

Michael

Popular notions of the temporal Adam who is the spiritual Michael and who becomes the Ancient of Days are woefully inaccurate and terribly inadequate to His station, calling and accomplishments in the Plan of Salvation. As often is the case, the place to start is with a definition.

'adam {aw-dawm}'

Hebrew: noun masculine

Possible Definitions:

1) man, mankind

1a) man, human being

1b) man, mankind (much more frequently intended sense in OT)

1c) Adam, first man

1d) city in Jordan valley

This definition comes directly from Mormon scriptural resources and must therefore be considered by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints as authoritative. That said, it must be observed that first of all it's a Hebrew word not English, German, Greek or Latin in nature. Secondly, it is a general usage noun with no personally individual assignment although it is masculine in nature. Next, the first three definitions in importance and usage refer to mortal mankind or the human race, which was created by God. Lastly, the name given to the individual who initiated the Fall of mankind, or one of the "adam," is the capitalized "Adam" to indicate a reference to that particular individual. That capitalizing convention will use within this paper. Thus, "adam" will refer to the community of first humans on earth and "Adam" will refer to the chief among them who condescended to bring about the expulsion of them all from the direct presence of God and the Garden.

The man Adam is usually just viewed as a great, if not flawed, Patriarch of the human family. To begin to appreciate more correctly who Michael-Adam was and is, let us reason together about his performance and God's reactions. In general overview, does it seem reasonable that God would give just a flawed man dominion over the earth and all that is in it? That means that he is granted all the priesthood keys that any mortal man can possibly hold on earth and more than any man after him ever held save Jesus Christ Himself. After Christ rose from the tomb and the graves were then spiritually opened, the first of the others who were resurrected was Adam who immediately was elevated and glorified to assume a roll in the presidency of this earth.

God did not just take advantage of Adam's forced transgression to roll His plan forward. Michael was chosen, trusted, and anointed to fill this critical role in God's marvelous plan for the eternal progression of all the spirits gathered to come to this earth. Michael is another name-calling or a class of spirit almost equal to that of the Son and within the boundary of the ruling level of Jehovah spirits and Gods and He must condescend by agreement to initiate the Fall for the Father.

Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Section Four 1839-42 p.158

How have we come at the Priesthood in the last days? It came down, down, in regular succession. Peter, James, and John had it given to them and they gave it to others. Christ is the Great High Priest; Adam next. Paul speaks of the Church coming to an innumerable company of angels -- to God the Judge of all the spirits of just men made perfect; to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant. (Hebrews 12:22-24.)

The main point to be made, for the purpose of this paper, from the foregoing referenced statement is that Christ currently stands in the position of the Great High Priest in the Eternal Priesthood of God over this earth and Adam is next, or subordinate to only Christ Himself in authority.

Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Section Four 1839-42 p.157

The Priesthood was first given to Adam; he obtained the First Presidency, and held the keys of it from generation to generation. He obtained it in the Creation, before the world was formed, as in Genesis 1:26, 27, 28. He had dominion given him over every living creature. He is Michael the Archangel, spoken of in the Scriptures. Then to Noah, who is Gabriel: he stands next in authority to Adam in the Priesthood; he was called of God to this office, and was the father of all living in this day, and to him was given the dominion. These men held keys first on earth, and then in heaven.

The above reference specifies Noah as the spirit Gabriel and that he stands immediately under Michael-Adam in the Priesthood structure of this creative cycle.

Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Section Four 1839-42 p.157

The Priesthood is an everlasting principle, and existed with God from eternity, and will to eternity, without beginning of days or end of years. The keys have to be brought from heaven whenever the Gospel is sent. When they are revealed from heaven, it is by Adam's authority.

The above statement of Joseph's is quite profound. It reveals that in the governing Priesthood organization over this earth the resurrected Christ received all spiritual and temporal keys, but surrendered the temporal authority and keys to Michael-Adam, as in the Eternal relationship between the Holy Priesthood After The Order Of The Son Of God (spiritual authority) and the Patriarchal Priesthood of God (temporal or earthly authority). It means in the final analysis that all interactions between the heavens and mortals now goes through Michael-Adam or by virtue of His keys and by His leave.

Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Section Four 1839-42 p.169

This, then, is the nature of the Priesthood; every man holding the Presidency of his dispensation, and one man holding the Presidency of them all, even Adam; and Adam receiving his Presidency and authority from the Lord, but cannot receive a fullness until Christ shall present the Kingdom to the Father, which shall be at the end of the last dispensation.

What Joseph is alluding to in this preceding statement is that the fullness of Michael-Adam's presidency as the Ancient of Days comes with His final glorification to sit enthroned on a seat of everlasting power to hold the keys of temporal creation under His God after the final glorification of Christ to the station of Father.

Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Section Four 1839-42 p.157

Daniel in his seventh chapter speaks of the Ancient of days; he means the oldest man, our Father Adam, Michael, he will call his children together and hold a council with them to prepare them for the coming of the Son of Man. He (Adam) is the father of the human family, and presides over the spirits of all men, and all that have had the keys must stand before him in this grand council. This may take place before some of us leave this stage of action. The Son of Man stands before him, and there is given him glory and dominion. Adam delivers up his stewardship to Christ, that which was delivered to him as holding the keys of the universe, but retains his standing as head of the human family.

In this teaching Joseph speaks of an event that occurs twice. Once just preceding the appearance of Christ on earth in mortality and again just prior to Christ presiding during the Millennium on this earth extending through the presenting of this creative cycle to the Father.

Michael, to Adam, to the Ancient of Days, to an exalted Jehovah-Michael defines a path of a ruling God with specific powers, authority, keys, and jurisdiction who

ultimately stands immediately under Elohim His God in the absence of a resurrected Son.

Michael-Adam's roll should not be minimized nor misunderstood. He is God the Father temporally as is God the Sovereign and Supreme Father, Elohim is over all things. And as one of the ruling Gods, The Ancient of Days may speak in the first-person for the Almighty God when representing Him to mortality. The Ancient of Days and the Holy Quorum always sire the first generation of the temporal human family of men on earth with the exception of the Christ Himself. God, the Sovereign Elohim states He is the literal Father of the Christ in His declaration that the Son is His Only Begotten in the flesh of this creative cycle.

These are keys to sacred knowledge restored by God through Joseph Smith Jr. His prophet in these last days and has been known by God's prophets and chosen servants in all ages, which things are available to be known and witnessed to all the humble and sincere through the power and medium of the Holy Ghost. Great care must be taken with this information that one not ridicules that, which is not yet fully understood by them. To borrow a warning from brother Brigham Young regarding these subjects:

Journal of Discourses, Vol.1, p.51, Brigham Young, April 9, 1852

... Now, let all who may hear these doctrines, pause before they make light of them, or treat them with indifference, for they will prove their salvation or damnation.

Much has been divulged herein, maybe too much. Although these are but a few of the mysteries of heaven, it may be time for them to be better understood in the face of traditional and corrupted teachings abroad in the land.

It is my humble prayer to God that these sayings may inspire future, more righteous servants to pursue the fullness of the Gospel and Holy Priesthood through ordinance and His Emissary the Holy Ghost to be empowered to bring again the earthly Zion

under Joseph's authority for the protection of the saints of God in those days and in preparation of the Great day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

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