

## Discussion 5

# The Above and the Below

(The Knowledge and Wisdom of Elohim)

*Primary Content (From 1 Sefer Moses, the Book of Beginnings):*

- Chapter 3 - As Above, So Below
- Chapter 4 - As Below, So Above

*Additional Reading (Comparison Texts):*

- Genesis 1-2 from the Inspired Version of the Bible
- - Or - LDS Moses Chapters 3-4 (From LDS Pearl of Great Price)
- Book of Abraham, Chapter 4 (From the LDS Pearl of Great Price)

*Objectives:*

- Compare and Contrast: The Above vs. The Below
- Compare and Contrast: Heavens vs. Earth

*Kabbalistic Concepts:*

- 7 Days of Creation
- Aligning that which is below with that which is above

*Notes Before Reading:*

For comparison texts, we have also included the King James Version of Genesis to see what differences it has with Joseph Smith's Inspired Translation, and what is found on the plates of brass. We have also included the areas of the Book of Abraham that cover similar passages, because it was from a pre-Moses source and it is interesting to see the variations there to look for depth from multiple perspectives. For this course, the expected focus is to compare the previous sources with 1 Moses from the plates of brass, to see what is new and interesting that we can focus on. Note that there are other creation accounts that we left out for brevity, and should be covered by any class doing a deep dive into the week of creation. For those interested, Chapter 6 of the Book of Rayanek has a creation account that is more similar to the Abraham account than the Moses account, but has some interesting parts all its own. The Book of Remembrance has a creation account in Chapters 2 and 3. And, 4th Moses chapter 2 from the plates of brass also has a retelling of the days of creation. And, as a bonus, the Book of Melchizedek Chapter 6 (also from the plates of brass) lists out the 7 keys of creation, which have striking themes that overlap with the days of creation described elsewhere. But our focus is to introduce the plates of brass through a full exploration of the first book of Moses, and this discussion has plenty to look into without pulling in all of those additional creation accounts.

Reading:

Chapter 3 - As Above, So Below - Zero Day (Before the First Day)				
1 Moses - 3	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
<p>3:1. And it came to pass that <b>Ahyeh Asher Ahyeh</b> spake unto Moses, saying: Behold, I reveal unto you concerning this heaven and this earth; write the words which I speak.</p> <p>3:2. I am the <b>Aleph Tav, Elohim Shaddai</b>; by the <b>Yachad Yachid Echad</b> I created these things.</p>	<p>1:1 And it came to pass that <b>the Lord</b> spake unto Moses, saying, Behold, I reveal unto you concerning this heaven and this earth; write the words which I speak.</p> <p>1:2 I am the <b>Beginning and the End, the Almighty God</b>. By <b>mine Only Begotten</b> I created these things.</p>		<p>3:22. ¶ Now <b>the lord</b> had shewn unto me, Abraham, the intelligences that were organized before the world was; and among all these there were many of the noble and great ones,</p> <p>3:23. And God saw these souls that they were good, and He stood in the midst of them, and he said, these, I will make my rulers; for he stood among those that were spirits, and he saw that they were good; and He said unto me: Abraham, thou art one of them, thou wast chosen before thou wast born.</p> <p>3:24. And there stood <b>one among them that was like unto God</b>, and he said unto those who were with him: We will go down, for there is space there, and we will take of these materials, and <b>we will make an Earth</b> whereon these may dwell;</p>	
<p>3:3. Yea, in <b>knowledge</b> and in <b>wisdom</b> created I <b>the elohim</b>, and Heavens, and the Earth</p> <p>3:4. And the Earth, she was <b>empty</b>, and <b>chaos filled her</b>;</p>	<p>1:3 Yea, in <b>the beginning</b> I created the heaven and the earth <i>upon which thou standest</i>.</p> <p>1:4 And the earth was <b>without</b></p>	<p>1:1 In <b>the beginning</b> God created the heaven and the earth.</p> <p>1:2 And the earth was <b>without form</b>, and <b>void</b>; and darkness</p>	<p>4:1. And then the Lord said: Let us go down; and <b>they went down at the beginning</b>, and <b>they organized</b> and formed, (that is, <b>the gods</b>;) the heavens and the earth.</p>	<p>The JST account includes “upon which thou standest” that is unique. In other places when it adds content, the 1 Moses account also has that content, but not in</p>

