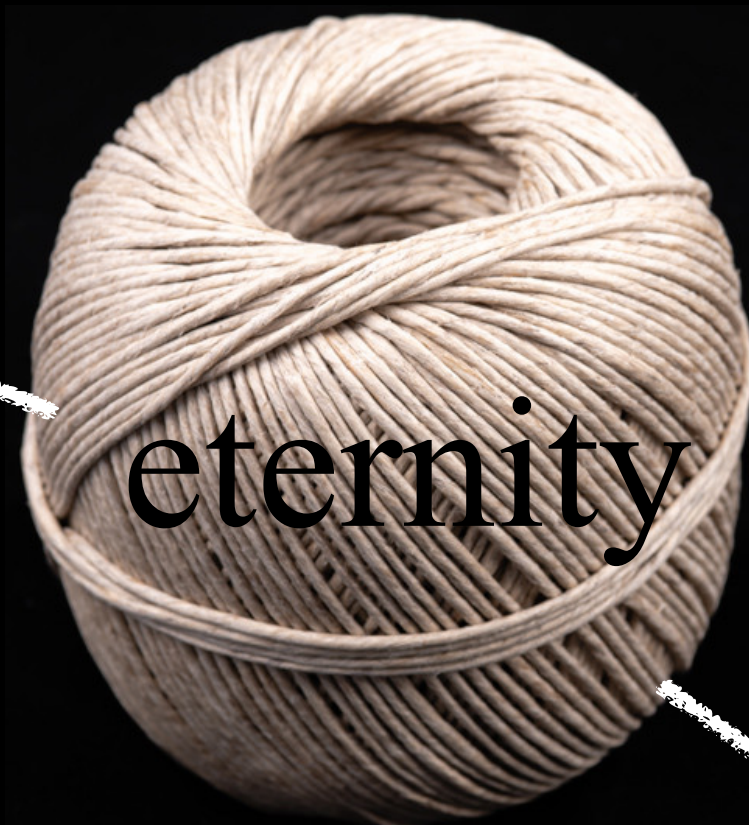
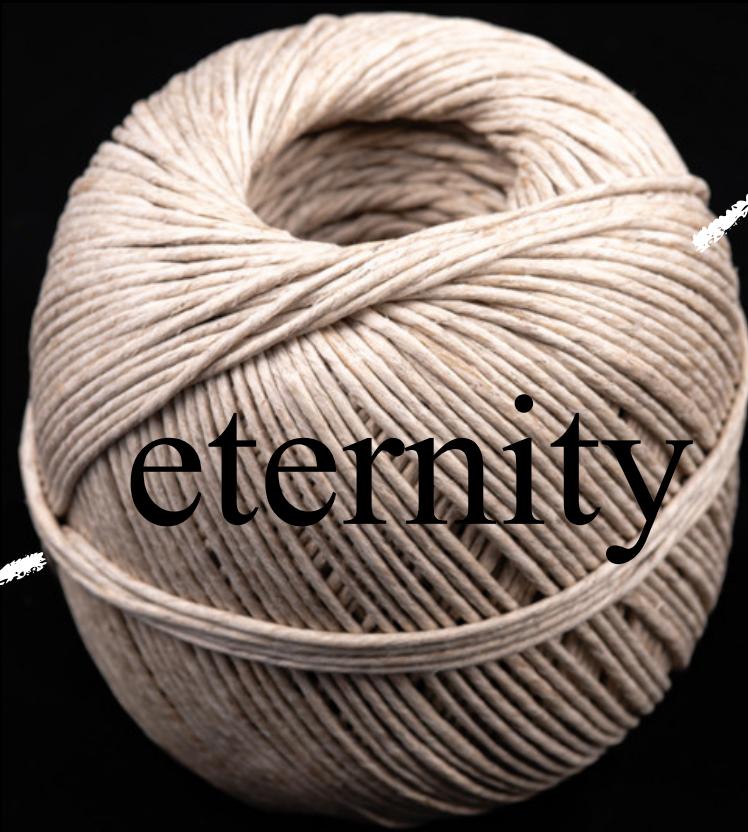
Post-Earth



