

SLIDE	NOTES
1	<p>TITLE</p> <p>In this module we discuss how a person obtains and develops divine attributes such as faith, hope, and charity.</p>
2	<p>Nature of Mankind</p> <p>Historical Christianity , and The Restoration have very opposite perspectives on the lineage of the human race and the nature of mankind.</p> <p>Anim1: Quote Historical Christianity...claims we are of <i>DEPRAVED</i> parentage. * The Restoration claims we are of <i>DIVINE</i> parentage.</p> <p>Historical Christianity's claims: Anim2: Quote Catholic Encyclopedia Anim3: Quote John Calvin Anim4: Quote Immanuel Kant</p> <p>Restoration's claims: Anim5: Quote First Presidency Anim6: Quote President Brigham Young Man is not created depraved with original sin as an inherent attribute...Sin instead is the opposite of divine attributes God placed within us at birth (same potential attributes as him since we are his offspring).</p> <p>Anim7: Quote President Brigham Young God made man with the same attributes as himself (not a depraved creation).</p> <p>"Nature of man" = divine parentage is not the same as "natural man" = living in a fallen world</p>
3	<p>Nature of Faith</p> <p>The opposite perspectives on the lineage of the human race then have profound implications on perceived origin of human attributes such as faith.</p> <p>Anim1: Historical Christianity , and The Restoration have very opposite perspectives of divine attributes such as faith.</p> <p>Examples of Historical Christianity's claims: Anim2: Quote Calvinism Anim3: Quote Catholic Catechism Anim4: Quote Christian Blogger</p> <p>Examples of the Restoration's claims: Anim5: Quote President Brigham Young Anim6: Quote Elder Naisbitt God gave us these divine attributes as faculties we already possess, but need to develop fully to learn to overcome sin and death.</p> <p>Anim7: Quote Elder Uchtdorf</p> <p>For example, everyone is born with a biceps muscle, but not everyone strengthens and develops that muscle to the same degree. Similarly, all humans are born with the inherent capacity for faith and reason, but not all develop those attributes to the same degree.</p>
4	<p>Faith Comparison Summary</p> <p>As you can imagine (based on Epistemological outlook) there are two very different answers to what Faith Is and Is Not: * Comparing Apostate Christianity to the Restored Gospel:</p>

Anim1: APOSTATE CHRISTIANITY: Declares faith to be a **supernatural gift** of God...That man can accept.

Anim2: THE RESTORED GOSPEL: Declares faith to be an **inherent gift** of God...An attribute of God himself that is also an attribute of God's children...gifted to us at our creation, so that we can develop and strengthen it.

Anim3: APOSTATE CHRISTIANITY: Declares faith to be **beyond** Man's comprehension.

Anim4: THE RESTORED GOSPEL: Declares faith to be a **consequence** of Man's comprehension.

Anim5: APOSTATE CHRISTIANITY: Declares faith to be a supernatural **virtue injected** into mankind's depraved soul ... beyond mankind's ability to comprehend (virtue = an admirable quality, or ethical principle)

Anim6: THE RESTORED GOSPEL: Declares faith to be an **attribute inherited** from divine parentage.

Anim7: APOSTATE CHRISTIANITY: Declares faith to be an **external foreign** attribute

Anim8: THE RESTORED GOSPEL: Declares faith to be an **internal native** attribute

Anim9: APOSTATE CHRISTIANITY: Declares Faith to be a special gift **exclusively for Elect Christians**, not found in depraved (fallen) mankind.

Anim10: THE RESTORED GOSPEL: Declares Faith to be **inclusively human**...an attribute in all rational human beings as a consequence of our divine parentage.

Anim11: We will see how the "**Outside The Box**" version of Faith becomes a **False, Dead and Damning** faith...

Anim12: We will see how the "**Inside The Box**" version of Faith becomes a **True, Living, Saving** Faith.

Anim13: With the apostasy: "Something Wicked This Way Comes".

Anim14: With the restoration: "Something Blessed inside of us"

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MANKIND'S DOMINION:

Quote Genesis 1:26 (Man's dominion over all the Earth)

* Man is born without wings, horns, scales, or fangs. Yet man has dominion over all creatures that have those natural advantages.

What attribute of man gives us dominion over all of the Earth?

Anim1: **Quote** D&C 93:36

The Restoration says the Glory of God is intelligence...Mankind's unique intelligence involving abstract thought.

Anim2: **Quote** President Brigham Young

Says the same capacity for intelligence that God has as an attribute passed onto us as his literal Children.

Anim3: **Quote** First Presidency

* Abstract conceptual thought is the ability to reason.

Anim4: **Which of the following entities are in HIS image...Capable of Faith, Hope, and Charity?**

Is this ROCK capable of Faith, Hope, and Charity? If not, WHY NOT?

Anim5: A rock has no level of consciousness. It is not capable of responding to its environment.

Is this CABBAGE capable of Faith, Hope, and Charity? If not, WHY NOT?