<p>and I caused darkness to come up upon the face of the <b>endless abyss</b>.</p> <p>3:5. And <b>Ruach Elohim</b> moved upon The <b>Presence</b> of the Waters, for I am Elohim.</p>	<p><b>form</b> and <b>void</b>; and I caused darkness to come up upon the face of <b>the deep</b>.</p> <p>1:5 And <b>my Spirit</b> moved upon the <b>face</b> of the waters, for I am God.</p>	<p>was upon the face of <b>the deep</b>. And <b>the Spirit of God</b> moved upon the <b>face</b> of the waters.</p>	<p>4:2. And the earth, after it was formed, was <b>empty</b> and <b>desolate</b>; because they had not formed anything but the earth: and darkness reigned upon the face of the deep, and the <b>spirit of the Gods</b> was brooding upon the <b>faces</b> of the water.</p>	<p>this case.</p> <p>Its also interesting that Abraham and 1 Moses are the only ones that speak of gods (plural), but 1 Moses is the only one where the Creator creates the elohim/gods. Which is curious.</p> <p>Its interesting that Abraham has plural "faces" of the water, and 1 Moses uses "presence" instead of "face".</p>
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First Day				
1 Moses - 3	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
<p>3:6. ¶ And I said: Let there be <b>Creation</b>; and thus my work began.</p> <p>3:7. And I saw the beginning of The <b>Creation</b>, and she was good.</p> <p>3:8. And I divided the <b>beginning from the end</b>, and <b>Creation from Creator</b>, and <b>light from darkness</b>.</p>	<p>1:6 And I, God, said, Let there be <b>light</b>; and there was light.</p> <p>1:7 And I, God, saw the <b>light</b>, and that light was good. And I, God, divided the light from the darkness.</p>	<p>1:3 And God said, Let there be <b>light</b>: and there was light.</p> <p>1:4 And God saw the <b>light</b>, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.</p>	<p>4:3. ¶ And they said, the gods, let there be <b>light</b>, and there was light.</p> <p>4:4. And they, the gods, comprehended the <b>light</b>, for it was bright; and they divided the light, or caused it to be divided from the darkness;...</p>	<p>Its interesting that the other sources all say that the Creator created light and divided it from darkness. But 1 Moses seems to be saying that the Creator IS the light, and the Creation was filled with darkness, v11 builds on this and seems to say that the light of the Creator shines into the new Creation. It appears to be saying that "light" and "darkness" aren't what was created in the "creation". Only that they were divided.</p>
<p>3:9. And I called from a task to</p>	<p>1:8 And I, God, called the light</p>	<p>1:5 And God called the light</p>	<p>4:4.... and the gods called the</p>	

<p>completion, or from beginning to an ending, an age or degree; the beginning the day, and the end night.</p> <p>3:10. And this I did by the Word of my power, yea even the elohim; and it was done as I spake.</p> <p>3:11. <b>And the darkness of evening was pierced by the light of the morning;</b> and this age was the first degree.</p>	<p>day, and the darkness I called night. And this I did by the word of my power; and it was done as I spake. And the evening and the morning were the first day.</p>	<p>Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.</p>	<p>light day, and the darkness they called night.</p> <p>4:5. And it came to pass that from the evening until morning, they called night; and from the morning until the evening, they called day; and this was the first, or the beginning of that which they called day and night.</p>	
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Second Day				
1 Moses - 3	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
<p>3:12. ¶ And again, I said: Let there be a space dedicated in The <b>Presence</b> of the Waters; and it was so, even as I spake.</p> <p>3:13. And I said: Let it divide the waters <b>above</b> in the heavens from the waters <b>below</b> upon the earth; and it was done.</p>	<p>1:9 And again, I, God, said, Let there be a firmament in the <b>midst</b> of the waters; and it was so, even as I spake. And I said, Let it divide the waters from the waters; and it was done.</p>	<p>1:6. And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.</p>	<p>4:6. ¶ And the Gods also said: Let there be an expanse in the <b>midst</b> of the waters, and it shall divide the waters from the waters.</p>	
<p>3:14. And the <b>veil</b> was made, and this divided the waters, yea, the great waters <b>under</b> the firmament from the waters which were <b>above</b> the firmament; and it was so, even as I spake.</p>	<p>1:10 And I, God, made the <b>firmament</b> and divided the waters, yea, the great waters <b>under</b> the firmament from the waters which were <b>above</b> the firmament; and it was so, even as I spake.</p>	<p>1:7. And God made the <b>firmament</b>, and divided the waters which were <b>under</b> the firmament from the waters which were <b>above</b> the firmament: and it was so.</p>	<p>4:7. And the Gods ordered the <b>expanse</b>, so that it divided the waters which were <b>under</b> the expanse, from the waters which were <b>above</b> the expanse: and it was so, even as they ordered.</p>	<p>Interesting that 1 Moses calls the “firmament” a “veil”.</p> <p>The placement of the veil is interesting ... its purpose is to divide the above from the below.</p> <p>Its also interesting that there is water on both sides of the veil.</p>
<p>3:15. And I called the firmament heaven; and this age was the second degree.</p>	<p>1:11 And I, God, called the firmament heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.</p>	<p>1:8. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.</p>	<p>4:8. And the Gods called the expanse, heaven; and it came to pass that it was from evening until morning, that they called night; and it came to pass that it was morning until evening, that they called day: and this was the second time, that they called night and day.</p>	

