

# The Book of Mormon

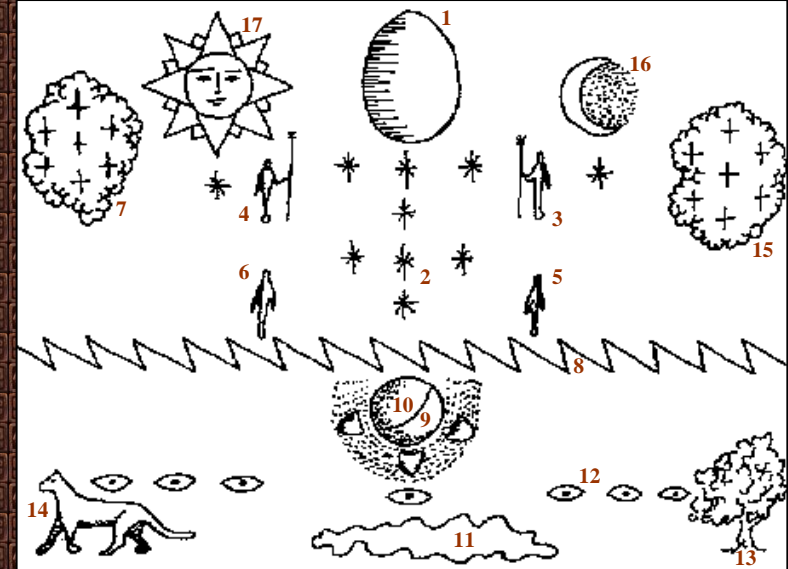


## God's Plan of Happiness



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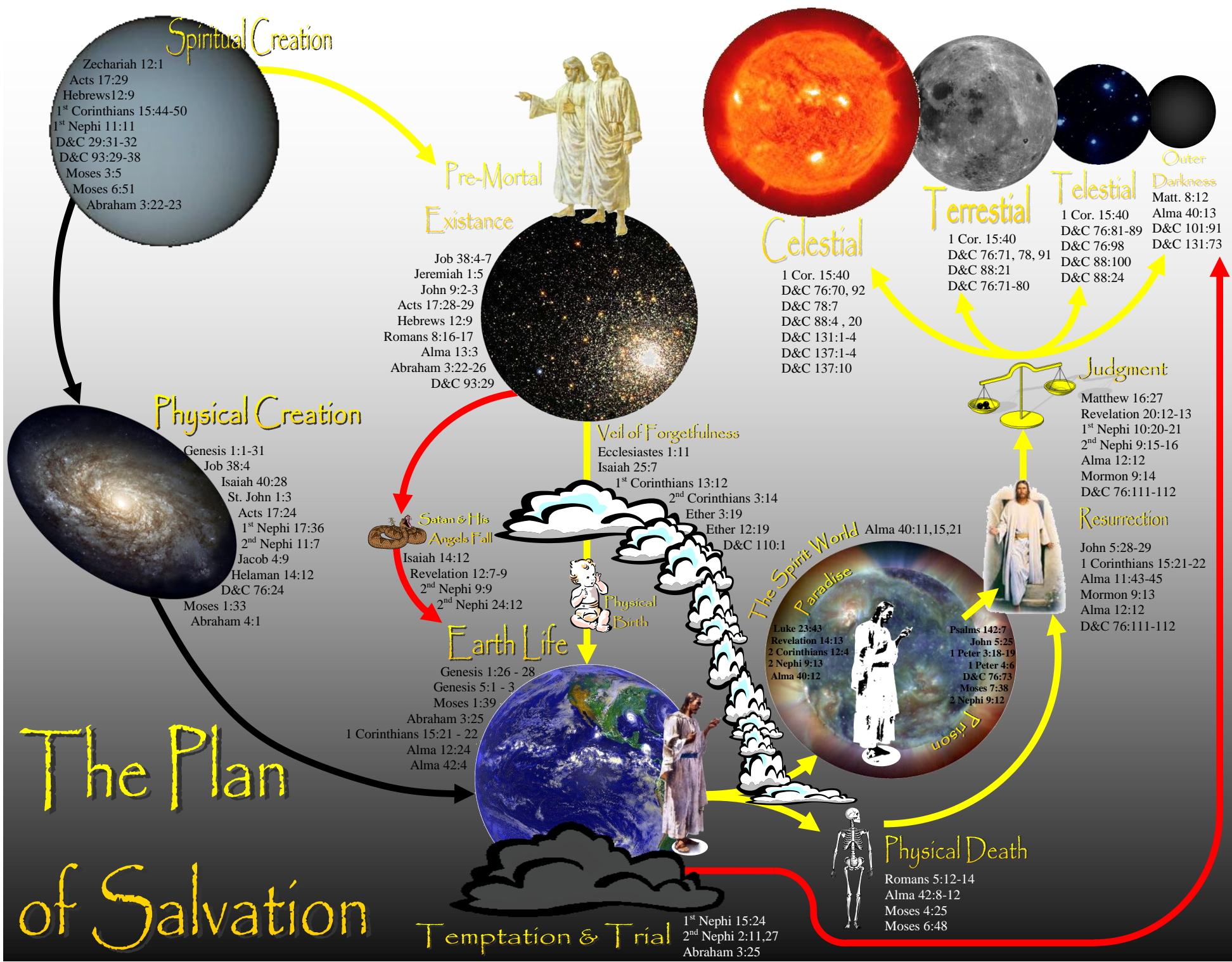
1. Egg or Embryo, Spiritual Birth
2. Spirits leaving/returning Earth
3. God or King (possibly Elohim)
4. God or King (possibly Jehovah)
5. Man (possibly Adam)
6. Woman (possibly Eve)
7. Pre-earth existence
8. The Veil of Forgetfulness
9. Spiritual Earth
10. Physical Earth
11. Mist of Darkness
12. The All seeing Eye of God
13. The Tree of Life
14. The Jaguar
15. A Kingdom of Lower Glory
16. A Kingdom of Glory
17. A Kingdom of Higher Glory



