

Final OLD TESTAMENT T, TH.

I would like to compare Adam with Jesus Christ.


"Under Jesus Christ, Adam was the first man and presiding high priest over all the earth for all time & as one who will lead the armies of heaven in the final great war against Lucifer." MORMON DOCTRINE

I feel this is saying Adam isn't perfect but plays a very important role along with that of Jesus Christ in bringing eternal life. "All exalted beings become joint-heirs w/ Christ & inherit the fulness of the Father's Kingdom."

Adam took the first body on earth & fell from immortal state in which he first existed on earth & brought mortality & death into the world. Bringing temporal & spiritual death into the world, he did, from the effects of which death the atonement of Christ was foreordained as a ransom. Just as Adam had his mission as part of the plan, Christ had & fulfilled his mission on earth also. Christ represented the Father on earth in a perfect state to provide a way to return to him. Adam represented the "Father of the human family, presides over all the spirits

(D+C.)
(27:11)

(Moses)
(5:11)



CHRIST / ADAM COMPARISON

DARREN HULSTINE

OLD TESTAMENT

FALL SEMESTER

BRUCE PORTER

Father:	Either 3:14	D&C 27:11
Foreordination:	1 Peter 1:19-20	D&C 138:38-56
One with God:	D&C 50:43	Moses 6:68
Prince:	2 Nephi 19:6	D&C 107:54-55
Son of God:	J.S.H. 1:17	Luke 3:38
Temptations:	Matthew 4:1-10	Moses 4:19-28

COMMONALITY

CHRIST

ADAM

Antemortal
existence:

3 nephi 26:25

Revelation 12:7

Authority
(priesthood):

Matthew 21:23-46

Moses 6:67

Baptism:

Matthew 3:16

Moses 6:66

Birth:

(born of virgin)

Luke 1:26-31

Moses 3:7

(first born)

Isaiah 41:4

Revelation 2:14

Moses 1:34

Creators:

Abraham 3:24

Abraham 3:24

(temple film)

Divine Mission:

2 Nephi 2:22-27

2 Nephi 2:22-27

Dominion:

Daniel 7:14

Moses 5:1

Genesis 1:26,28

Exalted:

Mark 16:19

D&C 128:21

Adam

- Father of the human race
- had a pure and perfect written language

Enoch

- asks the Lord to have mercy on Noah's seed

Abraham

- "Father of the Faithful"
- founder of the covenant race

lives

why they are perfect

- Will come again in power and glory preparatory to the second coming of Christ.

- translated

personalities

- noble
- intelligent

- very humble

- determined

Comparison of Adam, Enoch, Abraham, and Jesus

Shared by all four men

similarities of their lives:
baptized by water
received the holy Ghost
held the priesthood
asked people to repent
foreordained

why they were considered perfect:

all achieved the status of celestial beings

personalities:

humble
faithful
committed

Shared by Adam, Enoch, and Abraham

patriarch
dispensational heads
conversed with the Lord
seer

In regular scripture reading, I have read the Song of Nephi probably several times, recognizing the poetic nature of the verses as well as the intense emotion behind the words. But for the first time, I found tonight an understanding of what Nephi was really feeling. Due to a personal experience I recently had, I discovered that Nephi's words mirrored those thoughts and feelings within myself. It was incredible how this mutual understanding served to bring the scriptures so much closer to me in a personal way. For a time, the characters were no longer names on paper, but rather people -- friends -- from a different time period who had feelings (why should that surprise me?) and weaknesses like my own. In the midst of a historical record, Nephi's words provide a glimpse into his deepest personal feelings and desires; I found his honesty to be exquisite -- and quite brave.

I noticed an interesting psychological progression in these verses of 2Nephi. His initial outburst in verse 17, "O wretched man that I am!", is like a spark to fuel the fire of his woes. His grief is apparent in the first few verses, but he does recognize the hand of God in his trials; Nephi mourns because of his sins, but does not despair in God. In verse 20 he says, "My God hath been my support...", and he explains that God has filled him with His love, confounded his enemies, heard his prayers, and shown him visions. Thus, he questions the reasons for his great weakness and yielding to sin, not the motives of God. Verses 26-28 seem to voice Nephi's frustrations with his

physical body for yielding to sin and temptation.

However, the mood changes in verse 28. "Awake my soul...". His lament is put aside as he commands himself to be strong and to endure. His actual pleas to the Lord begin in verse 31 as he asks for protection, strength, and humility, through verse 33. As I read this, I recalled a British sonnet by the metaphysical poet, John Donne, called "Batter My Heart".

Batter my heart, three-personed God; for you
As yet but knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend;
That I may rise and stand, o'erthrow me, and bend
Your force to break, blow, burn, and make me new.
I, like an usurped town, to another due,
Labor to admit you, but O, to no end;
Reason, your viceroy in me, me should defend,
But is captived, and proves weak or untrue.
Yet dearly I love you, and would be loved fain,
But am betrothed unto your enemy.
Divorce me, untie or break that knot again;
Take me to you, imprison me, for I,
Except you enthrall me, never shall be free,
Nor ever chaste, except you ravish me.

Just as Nephi asked that the gates of hell be shut to him, that he would have a plain and strict path to follow, so did Donne want to be brought back into the presence of God in humility. Admittedly, Donne's words are more violent than Nephi's, but I sensed a correlation in their original desires.

After all of Nephi's moaning, self commands, and requests, he finally comes to a rest in verses 34-35. He states that he has always trusted in the Lord and will continue to do so, for he who trusts in the arm of flesh is cursed. It almost seems that Nephi is reassuring himself -- reminding himself that God does give to those who ask. As Nephi promises to always rely on God and lift up his voice to Him forever, I could see that Nephi had truly found his peace of mind. His experience was simply an example of the

scripture in Ether 12:6: "...ye receive no witness until
after the trial of your faith."