Third Day				
1 Moses - 3	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
<p>3:16. ¶ And I said: Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place; and it was so.</p> <p>3:17. And I said: Let there be dry land; and it was so.</p>	<p>1:12 And I, God, said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place; and it was so. And I, God, said, Let there be dry land; and it was so.</p>	<p>1:9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.</p>	<p>4:9. ¶ And the gods ordered, saying: Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the earth come up dry, and it was so, as they ordered;</p>	<p>Its interesting that in other places he separates two opposite things from each other, but here, he doesn't "separate" the land from the sea. It distinctly says that the waters are gathered, and the dry land appears. Why is it described like that?</p>
<p>3:18. And I called the <b>dry land</b> earth; and the gathering together of the waters called I the waters of the <b>sea</b>.</p> <p>3:19. And I saw that all things which had made were good.</p>	<p>1:13 And I, God, called the <b>dry land</b> earth; and the gathering together of the waters called I the <b>sea</b>.</p> <p>1:14 And I, God, saw that all things which I had made were good.</p>	<p>1:10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.</p>	<p>4:10. And the gods pronounced the <b>earth dry</b>, and the gathering together of the waters, pronounced they <b>great waters</b>: and the gods saw that they were obeyed.</p>	<p>Its also interesting that the waters are gathered to bring out the land, and not that they are divided to bring up the land like what happens when Moses parts the red sea. Why don't these two events use the same imagery?</p>
<p>3:20. And I said: Let the earth bring forth <b>vegetation</b>, the herb yielding <b>seed</b>, the fruit tree yielding <b>fruit</b> after his kind, and the <b>tree</b> yielding fruit, <b>whose seed should be in itself</b> upon the earth;</p> <p>3:21. And it was so, even as I spake; yea, the earth brought forth vegetation, every herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed should be in itself after his kind.</p>	<p>1:15 And I, God, said, Let the earth bring forth <b>grass</b>, the herb yielding <b>seed</b>, the fruit tree yielding <b>fruit</b> after his kind, and the <b>tree</b> yielding fruit, <b>whose seed should be in itself</b> upon the earth; and it was so, even as I spake.</p> <p>1:16 And the earth brought forth grass, every herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed should be in itself after his kind.</p>	<p>1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth <b>grass</b>, the herb yielding <b>seed</b>, and the fruit tree yielding <b>fruit</b> after his kind, <b>whose seed is in itself</b>, upon the earth: and it was so.</p> <p>1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: ...</p>	<p>4:11. And the gods said: Let us prepare the earth to bring forth <b>grass</b>; the herb yielding <b>seed</b>; the fruit <b>tree</b> yielding <b>fruit</b>, after his kind, <b>whose seed in itself</b> yieldeth its own likeness upon the earth; and it was so even as they ordered.</p> <p>4:12. And the gods organized the earth to bring forth grass from its own seed, and the herb to bring forth herb from its own seed, yielding seed after his kind, and the earth to bring forth the tree from its</p>	

			own seed, yielding fruit, whose seed could only bring forth the same, in itself, after his kind; ...	
3:22. And I saw that all things which I had made were good; and this age was the third degree.	1:17 And I, God, saw that all things which I had made were good. And the evening and the morning were the third day.	(1:12 ...) and God saw that it was good.  1:13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.	... and the gods saw that they were obeyed.  4:13. And it came to pass that they numbered the days; from the evening until the morning they called night; and it came to pass from the morning until the evening they called day; and it was the third time.	

Fourth Day				
1 Moses - 3	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
<p>3:23. ¶ And I said: Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night;</p> <p>3:24. And let them be for signs of what is and what shall be, and to mark times of appointments, and for days and for years,</p> <p>3:25. And let these lights in the firmament of the heavens give light unto the earth; and it was so.</p>	<p>1:18 And I, God, said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and for years, and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth; and it was so.</p>	<p>1:14. And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:</p> <p>1:15. And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.</p>	<p>4:14. ¶ And the gods organized the lights in the expanse of the heaven, and caused them to divide the day from the night; and organized them to be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and for years;</p> <p>4:15. And organized them to be for lights in the expanse of the heaven, to give light upon the earth; and it was so.</p>	
<p>3:26. And I made two great lights: the greater light to rule</p>	<p>1:19 And I, God, made two great lights: the greater light</p>	<p>1:16. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule</p>	<p>4:16. And the gods organized the two great lights, the</p>	