Pre-Earth

Eternity

Post-Earth

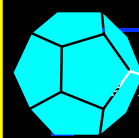


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BIRTH

DEATH

Toward God and Exaltation

Shrink from the Glory of God

The Power of Faith and Hope in our salvation comes by
Understanding Future Potentials
and to ‘act pertaining to futurity’ (D&C 101:78)

This understanding is conveyed by the
‘ordinances of salvation and exaltation that provides a
hope of a future reality’ (Alma 13:16), a hope of what can
happen. Real Hope, like Faith are based in eternal
truths that are unseen, but are true.

“Desperation”

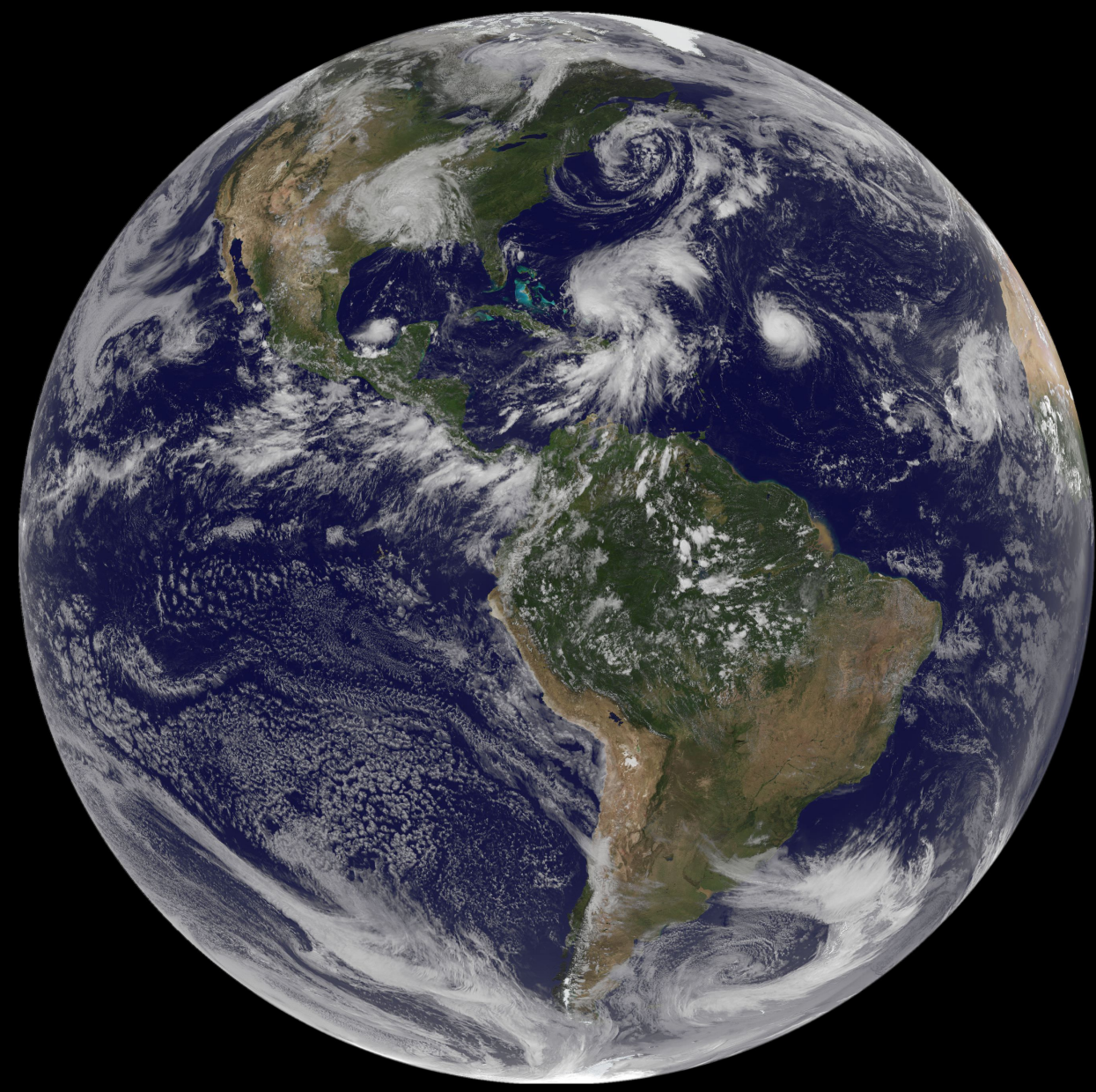
A Lack of Hope and Faith:

no expected potentials,

no vision of eternity,

no understanding for a purpose of life.

To know our potentials in eternity and our purpose for life provides an endowment of power over mortality that all search for.



If we trust God with our eternal spiritual security, why would we not trust Him in our temporal present circumstance?

If we trust God with our eternal spiritual security, why would we not trust Him in our temporal present circumstance?

If you know and understand God, you don't have to live at the mercy of present problems or worry about future fears. Instead, you should evaluate global events and world history, in terms of scriptural prophecy, and the spiritual agenda leading to the return of Christ.



There are Two World Views:

Secular World View

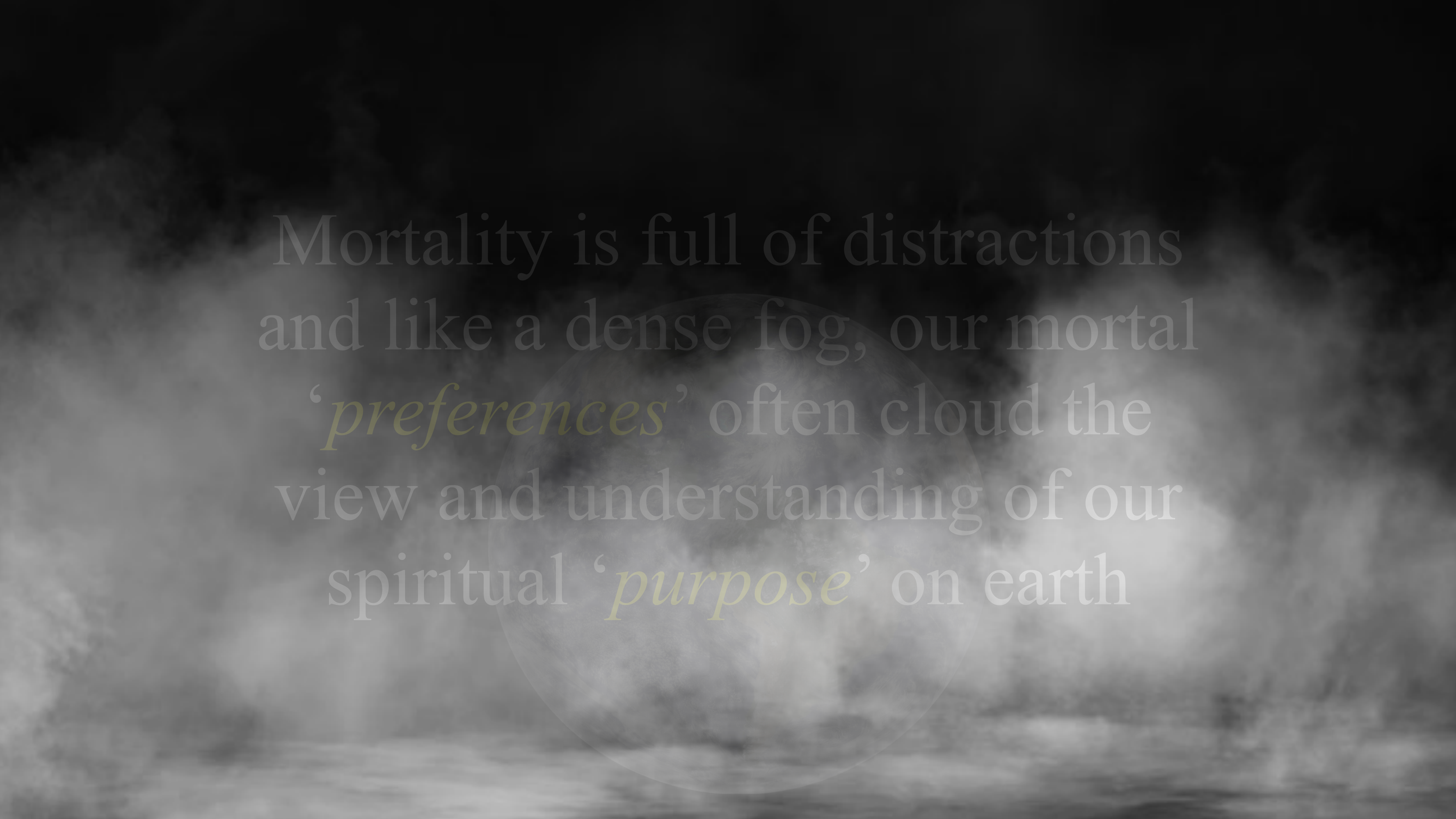
me, here, and now in the absence of God

Scriptural or Spiritual World View

all things known and controlled by God

All World History

All Worry



Mortality is full of distractions
and like a dense fog, our mortal
‘preferences’ often cloud the
view and understanding of our
spiritual *‘purpose’* on earth

A purpose for mortality requires
an Eternal Perspective.

A Perspective that is Perfect,
Immutable, Irrevocable
Unchanging, and Omniscient.

This Eternal Perspective and Purpose for Life

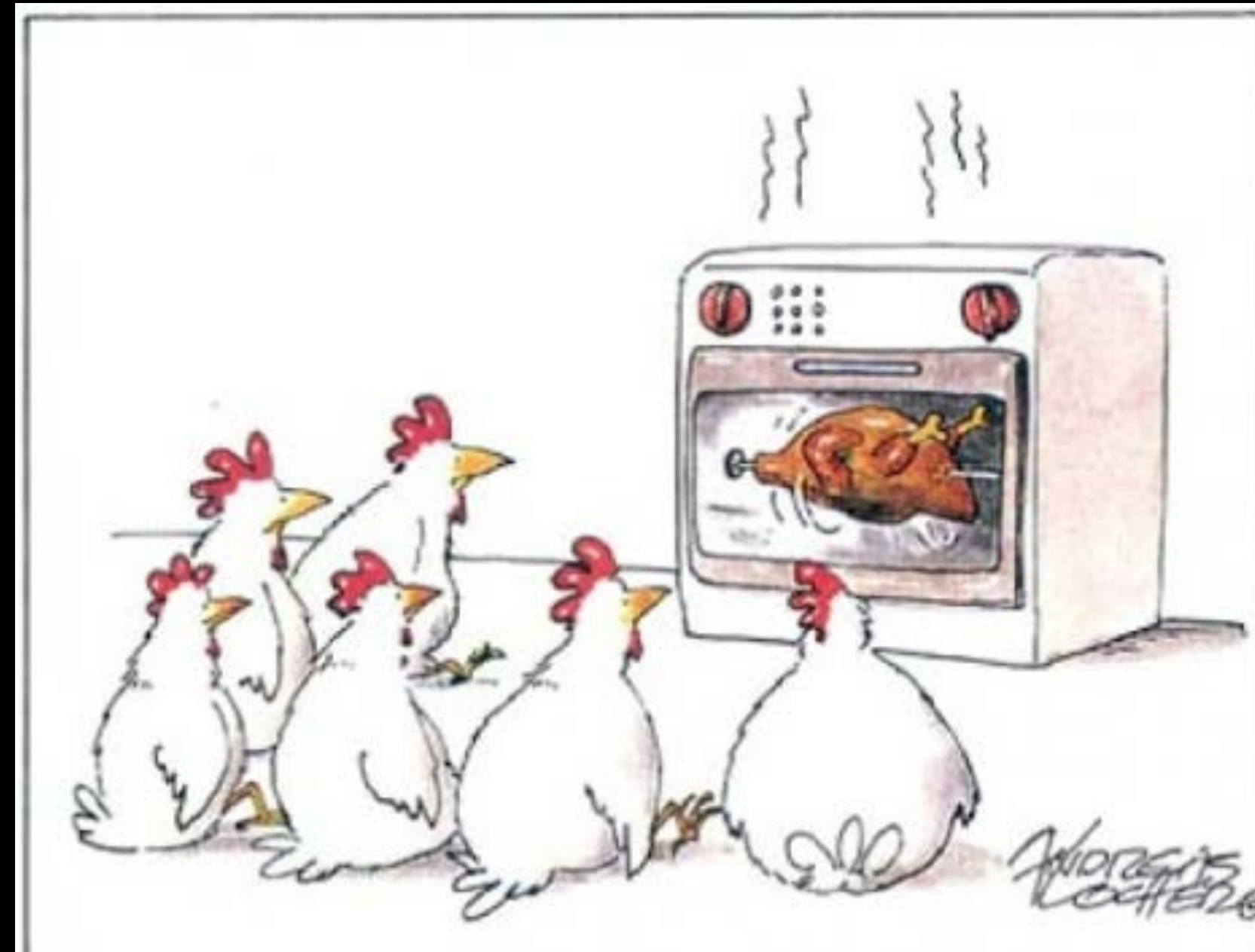
can only —come from God,
is only —provided by God,
found only in —the words of God
—Prophets and Scripture—