Anim6: **SENSATION:** A cabbage has no level of consciousness but has sensory response to external factors such as moisture, heat, light, oxygen, etc.

Is this GERBIL capable of Faith, Hope, and Charity? If not, WHY NOT?

Anim7: **INSTINCTUAL PERCEPTION:** A Gerbil (and other higher animals) are capable of perception. They are born with the ability to perceive entities in their environment (in the present tense only) and have instincts based on their perception to help them protect and preserve their lives. Without instinct these animals would cease to exist—they'd all die off.

	<p>Is this BABY capable of Faith, Hope, and Charity? If so, WHY?</p> <p>Anim8: CONCEPTUAL, RATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A human baby is a rational animal born with the <i>potential</i> for abstract, conceptual thought. * Although all humans are born with the capacity for faith, not everyone strengthens and develops their faith to the same degree. Just like all humans are born with a "bicep muscle" not everyone uses it, grows it, and strengthens it the same. * Man had to discover the principles of flight and make our own wings in order to fly. Through conceptual thought, Man makes his own horns (weapons) and scales (protections) even though we are not naturally gifted with them. * The capability to CONCEPTUALIZE (abstract thought) and REASON is an attribute unique to the Human Soul. A BABY is a being that is potentially and inherently capable of thinking, believing, choosing, valuing and acting rationally as it grows to maturity. Consequently a Human is an entity inherently capable of exercising Faith, . * It Is by Faith that Rational Beings operate in this world and in all other worlds. Without Faith, Man Would Also Cease to Exist—we'd All Die Off. <p>* The restoration says that due to our divine parentage, to the degree than men use their reason, they have faith, hope, and charity.</p> <p>Where does the God-outside-the-box put mankind on this scale in relation to God?</p> <p>Anim9: Quote Donald Bloesch</p> <p>Traditional Christianity says God lies beyond our ability to PERCEIVE or CONCEIVE...making us helpless.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Similar to Satan's plan, this puts us back to the level of a "Cabbage"...Alive but not capable of perception or conception when it comes to spiritual things.
6	<p>RATIONAL INTELLIGENCE</p> <p>Anim1: Quote Abstract thought</p> <p>Anim2: Quote Hugh Nibley</p> <p>Intelligence...Being able to act without having to have the perceptual object present.</p> <p>Anim3: Animal Instinct vs. Rational Intelligence</p> <p>Anim4: Animal Instinct: Animal Instinct means Memory of "past events + ability to directly perceive" current environment</p> <p>Anim5: Rational Intelligence is the ability to reason. This means Memory of past events, Perception of current environment, AND ability to extrapolate (Conception via Abstract Thought) what will happen in the future. We do it every day when we step out the door and drive to work.</p>
7	<p>Quote 3 Scriptures linking faith and hope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Notice faith linked to evidence...making it rational and logical. * Notice faith linked to truth...Indicating you must have a conceptual understanding of the meaning of truth, which makes faith reality based, not consciousness based. <p>Anim: Faith and Hope are inseparable...Attributes of our soul...Twisted together like spiritual DNA...Past Assurances (faith) lead to Future Expectations (hope)...Met expectations become past assurances, and so on.</p>
8	<p>TRUE HOPE, FALSE HOPE</p> <p>Just like there is true faith and false faith, there is true hope and false hope.</p> <p>Do you know what a wishing well is, and what a hope chest is?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * How you treat Faith-Hope (evidence based or not) is the difference between a wishing well, or a hope chest. <p>Anim1: wishing well is where you throw real money down a black hole, with the desire to gain something unattainable without any expectation of any effort on your part.</p>

	<p>Anim2: hope chest on the other hand, is a real repository of items, that you take care of, with the expectation you will use them after your actions have become successful.</p> <p>Anim3: Same old primacy of consciousness.</p> <p>Anim4: Same old primacy of existence.</p>
9	<p>Anim1: Quote 2 Scriptures ... The natural next step after Faith and Hope is Charity...</p> <p>Anim2: Charity Definition ... The purpose of Faith and Hope...to always build up.</p> <p>Anim3: Enmity Definition ... The opposite of charity (to always tear down) is enmity.</p> <p>Anim4: Quote Brigham Young</p> <p>Anim5: Christ a being of Charity (building up)...Charity = Pure love of Christ greatest is charity because it is the governing attribute.</p> <p>Anim6: Lucifer a being of Enmity (tearing down)...Enmity = Impure love of Lucifer (loves a lie, death, destruction)</p>
10	<p>SUMMARY</p> <p>We are beings of Faith, Hope, and Charity (attributes of the Human Soul)</p> <p>Anim1: Faith is life moving</p> <p>Anim2: not a supernatural theological virtue</p> <p>Anim3: Hope is Life Enduring</p> <p>Anim4: not a supernatural theological virtue</p> <p>Anim5: Charity life governing. Charity keeps you going in the right direction that is why it is the greatest of all virtues.</p> <p>Anim6: not a supernatural theological virtue</p>
11	<p>FAITH, HOPE, CHARITY AS POWER</p> <p>Anim1: Think of a metaphor of a treadmill hooked to a power generator and light bulb.</p> <p>Anim2: Faith and Hope are the two parts of the wheel (alternating current) that generate power.</p> <p>Anim3: Present Actions (Places to Go, People to See, Things to Do) are what turns the wheel. Notice the bulb starts lighting up as you take your actions.</p> <p>Anim4: FAITH: is Past Assurances (partial evidence) that gives you the belief to get you started in your present actions.</p> <p>Anim5: HOPE: is Future Expectations of results...Once you believe (based on partial evidence) you foresee a future outcome.</p> <p>Anim6: LEAP OF FAITH: After looking at rational evidence you have confidence that your rational "Leap of Faith" will lead to a positive outcome.</p> <p>Anim7: INCREASED POWER: Notice each new "Leap of Faith" leads to new evidence, increased knowledge, increased confidence, and increasing power.</p> <p>Quote Ralph Waldo Emerson</p> <p>What happens when the light is shining at 100% capacity?</p> <p>Anim8: PERFECT KNOWLEDGE:</p>