<p>the day and the lesser light to rule the night;</p> <p>3:27. And the greater light was Shamesh or the sun, and the lesser light was Olea or the moon; and Kokabim or the stars also were made, even according to my Word.</p> <p>3:28. And I set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light upon the earth;</p> <p>3:29. And the sun to watch over the day, and the moon to watch over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness.</p>	<p>to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night; and the greater light was the sun, and the lesser light was the moon.</p> <p>1:20 And the stars also were made, even according to my word; and I, God, set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth--and the sun to rule over the day, and the moon to rule over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness.</p>	<p>the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.</p> <p>1:17. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,</p> <p>1:18. And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: ...</p>	<p>greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night; with the lesser light he set the stars, also;</p> <p>4:17. And the gods set them in the expanse of the heavens, to give light upon the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to cause to divide the light from the darkness.</p>	
<p>3:30. And I saw that all things which had made were good; and this age was the fourth degree.</p>	<p>1:21 And I, God, saw that all things which I had made were good. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.</p>	<p>(1:18...) and God saw that it was good.</p> <p>1:19. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.</p>	<p>4:18. And the gods watched those things which they had ordered, until they obeyed.</p> <p>4:19. And it came to pass, that it was from evening until morning, that it was night; and it came to pass that it was from morning until evening, that it was day; and it was the fourth time.</p>	



Fifth Day				
1 Moses - 3	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
3:31. ¶ And I said: Let the <b>waters</b> bring forth abundantly, <b>the desires, passions, and appetite that hath life</b> , and fowl which may fly <b>above</b> the earth in the open firmament of heavens.	1:22 And I, God, said, Let the <b>waters</b> bring forth abundantly, <b>the moving creature that hath life</b> , and fowl which may fly <b>above</b> the earth in the open firmament of heaven.	1:20. And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.	4:20. ¶ And the gods said: Let us prepare the <b>waters</b> to bring forth abundantly <b>the moving creatures that hath life</b> ; and the fowl that they may fly <b>above</b> the earth, in the open expanse of heaven.	This verse in the 1st Moses account makes it difficult to assume that the description of the “creation” is just about the earth itself, rather than creation of something within the soul.
3:32. And I created the great ones: the monsters of the deep, and <b>all life that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly</b> , after their kind; and every winged <b>fowl</b> after his kind.	1:23 And I, God, created great whales, and every <b>living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly</b> , after their kind, and every winged <b>fowl</b> after his kind.	1:21. And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: ...	4:21. And the gods prepared the waters that they might bring forth great whales, and <b>every living creature that moveth, which the waters were to bring forth abundantly</b> after their kind; and every winged <b>fowl</b> after their kind; ....	
3:33. And I saw that all things which had been created were good;  3:34. And I blessed them, saying: Be fruitful, and multiply, and <b>fill the waters in the sea</b> , and let <b>fowl multiply in the earth</b> .  3:35. And this age was the fifth degree.	1:24 And I, God, saw that all things which I had created were good; and I, God, blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and <b>fill the waters in the sea</b> , and let <b>fowl multiply in the earth</b> . And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.	(1:21...)and God saw that it was good.  1:22. And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.  1:23. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.	4:21. ...and the gods saw that they would be obeyed, and that their plan was good.  4:22. And the gods said: We will bless them and cause them to be fruitful and multiply, and <b>fill the waters in the seas</b> , or great waters; and cause the <b>fowl to multiply in the earth</b> .  4:23. And it came to pass that it was from evening until morning, that they called night; and it came to pass that it was from morning until evening, that they called day; and it was the fifth time.	

Sixth Day				
1 Moses - 3	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
<p>3:36. ¶ And I said: Let the earth bring forth the living creatures after their kind; the beasts and creeping things, and all living creatures of the earth after their kind; and it was so.</p> <p>3:37. And I made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and creeping things after their kind, and all living creatures of the earth after their kind.</p> <p>3:38. And I saw that all these things were good.</p>	<p>1:25 And I, God, said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind: cattle and creeping things, and beasts of the earth after their kind; and it was so.</p> <p>1:26 And I, God, made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything which creepeth upon the earth after his kind. And I, God, saw that all these things were good.</p>	<p>1:24. And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.</p> <p>1:25. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.</p>	<p>4:24. ¶ And the gods prepared the earth to bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle and creeping things, and beast of the earth after their kind; and it was so as they had said.</p> <p>4:25. And the Gods organized the earth to bring forth the beasts after their kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything that creepeth upon the earth after their kind; and the Gods saw they would obey.</p>	
<p>3:39. And I said unto <b>She which was with me from the beginning, for we are one from before the beginning, before the foundation of the world:</b> Let us make mankind in our image, after our likeness; and it was so.</p>	<p>1:27 And I, God, said unto <b>mine Only Begotten, which was with me from the beginning,</b> Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and it was so.</p>	<p>1:26. And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: ...</p>	<p>4:26. And the gods took counsel among themselves, and said: Let us go down, and form man in our image, after our likeness,</p>	<p>Interesting. Here's the first undeniable mention of the divine feminine, unless you include the creation herself which was also referred to using "she/her" pronouns back in 3:7.</p>
<p>3:40. And I said: Let them <b>take stewardship over the fishes of the sea,</b> and over the <b>fowl of the air,</b> and the <b>beasts of the earth,</b> and over <b>all the earth,</b> and <b>all living creatures of the earth.</b></p>	<p>1:28 And I, God, said, Let them <b>have dominion over the fishes of the sea,</b> and over the <b>fowl of the air,</b> and over the <b>cattle,</b> and over <b>all the earth,</b> and over <b>every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.</b></p>	<p>(1:26...) and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.</p>	<p>... and we will give them dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing, that creepeth upon the earth.</p>	