Eternity



Believe it or not, There is a Purpose for Life On Earth

This purpose for life and the pains of life we perfectly understood



Before we made the choice for mortality

Reality TV

CS Lewis understood that we cannot take this life seriously until we take our death seriously.

Death like birth, is an event we live through

If our Spirits are Eternal then:

There is a God

There is a Purpose for Life

There is a Life after Mortality

There are Responsibilities in Life

There will be Consequences because of Life

Joseph Smith said about the pre-earth



“At the first organization in heaven we were all present, and saw the Savior chosen and appointed and the plan of salvation made, and **we sanctioned it...**

We came to this earth that we might have a body and **present it pure before God in the celestial kingdom.”**

(TPJS p 181)

This Statement by Joseph Smith:

Indicates that every individual entered into a Covenantal Relationship with God, to participate in mortality

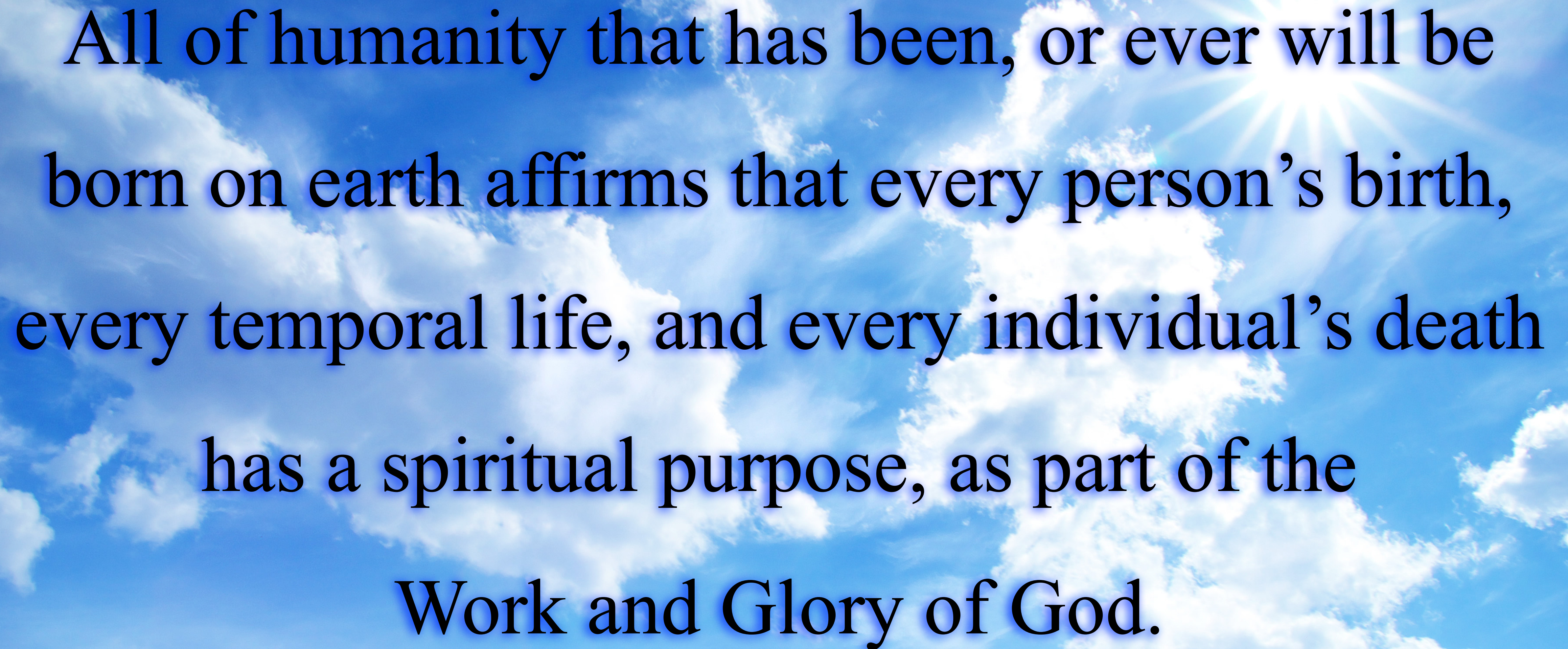
Pre-earth

Every spirit that has come or will come to earth, comes by choice. Every spirit that enters mortality does so with the chosen and known covenant that each made with God, which was to do all in our power to *return to the presence of God and 'present ourselves pure before God in the celestial kingdom'*.

Pre-earth

Joseph Smith Stated:

“The first principles of man are self-existent with God. God himself, finding he was in the midst of **spirits** and glory, because he was more intelligent, *saw proper to institute laws whereby the **rest** could have a privilege to advance like himself.* The relationship we have with God places us in a situation to advance in knowledge. *He has power to institute laws to instruct the weaker intelligences, that they may be exalted with himself,* so that they might have one glory upon another, and all that knowledge, power, glory, and intelligence, which is requisite in order to save them in the world of spirits.” (TPJS p 354)



All of humanity that has been, or ever will be
born on earth affirms that every person's birth,
every temporal life, and every individual's death
has a spiritual purpose, as part of the
Work and Glory of God.

“... **All things** whatsoever God in his infinite wisdom has seen fit and proper to **reveal to us, while we are dwelling in mortality....** are revealed to us in the abstract, and independent of affinity of this mortal tabernacle, but are revealed to our spirits precisely as though we had no bodies at all; and those **revelations which will save our spirits will save our bodies.** ... for all the spirits who have not obeyed the Gospel in the flesh must either obey it in the spirit or be damned”.



(TPJS p 355)

D&C 29:34. Wherefore, verily I say unto you that all things unto me are spiritual, and not at any time have I given unto you a law which was temporal;

God created our physical bodies for a temporal world. Adam fell imposing upon all humanity the two deaths; physical and spiritual, of which we have no control. Therefore, the Gospel of God provides an unconditional “Power of Resurrection” bringing the resurrected body and immortal spirit back into the presence of God. The Power of the Atonement is offered (conditionally) to those that choose to remain in His presence

25. Wherefore, may God raise you from death by the power of the resurrection, and also from everlasting death by the power of the atonement, that ye may be received into the eternal kingdom of God, that ye may praise him through grace divine. Amen.