### The Plaque of Cuzco

In present day Peru lays the ruins of an ancient town referred to presently as Cuzco. In the main temple ruin there once stood an ancient plaque of almost solid gold. Unfortunately, the Spanish conquerors, seeing the value of the plaques ore, melted down the golden plaque. Even so, witnesses of the plaque managed to draw and describe the plaque. From these images and others found on Incan relics, what is thought to be an accurate reproduction is shown above. The plaque is said to be similar to other temple plaques of the pre-Columbian era.

**1.** The egg is a symbol for birth. Since it is represented amongst the symbols of heaven, it is thought to be spiritual birth; however, this is speculative. The Book of Mormon teaches, "I beheld that he was in the form of a man; yet nevertheless, I knew that it was the spirit of the Lord (1<sup>st</sup> Nephi 11:11)." **2.** The stars represent heavenly bodies. Ammon taught King Lamoni, "The heavens is a place where God dwells and all his angels (Alma 18:30)." Stars are often used symbolically to represent heavenly beings. We existed as spirits prior to life on earth. Alma taught that there were those who were, "called and prepared from the foundation of the world (Alma 13:3)." **3. & 4.** The ancient Americans believed in a divine being. Most of them referred to such a being as the great white God. Ammon asked king Lamoni, "Believest thou that there is a Great Spirit? And he said, Yea. And Ammon said, This is God (Alma 18:26-28)." **5. & 6.** The plaque shows a man and woman preparing to descend to the earth below. Nephi wrote, "And to bring about his eternal purposes in the end of man, after he had created our first parents....there was an opposition (2<sup>nd</sup> Nephi 2:15)." **7.** The idea of a pre-earth life was not foreign to the legends and lore of the ancient Americans. Alma taught that many were "called and prepared from the foundation of the world (Alma 13:3)." **8.** The veil of forgetfulness was cast upon mankind that they might prove themselves before God. Even so, our faith can make it so we cannot be "kept from within the veil (Ether 12:19)." **9.** The Cuzco plaque suggests a spiritual as well as a physical earth. Nephi said, "the things of which I have read are things pertaining to things both temporal and spiritual (1<sup>st</sup> Nephi 22:3)." **10.** The temporal earth was considered a divine gift from the almighty to his children. In the Book of Alma we read, "there is a space granted unto man in which he might repent; therefore this life became a probationary state; a time to prepare to meet God (Alma 12:24)." **11.** "whoso would hearken unto the word of God, and would hold fast unto it, they would never perish; neither could the temptations and the fiery darts of the adversary overpower them unto blindness, to lead them away to destruction (1<sup>st</sup> Nephi 15:24)." **12.** Many ancient religions use the symbol of the eye as the all seeing eye of God. It represents his knowledge and his judgments based on that knowledge. In teaching his brethren, Jacob said, "I pray the God of my salvation that he view me with his all-searching eye; wherefore, ye shall know at the last day, when all men shall be judged of their works (2<sup>nd</sup> Nephi 9:44)." **13.** The ancient American have sacred legends surrounding a sacred tree. It is associated with the fountain of youth. The Book of Mormon teaches that "it must needs be that there was an opposition; even the forbidden fruit in opposition to the tree of life; the one being the sweet and the other the bitter (2<sup>nd</sup> Nephi 2:15)." **14.** The ancient Americans viewed the black Jaguar as the symbol for death and evil. The Book of Mormon teaches "that being who beguiled our first parents, who transformeth himself nigh unto an angel of light, and stirreth up the children of men unto secret combinations of murder and all manner of secret works of darkness (2<sup>nd</sup> Nephi 9:9)." **15. & 16. & 17.** The Sun, the moon, and the stars are all heavenly bodies used to symbolize the home of the Gods. Their differing magnitude illustrates the fact that places are prepared for God's children according to their works. The Book of Mormon conveys this idea when it says, "there is a place prepared for you in the mansions of my Father (Enos 1:27)."