<p>3:41. And the elohim created <b>mankind</b> in <b>our</b> image and in the <b>image of the Yachad</b>; created we them, male and female, both the male and the female.</p>	<p>1:29 And I, God, created <b>man</b> in <b>mine</b> own image, in the <b>image of mine Only Begotten</b> created I him; male and female created I them.</p>	<p>1:27. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.</p>	<p>4:27. So, the gods went down to organize man in their own image, in the image of the gods, to form they him, male and female, to form they them:</p>	
<p>3:42. And I blessed them and said unto them: Be fruitful, and multiply, and <b>replenish the earth</b>, and take charge of it;</p> <p>3:43. And <b>watch over</b> the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth in <b>righteousness</b>.</p>	<p>1:30 And I, God, blessed them and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and <b>replenish the earth</b>, and subdue it; and <b>have dominion over</b> the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.</p>	<p>1:28. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.</p>	<p>4:28. And the gods said: We will bless them; and the gods said: We will cause them to be fruitful, and multiply and replenish the earth, and subdue it, and to have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.</p>	
<p>3:44. And I said unto <b>mankind</b>: Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree in the which shall be the fruit of a tree with seed; to you these shall be to eat.</p> <p>3:45. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every creeping thing upon the earth wherein I grant life, there shall be given every clean herb for food; and it was so, even as I spake.</p>	<p>1:31 And I, God, said unto <b>man</b>, Behold, I have given you every herb, bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree in the which shall be the fruit of a tree, yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.</p> <p>1:32 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, wherein I grant life, there shall be given every clean herb for meat; and it was so, even as I spake.</p>	<p>1:29. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.</p> <p>1:30. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.</p>	<p>4:29. And the gods said: behold, we will give them every herb bearing seed that shall come upon the face of all the earth, and every tree which shall have fruit upon it, yea the fruit of the tree, yielding seed to them we will give it, it shall be for their meat;</p> <p>4:30. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, behold we will give them life, and also we will give to them every green herb for meat, and all these things shall be thus organized.</p>	

3:46. And I saw everything that I had made; and behold, all things which had made were very good; and this age was the sixth degree.

1:33 And I, God, saw everything that I had made; and behold, all things which I had made were very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

1:31. And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

4:31. And the gods said: We will do everything that we have said, and organize them; and, behold, they shall be very obedient; and it came to pass that it was from evening until morning, they called night; and it came to pass that it was from morning until evening, they called day; and they numbered the sixth time.

Seventh Day				
1 Moses - 3	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
<p>3:47. ¶ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, <b>and all their struggles;</b></p> <p>3:48. And in the seventh age, I ended my labors, and all things which had made: and Shabbat is the seventh age of all of this work;</p> <p>3:49. And all things of The Creation were brought to pass by The Creator; and I saw that they were good.</p>	<p>2:1 Thus the heaven and the earth were finished, <b>and all the host of them.</b></p> <p>2:2 And on the seventh day, I, God, ended my work and all things which I had made; and I rested on the seventh day from all my work; and all things which I had made were finished. And I, God, saw that they were good.</p>	<p>2:1. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, <b>and all the host of them.</b></p> <p>2:2. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.</p>	<p>5:1. And thus, we will finish the heavens and the earth, <b>and all the hosts of them.</b></p> <p>5:2. And the gods said among themselves, on the seventh time: We will end our work, which we have counselled; and we will rest on the seventh time from all our work which we have counselled.</p>	<p>“All of their struggles” is an interesting choice of words when compared with “all the hosts of them”. Any thoughts?</p>
<p>3:50. And I blessed the seventh day and consecrated it because that in Sabbath I had given charge of The Creation to Adam; to watch over <b>and finish</b> in my name, that I and my Creation may be one.</p>	<p>2:3 And I, God, blessed the seventh day and sanctified it because that in it I had rested from all my work, which I, God, had created and made.</p>	<p>2:3. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.</p>	<p>5:3. And the gods concluded upon the seventh time, because that on the seventh time they would rest from all their works, which they, the gods, counselled among themselves to form, and sanctified it—and thus were their decisions, at the time that they counselled among themselves to form the heavens and the earth.</p>	<p>This is the first introduction of an idea that mankind has been invited to “finish” the creation. Only that the end result is oneness with the Creator. Is this the same kind of oneness that Jesus describes as the relationship he has with the Father, and that he hopes for his disciples to also have?</p>