	<p>Quote Alma 32:34-35</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * This increasing "Virtuous Cycle" can eventually lead to perfect knowledge...Where you know you know the truth with perfect light in that thing. * Notice Alma 32:34 doesn't say your Faith disappeared...It says your Faith is dormant * Notice Alma 32:35 ties faith to reality and chasing things that are good. <p>With this perfect knowledge (and power in that thing) are you done?</p> <p>Anim9: Quote Alma 32:36</p> <p>You have to keep running with your perfect knowledge.</p> <p>What happens if you start slowing down on the exercise of your faith?</p> <p>Anim10: DOUBT</p> <p>If you lay aside your Perfect Faith, you begin to doubt your past assurances.</p> <p>What does Doubt do to future expectations?</p> <p>Anim11: DESPAIR</p> <p>Hope is decreased and you despair...Instead of a powerful "Virtuous Cycle" with increasing light it starts a "Downward Spiral" of dimming light.</p> <p>What do Doubt and Despair do to present actions?</p> <p>Anim12: CRIPPLING FEARS: Stop you from present action. If taken to completion the light goes out.</p> <p>Anim13: Quote John A. Widtsoe ... Faith is the moving action in everyone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * TRUE FAITH: Is based upon past assurances and future expectations which incite the soul to act with confidence to bring into existence things you can conceive of but that don't yet exist. True Faith becomes a principle of POWER. * Charity gets you onto the right power generator in the first place. * Enmity would have you saddle up on a wrecking ball.
12	<p>So after all of this discussion of Godly attributes, we could ask ourselves is God a being who exercises faith?</p> <p>Anim1: Quotes Alma 32:21, 2 Nephi 9:20</p> <p>Anim2: PROOF (showing God IS NOT a being of faith): Playing the scriptures like a fiddle (notice the yellow and red colors) we could arrive at the wrong conclusion (like traditional Christianity)</p> <p>Anim3: Quotes Joseph Smith, Genesis 1:1, Hebrews 11:3</p> <p>Anim4: PROOF (showing God IS a being of faith): Clearly God is a being of Faith</p> <p>Anim5:</p> <p>Why would a perfect being with perfect knowledge need faith?</p> <p>How can scripture contradict itself?</p> <p>What tools do we have to resolve such contradictions?</p>
13	<p>3-Tier solution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The problem is the conflicting definition on the word "omniscience", interpreting it in the absolute "God Outside the Box" false belief. * Omniscience means <i>PERFECT</i> knowledge of ALL things that actually do EXIST...as well as <i>SUFFICIENT</i> knowledge of "unseen things from the future" that do not yet exist but WILL be brought into existence. <p>Anim1: (Tier 1-2) RATIONAL FAITH (but not yet perfect knowledge)</p> <p>Through God's Faith he sees future things that he <i>will</i> bring into existence. Imperfect (but sufficient) knowledge for things that do not exist, but perfect Faith and Foreknowledge that he WILL do it, just like he has done many times before.</p>

Anim2: (Tier 2-3) Perfect Knowledge, occurs after Faith, where the object or action ACTUALLY has existence. Until the object or action actually has existence, the knowledge isn't "perfect".

Anim3: Quote Isaiah 14:24,27

Between the "Sufficient knowledge" and the "Perfect knowledge" is Evidence based Faith.

Anim4: Rational Faith (Tier 1-2)

Anim5: past assurances + future expectations = power to act (Faith)

Anim6: Perfect Knowledge (Tier 2-3)

Anim7: Omnipotence, Omniscience...

* Through God's faith He has sufficient knowledge to foresee POTENTIAL (although not yet ACTUAL) future things that through His actions He will bring into existence.

* God has done this many times before, He is going to make it happen, He knows nothing can stop him.

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Questions? Rating?