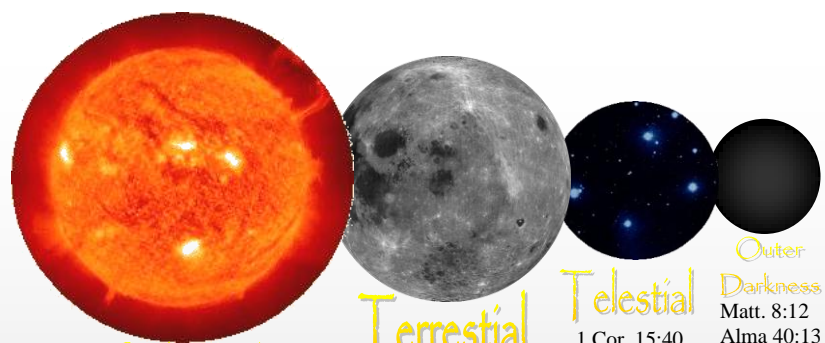


# Spiritual Creation

Zechariah 12:1  
 Acts 17:29  
 Hebrews 12:9  
 1st Corinthians 15:44-50  
 1st Nephi 11:11  
 D&C 29:31-32  
 D&C 93:29-38  
 Moses 3:5  
 Moses 6:51  
 Abraham 3:22-23

# Pre-Mortal Existence

Job 38:4-7  
 Jeremiah 1:5  
 John 9:2-3  
 Acts 17:28-29  
 Hebrews 12:9  
 Romans 8:16-17  
 Alma 13:3  
 Abraham 3:22-26  
 D&C 93:29



# Celestial

1 Cor. 15:40  
 D&C 76:70, 92  
 D&C 78:7  
 D&C 88:4, 20  
 D&C 131:1-4  
 D&C 137:1-4  
 D&C 137:10

# Terrestrial

1 Cor. 15:40  
 D&C 76:71, 78, 91  
 D&C 88:21  
 D&C 76:71-80

# Telesstial

1 Cor. 15:40  
 D&C 76:81-89  
 D&C 76:98  
 D&C 88:100  
 D&C 88:24

# Outer Darkness

Matt. 8:12  
 Alma 40:13  
 D&C 101:91  
 D&C 131:73

# Physical Creation

Genesis 1:1-31  
 Job 38:4  
 Isaiah 40:28  
 St. John 1:3  
 Acts 17:24  
 1st Nephi 17:36  
 2nd Nephi 11:7  
 Jacob 4:9  
 Helaman 14:12  
 D&C 76:24  
 Moses 1:33  
 Abraham 4:1

# Veil of Forgetfulness

Ecclesiastes 1:11  
 Isaiah 25:7  
 1st Corinthians 13:12  
 2nd Corinthians 3:14  
 Ether 3:19  
 Ether 12:19  
 D&C 110:1



Satan & His Angels Fall

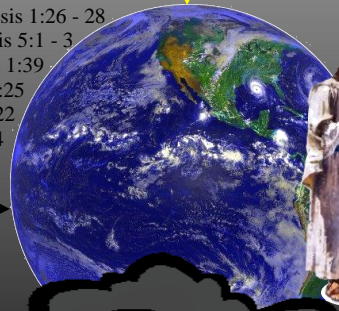
Isaiah 14:12  
 Revelation 12:7-9  
 2nd Nephi 9:9  
 2nd Nephi 24:12



Physical Birth

# Earth Life

Genesis 1:26 - 28  
 Genesis 5:1 - 3  
 Moses 1:39  
 Abraham 3:25  
 1 Corinthians 15:21 - 22  
 Alma 12:24  
 Alma 42:4



# The Spirit World

Alma 40:11, 15, 21

Paradise  
 Luke 23:43  
 Revelation 14:13  
 2 Corinthians 12:4  
 2 Nephi 9:13  
 Alma 40:12

Prison  
 Psalms 142:7  
 John 5:25  
 1 Peter 3:18-19  
 1 Peter 4:6  
 D&C 76:73  
 Moses 7:38  
 2 Nephi 9:12



# Resurrection

John 5:28-29  
 1 Corinthians 15:21-22  
 Alma 11:43-45  
 Mormon 9:13  
 Alma 12:12  
 D&C 76:111-112



# Judgment

Matthew 16:27  
 Revelation 20:12-13  
 1st Nephi 10:20-21  
 2nd Nephi 9:15-16  
 Alma 12:12  
 Mormon 9:14  
 D&C 76:111-112

# Physical Death

Romans 5:12-14  
 Alma 42:8-12  
 Moses 4:25  
 Moses 6:48



# Temptation & Trial

1st Nephi 15:24  
 2nd Nephi 2:11, 27  
 Abraham 3:25

# The Plan of Salvation