## Chapter 4 - As Below, So Above

1 Moses 4	Inspired Version / JST	KJV	Abraham	Discussion Ideas
<p>4:1. And now, behold that these are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created in the day that YHVH Elohim made the heavens and the earth,</p> <p>4:2. And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew;</p> <p>4:3. For YHVH Elohim created all things of which have been spoken, spiritually, before they were naturally upon The Face of the earth;</p> <p>4:4. For the LORD Elohim had not caused <b>the Great Waters</b> to rain upon the face of the earth.</p> <p>4:5. ¶ And YHVH Elohim, had created all the children of man and not yet a man to till the ground;</p> <p>4:6. For in the upper worlds created I them, and there was not yet flesh upon the earth, neither in the water, neither in the air;</p> <p>4:7. But YHVH Elohim spake,</p>	<p>2:4 And now, behold, I say unto you that these are the generations of the heaven and of the earth when they were created in the day that I, the Lord God, made the heaven and the earth, and every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew;</p> <p>2:5 For I, the Lord God, created all things of which I have spoken, spiritually, before they were naturally upon the face of the earth; for I, the Lord God, had not caused it to <b>rain</b> upon the face of the earth.</p> <p>2:6 And I, the Lord God, had created all the children of men and not yet a man to till the ground; for in heaven created I them, and there was not yet flesh upon the earth, neither in the water, neither in the air;</p> <p>2:7 But I, the Lord God, spake, and there went up a mist from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.</p>	<p>2:4. These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens,</p> <p>2:5. And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was <b>not a man to till the ground.</b></p> <p>2:6. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.</p>	<p>5:4. And the gods came down and formed these, the generations of the heavens, and of the earth, when they were formed, in the day that the gods formed the earth and the heavens,</p> <p>5:5. According to all that, which they had said, concerning every plant of the field, before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field, before it grew; for the gods had not caused it to rain upon the earth, when they counselled to do them; and had not formed a man to till the ground;</p> <p>5:6. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.</p>	

<p>and there went up a mist from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.</p>				
<p>4:8. ¶ And YHVH Elohim took people from the dust of the earth and breathed into their nostrils the Breath of Life;</p> <p>4:9. And mankind became a living soul—the first flesh upon the earth, the first men and women also.</p> <p>4:10. Nevertheless, all things were before created; and spiritually were they organized and perfected, according to my Word.</p>	<p>2:8 And I, the Lord God, formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul—the first flesh upon the earth, the first man also.</p> <p>2:9 Nevertheless, all things were before created; but spiritually were they created and made, according to my word.</p>	<p>2:7. And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.</p>	<p>5:7. And the gods formed man from the dust of the ground, and took his spirit, that is the man's spirit, and put it into him, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.</p>	
<p>4:11. ¶ And the YHVH Elohim planted a garden Eastward in Eden; and there YHVH put the people which had been formed.</p> <p>4:12. And out of the Earth made YHVH Elohim to grow every tree, naturally, that is pleasant to the sight of the humans;</p> <p>4:13. And mankind could behold it, and it became also a living soul;</p> <p>4:14. For it was spiritual first in the age that YHVH created it; for it remaineth in the sphere in which Ahyeh Asher Ahyeh,</p>	<p>2:10 And I, the Lord God, planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there I put the man whom I had formed.</p> <p>2:11 And out of the ground, made I, the Lord God, to grow every tree, naturally, that is pleasant to the sight of man; and man could behold it, and it became also a living soul; for it was spiritual in the day that I created it; for it remaineth in the sphere in which I, God, created it, yea, even all things which I prepared for the use of man; and man saw that it was good for food.</p>	<p>2:8. And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.</p>	<p>5:8. ¶ And the Gods planted a garden, eastward in Eden, and there they put the man, whose spirit they had put into the body, which they had formed.</p> <p>5:9. And out of the ground made the Gods to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food:...</p>	

<p>created it:</p> <p>4:15. Yea, even all things which were prepared for the use of mankind; and the people saw that it was good for food.</p>				
<p>4:16. ¶ And YHVH Elohim planted the Tree of Life also in the midst of the garden, and also the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.</p> <p>4:17. And YHVH Elohim caused a river to go out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted and became into four heads.</p> <p>4:18. And YHVH Elohim called the name of the first Pison, and it compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where YHVH created much gold;</p> <p>4:19. And the gold of that land was good, and there was bdellium and the onyx stone.</p> <p>4:20. And the name of the second river was called Gihon, the same that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.</p> <p>4:21. And the name of the third river was Hiddekel, that which goeth toward the east of Assyria.</p>	<p>2:12 And I, the Lord God, planted the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and also the tree of knowledge of good and evil.</p> <p>2:13 And I, the Lord God, caused a river to go out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted and became into four heads.</p> <p>2:14 And I, the Lord God, called the name of the first Pison, and it compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where I, the Lord, created much gold; and the gold of that land was good, and there was bdellium and the onyx stone.</p> <p>2:15 And the name of the second river was called Gihon, the same that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.</p> <p>2:16 And the name of the third river was Hiddekel, that which goeth toward the east of Assyria.</p> <p>2:17 And the fourth river was</p>	<p>2:9. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.</p> <p>2:10. And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.</p> <p>2:11. The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;</p> <p>2:12. And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.</p> <p>2:13. And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.</p> <p>2:14. And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river</p>	<p>5:9. ... the tree of life, also, in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.</p> <p>5:10. There was a river running out of Eden, to water the garden, and from thence it was parted and became into four heads.</p>	