(2 Ne. 9:25)

Our spirits are eternal and the ‘work and glory of God’ and the purpose of the Church is to provide all we would need and all that would be required, if one seeks to develop the character worthy to dwell with Him in His glory.

—‘nevertheless thou mayest choose for thyself’—

All elements of Salvation; conditional and unconditional, come through Jesus Christ.

The Provision of God

God provides everything
necessary for our salvation and exaltation
that we cannot do for ourselves,
Through the Sacrifice of Christ
(Resurrection, Atonement, Holy Ghost)

God provides everything
necessary for our salvation and exaltation
that we need to develop our character by choice,
Through the Life of Christ
Teachings of Christ, Gospel of Jesus Christ,
Priesthood of Jesus Christ, Church of Jesus Christ

What God Provides for the Immortality and Eternal Life of Mankind

A Savior

A Resurrection

An Atonement

The Holy Ghost

Families

The Gospel

Priesthood

Ordinances

The Church

Prophets

Scripture

Trials

Weaknesses (spiritual and physical)

Commandments

Which of these should be eliminated because of Time Period, Age, Dispensation, Politics or Education?

These assist us in the character change necessary to 'work out our own salvation in fear and trembling'.

Has the Work and Glory of God has
changed since creation?

The Work and Glory of God will always be the
Work and Glory of God

If God's work and glory has not changed:
we then must ask what it means for us to have an
“eye single to the glory of God”?

Christ is not: “**a**” way or “**one**” way
to come to God,

He is “***the***” way, ***the*** truth, ***the*** life,
and no man can come to the Father but
through Him. There is no other name by
which man can be saved.

TEAR HERE

Resealable Bag

Tootsie Roll

Midgees®

700
pieces



NET WT 4.86 LB (2.2 kg) ©D

How do you describe the taste of a Tootsie Roll to someone that has never tasted chocolate?

TEAR HERE

Resealable Bag

Tootsie Roll

Midgees®

700 pieces



NET WT 4.86 LB (2.2 kg) ©D

What's the Bag for?

Whats in It
Protects
Ensures Quality
Provides a Standard

Nutrition Facts

Serving Size
Servings Per Container 9

Amount Per Serving

Calories 140 Calories From Fat 30

% Daily Value*

Total Fat 3g 0%

Saturated Fat 0.5g 0%

Trans Fat 1g 0%

Cholesterol 0mg 0%

Sodium 15mg 0%

Total Carbohydrates 28g 0%

Dietary Fiber 0g 0%

Soluble Fiber

Sugars 20g 0%

Protein 1g 0%

Vitamin A 0% • Vitamin C 0%

Calcium 0% • Iron 0%

Thiamin 0% • Riboflavin 0%

Niacin 0% • Vitamin B6 0%

Phosphorus 0% • Zinc 0%

* Percent Daily values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily value may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

	Calories:	2,000	2,500
Total Fat	Less than	65g	80g
Saturated Fat	Less than	20g	25g
Cholesterol	Less than	300mg	300mg
Sodium	Less than	2,400mg	2,400mg
Total Carbohydrate		300g	370g
Dietary Fiber		25g	30g

What's the Paper for?



Protects
Preserves
Keeps Fresh
Keeps Clean

Going to Church without a Focus or an experience with Christ is like eating the paper and tossing out the Chocolate Tootsie Roll.



