

Smith, Joseph Jr.

all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:8–9). Through the Atonement of Jesus Christ, we can repent and be forgiven of our sins.

Additional references: Romans 3:23; 6:23; Alma 5:41–42; 11:37; Helaman 5:10–11; D&C 82:1–3; 88:34–35

See also Atonement of Jesus Christ; Death, Spiritual; Forgiveness; Justice; Mercy; Obedience; Repentance; Temptation

Smith, Joseph Jr. (*See* Joseph Smith)

Soul

The term *soul* is used in two ways in the scriptures. First, a spirit that is united with a physical body, whether in mortality or after resurrection, is called a soul (see D&C 88:15–16). Second, our spirits are sometimes called souls (see Alma 40:15–18; Abraham 3:23).

See also Plan of Salvation; Resurrection; Spirit

Spirit

You are a spirit child of Heavenly Father, and you existed as a spirit before you were born on the earth. During your life on the earth, your spirit is housed in your physical body, which was born of mortal parents.

From the scriptures, we learn about the nature of spirits. We learn that “all spirit is matter, but it is more fine or pure, and can only be discerned by purer eyes” (D&C 131:7). We read that “the spirit of man [is] in the likeness of his person, as also the spirit of the beast, and every other creature which God has created” (D&C 77:2; see also Ether 3:7–16).

The scriptures also teach that at the time of physical death, the spirit does not die. It separates from the body and lives in the postmortal spirit world. At the time of resurrection, the spirit is reunited with the body, “never to be divided; thus the whole becoming spiritual and immortal” (Alma 11:45).

Additional references: Romans 8:16–17; 2 Nephi 9:10–13; D&C 93:29, 33
See also Plan of Salvation; Resurrection; Soul

Spirit of the Lord (*See* Holy Ghost; Light of Christ)

Spirit of Truth (*See* Holy Ghost)

Spirit Prison (*See* Death, Physical; Hell; Paradise)

Spiritual Death (*See* Death, Spiritual)

Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual gifts are blessings or abilities that are given by the power of the Holy Ghost. God gives at least one of these gifts to every faithful member of the Church. As you receive these gifts, they will strengthen and bless you individually and help you serve others. (*See* D&C 46:8–12.) The scriptures teach of many gifts of the Spirit:

- Knowledge “that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that he was crucified for the sins of the world” (D&C 46:13).
- The capacity to believe the words of those who testify of Jesus Christ (*see* D&C 46:14).
- Knowledge of “the differences of administration” (D&C 46:15; *see also* 1 Corinthians 12:5). This gift is used in administering and leading the Church.
- Knowledge of “the diversities of operations,” which helps us discern whether a teaching or influence comes from God or from some other source (D&C 46:16; *see also* 1 Corinthians 12:6–7).
- The gift of “the word of wisdom” (1 Corinthians 12:8; D&C 46:17). This does not refer to the law we know as