<p>4:22. And the fourth river was Euphrates.</p>	<p>Euphrates.</p>	<p>is Euphrates.</p>		
<p>4:23. ¶ And YHVH Elohim took the humans from out of the world of man and put them into the Garden of Eden, to dress it and to keep it.</p> <p>4:24. ¶ And YHVH Elohim offered unto the people teshuvah, saying: Of every tree of the garden, thou mayest freely eat;</p> <p>4:25. But of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, thou shalt not eat of it.</p> <p>4:26. Nevertheless, thou mayest choose for thyself, for it is given unto thee, but remember that I forbid it;</p> <p>4:27. For in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.</p>	<p>2:18 And I, the Lord God, took the man and put him into the garden of Eden, to dress it and to keep it.</p> <p>2:19 And I, the Lord God, commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat;</p> <p>2:20 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it;</p> <p>2:21 Nevertheless, thou mayest choose for thyself, for it is given unto thee; but remember that I forbid it;</p> <p>2:22 For in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.</p>	<p>2:15. And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.</p> <p>2:16. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:</p> <p>2:17. But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.</p>	<p>5:11. And the gods took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden, to dress it and to keep it:</p> <p>5:12. And the gods commanded the man, saying: Of every tree of the Garden, thou mayest freely eat,</p> <p>5:13. But of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it, for in the time that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die—now I, Abraham, saw that it was after the Lord's time, which was after the time of Kolob; for as yet, the Gods had not appointed unto Adam his reckoning.</p>	
<p>4:28. ¶ And The Creator said unto mine Yachad Yachid Echad, that it was not good that these people should be alone; wherefore, should a help meet be given for them.</p> <p>4:29. And out of the earth, YHVH brought into the Garden every clean beast of the field and every clean fowl of the air and offered them that they</p>	<p>2:23 And I, the Lord God, said unto mine Only Begotten, that it was not good that the man should be alone;</p> <p>2:24 Wherefore, I will make a help meet for him.</p> <p>2:25 And out of the ground, I, the Lord God, formed every beast of the field and every fowl of the air and</p>	<p>2:18. And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.</p> <p>2:19. And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every</p>	<p>5:14. ¶ And the gods said: Let us make an help meet for the man, for it is not good that the man should be alone, therefore we will form an help meet for him.</p> <p><i>(note, this verse has been hoisted from the end of the chapter)</i></p> <p>5:20. And out of the ground</p>	

<p>should come unto Adam to see what they would call them.</p> <p>4:30. And they were also living souls; for YHVH breathed into them the breath of life and offered that whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that should be the name thereof.</p> <p>4:31. And mankind gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field;</p> <p>4:32. But as for Adam, there was not found a helpmate for them.</p>	<p>commanded that they should come unto Adam to see what he would call them.</p> <p>2:26 And they were also living souls; for I, God, breathed into them the breath of life and commanded that whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that should be the name thereof.</p> <p>2:27 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but as for Adam, there was not found a help meet for him.</p>	<p>living creature, that was the name thereof.</p> <p>2:20. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.</p>	<p>the gods formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air, and brought unto Adam to see what he would call them; and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that should be the name thereof.</p>	
<p>4:33. ¶ And YHVH Elohim saw that Adam flowed over with sadness, and they slept;</p> <p>4:34. And YHVH rent the veil and found Ishshah;</p> <p>4:35. And YHVH brought this one from the hillside, out of the world of humans; and bringing her from the lower to the upper world, closed up the veil.</p> <p>4:36. And YHVH sealed up the flesh in the stead thereof; which is to say that YHVH Elohim brought forth an equal to be one with them from</p>	<p>2:28 And I, the Lord God, caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and I took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in the stead thereof; and the rib, which I, the Lord God, had taken from man, made I a woman and brought her unto the man.</p>	<p>2:21. And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;</p> <p>2:22. And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.</p>	<p>5:15. And the gods caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam; and he slept, and they took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in the stead thereof,</p> <p>5:16. And the rib which the Gods had taken from man, formed they a woman, and brought her unto the man.</p>	<p>This passage, which has always seemed to be more than likely metaphorical rather than literal, is now significantly more interesting. If you remember, on Day 6 Mankind was created, male and female. Now we are bringing in Ishshah (Eve). We part the veil to make that happen, and bring her in from “below”, and we place her in the area “above.”</p> <p>There’s a lot to unpack there, and its hard to know how much of it is metaphorical, and how much is literal, but his little passage has a</p>

