

## Heaven and Eternal Reward

Heaven is the place where God lives and the future home of those who follow Him. Heavenly Father's hope is for all of His children to return to live with Him, through the plan He provided and by the grace of the Savior Jesus Christ.

After you are resurrected, you will be judged and rewarded for the things you have done in this life. Your loving Heavenly Father is anxious to reward all of His children according to their obedience to His commandments and their willingness to follow the Savior.

Those who are worthy to return to the presence of our Father in Heaven and Jesus Christ become "heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ" ([Romans 8:17](#)) of all that the Father has. They will return to live with Heavenly Father and with their families in His eternal glory.

Those who choose not to follow our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ will receive a reward according to what they have done in this life, but they will not enjoy the glory of living in the presence of God.

Just as some of life's sweetest joys can come through family associations, the loss of a beloved family member can be a source of deepest sorrow. But death does not need to be the end of your relationships with cherished loved ones. The Lord revealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith that the "same sociality which exists among us here will exist among us there [in eternity], only it will be coupled with eternal glory"

([Doctrine and Covenants 130:2](#)).

Family members who accept the Atonement of Jesus Christ and follow His example can be together forever through sacred sealing ordinances performed in God's holy temples.

After you are judged, you will live in a state of glory. Because everyone's works and righteous desires vary, heaven includes different kingdoms, or degrees of glory.

- Celestial kingdom—Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ reside in the celestial kingdom. If you live according to the gospel of Jesus Christ and are cleansed from sin by the Atonement, you will receive a place in this, the highest kingdom, where you will live in God's presence and know complete joy.
- Terrestrial kingdom—People who refuse to accept the gospel of Jesus Christ but who live honorable lives will receive a place in the terrestrial kingdom.
- Telestial kingdom—Those who continue in their sins and do not repent until after they have died, will eventually receive a place in the telestial kingdom.

## Eternal progression of Man

The Nature of the Godhead

1. God the Father and His son Jesus Christ have a perfect body of flesh and bone. The Holy Ghost is a personage of spirit.
2. Three separate beings in one purpose to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man.
3. We are, in all reality, children of our Father in heaven. (Acts 17:27-29) (Hebrews 12:9)

4. Because God loves us so much, He was willing to give His only begotten Son Jesus Christ so that we might be able to enjoy all of the blessing that He has. (John 3:16-17)

<p>Acts 7:55-56- Stephen saw God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ on His right hand side.</p> <p>Genesis 1:27- God created man after His own image.</p> <p>Genesis 5:1- God created man, in the likeness of God made He him.</p> <p>Exodus 33:11- Moses spoke with God face to face.</p> <p>Luke 24:39- For a spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see me have.</p> <p>John 14: 9- He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.</p> <p>Phillip 2:6- who, being in the form of God.</p> <p>Phillip 3:21- our vile body... fashioned like unto His glorious body.</p> <p>Hebrews 1:3- the express image of His person.</p> <p>James 3:9- men which are made after the similitude of the God.</p> <p>1 John 3:2- when He shall appear, we shall be like Him.</p> <p>Revelations 22:4- they shall see His face.</p>	<p>Genesis 3:22- man is become like one of us.</p> <p>Psalms 82:6- ye art gods, and all of you are children of the most high.</p> <p>Matthew 5:48- Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father.</p> <p>John 10:34- Is not it written in your law... ye are gods.</p> <p>Acts 17:29- we are the offspring of God.</p> <p>Romans 8:17- heirs with God, and joint heirs with Christ.</p> <p>2 Corinthians 3:18- changed into the same image from glory to glory.</p> <p>Galatians 4:7- if a son, then heir of God through Christ.</p> <p>Ephesians 4:13- until we all come unto a perfect man.</p> <p>Revelations 3:21- him that overcometh will sit with me in my throne.</p> <p>Joseph Smith History- I saw two personages whose brightness and glory defy all description.</p>
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This outline was part of a discussion on Mormonism held at the North Charlottesville church of Christ on January 13, 2008. To access the full discussion go to:

<http://www.uvachurch.com/AFriendlyDiscussionOnMormonism.htm>