TEAR HERE

Resealable Bag

Tootsie Roll

Midgees®

700
pieces

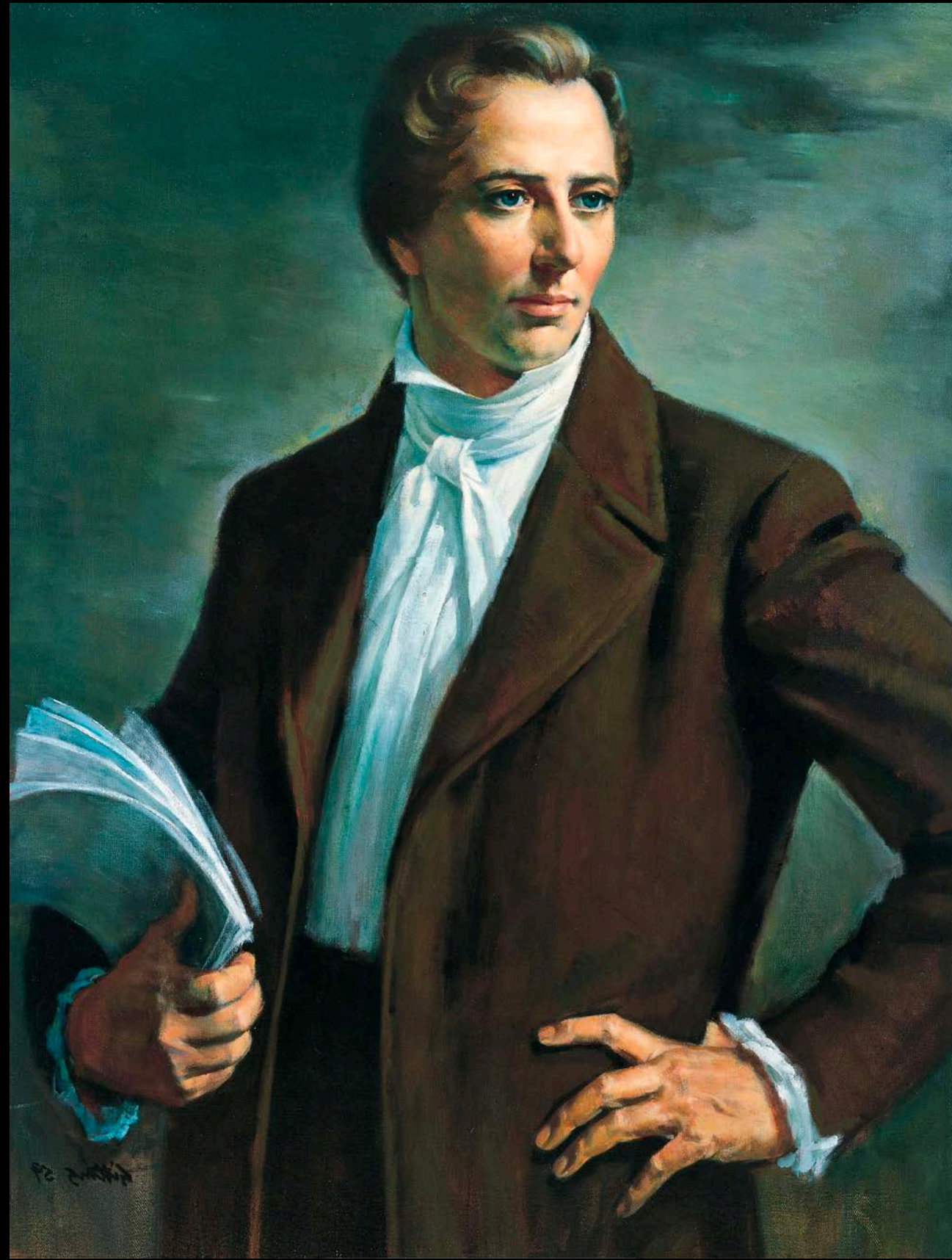


NET WT 4.86 LB (2.2 kg) ©D

How do you describe the taste of a Tootsie Roll to someone that has never tasted chocolate?



Let them Experience it



“It is the first principle of the
Gospel to know for a certainty
the Character of God”

(TPJS p 345)



This is life eternal to know
God
and Jesus Christ