<p>among the children of man;</p> <p>4:37. And this one, which YHVH Elohim had taken out from among the children of man, and breathed life; and brought this woman into The Presence of Elohim, and she was given unto them, Adam; and they were given unto her.</p>				<p>significant impact on our understanding of the Adam and Eve “story”.</p>
<p>4:38. And Adam said: This we know now is bone of our bones and flesh of our flesh; which is to say: That she is like us.</p> <p>4:39. And Adam said: These shall be called Ishshah, because she too was taken out of world of man;</p> <p>4:40. Therefore, shall one leave their father and their mother and shall cleave unto the other—and these shall be one flesh.</p> <p>4:41. And they are both naked in their innocence, and they were not ashamed.</p>	<p>2:29 And Adam said, This I know now is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called woman because she was taken out of man.</p> <p>2:30 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one flesh.</p> <p>2:31 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.</p>	<p>2:23. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.</p> <p>2:24. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.</p> <p>2:25. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.</p>	<p>5:17. And Adam said: This was bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh, now she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man;</p> <p>5:18. Therefore, shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh.</p> <p>5:19. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.</p>	

*Engage:*

## Engage the Text through Investigation

After you read it through, sometimes it's useful to revisit the text with a goal in mind for extracting information of some sort, for instance, it would be productive to re-engage the text by doing something like:

- Skim through and make a list of the days and what things were created them in a notebook
- Make a list containing each of the things created and whether they are "above" or "below"

## Engage the Concepts through Comparison

One great way of finding deeper meaning is to take two ideas and compare them to see if their differences or similarities make them more clear as you wrestle with the text and the juxtaposition of ideas. Here are some opposing things that might be worth your consideration:

- Light, Darkness
- Creator, Creation
- Beginning, Ending
- Evening, Morning
- Foul, Fish
- Above, Below
- Land, Sea
- Adam, Eve
- Spiritual Creation, Natural Creation
- Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, Tree of Life

## Engage the Spirit through Contemplation

REMEMBER, the purpose here isn't to think about each of these things a little bit. The purpose of pondering is to focus on one idea or theme, and really explore it in your mind while sharing what you are learning with the spirit and inviting the Lord to increase your understanding. The goal is in depth of what you ponder, not in the amount of things you ponder about.

If you start with the assumption that the parts of the text that are entirely missing in older versions, or the ones with significant differences from older versions are the places that need the most thoughtful consideration, you will come up with this list of passages that deserve intentional pondering. (Listed in the order they are in the text, not in an order of importance necessarily). Select some of them that stand out to you as interesting and worth engaging the spirit to learn more about them, and make those passages the focus of your quiet contemplations this week.

- v3:3, what used to be "In the Beginning" is changed to "I Knowledge and Wisdom", and the rest of creation follows that introduction.
- v3:11, the addition of the passage saying "And the darkness of evening was pierced by the light of the morning", what's going on there?

- v3:31, instead of creating "the moving creature that hath life," it was changed to creating "the desires, passions, and appetite that hath life," which sounds a lot more like the creation of something within Adam, not around him. What's going on there? Do other days sound that way too if you look at them that way?
- v3:39, says "And I said unto She which was with me from the beginning," which is the first undeniable reference to the divine feminine. v3:4 also is clearly using she/her pronouns when referencing the creation. This might be a good time to ponder on some of the passages that reintroduce the feminine into the narrative that has been dominated by the masculine for a long long time.
- v3:43, what used to be "have dominion over" has been changed to "watch over ... in righteousness." That might deserve some thoughtful consideration.
- v3:50, adam is told to "watch over and finish in my name, that I and my Creation may be one." Is there something that mankind still needs to do in order to "finish" the creation?
- v4:33-37, the Creation of Ishshah (Eve) has significant re-working that probably deserves some thoughtful consideration.
- The Chapter Names tell us the topic here is the Above and the Below, but both chapters say they teach us about both of them. One way to view their names is that they are telling the same story twice, from two different perspectives. If that is the intent, what are the overlapping parts that unlock it? If not, why are they named the way the are?

#### Engage the Group through Discussion

When you meet together as a group to discuss the content of these chapters, here are some ideas to help get the discussion going:

- How was everyone's experience with pondering this week? Were there successes? Were there struggles? Does anyone need encouragement to get over some roadblocks?
- What are people's thoughts on the reintroduction of the feminine into the narrative, and what did you learn as you considered how and where she shows up?
- Is the idea of spiritual creation before physical creation (which only shows up in LDS branches of the narrative) something more significant than simply being "first we were born as spirits, and then we were born into physical bodies?"