

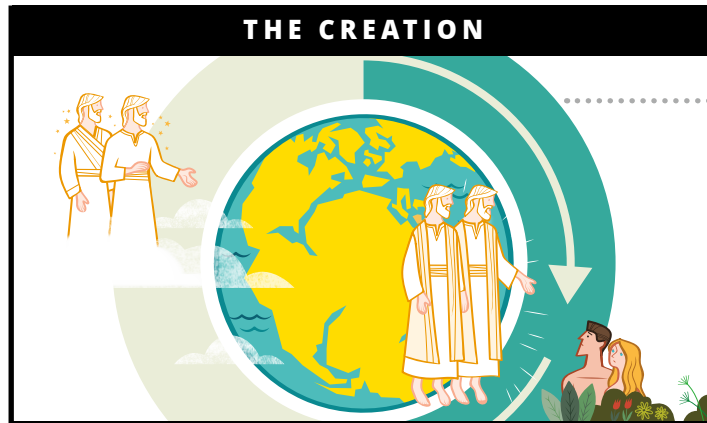
THE FALL AND RENEWAL OF HUMANKIND—AND THE EARTH

We all experience birth, life, death, and resurrection—and so does the earth, in a sense. The earth was born (through the Creation), was baptized with water (through the Flood), will be baptized with fire (“when the Lord shall come, . . . and the elements shall melt with fervent heat” [Mormon 9:2]), and will be renewed like a resurrection.¹

3. The Earth and Humankind in Sanctified State:

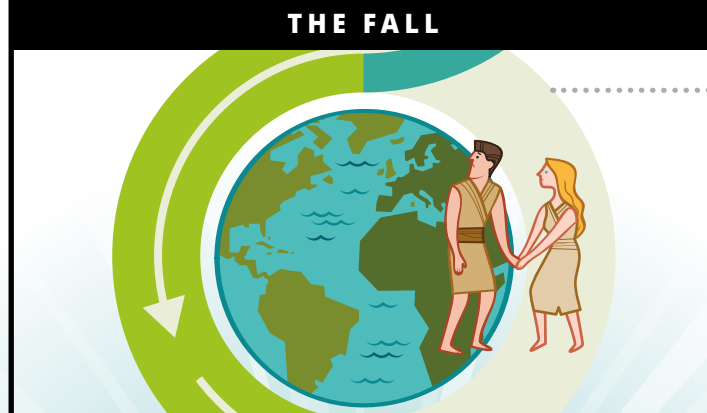
“At the Second Coming of the Lord, the earth will be . . . returned to its paradisiacal state and be made new.”⁵

“Wherefore, [the earth] shall be sanctified; yea, notwithstanding it shall die, it shall be quickened again,” and the righteous shall inherit the celestial kingdom (the sanctified earth) (see Doctrine and Covenants 88:17–26).



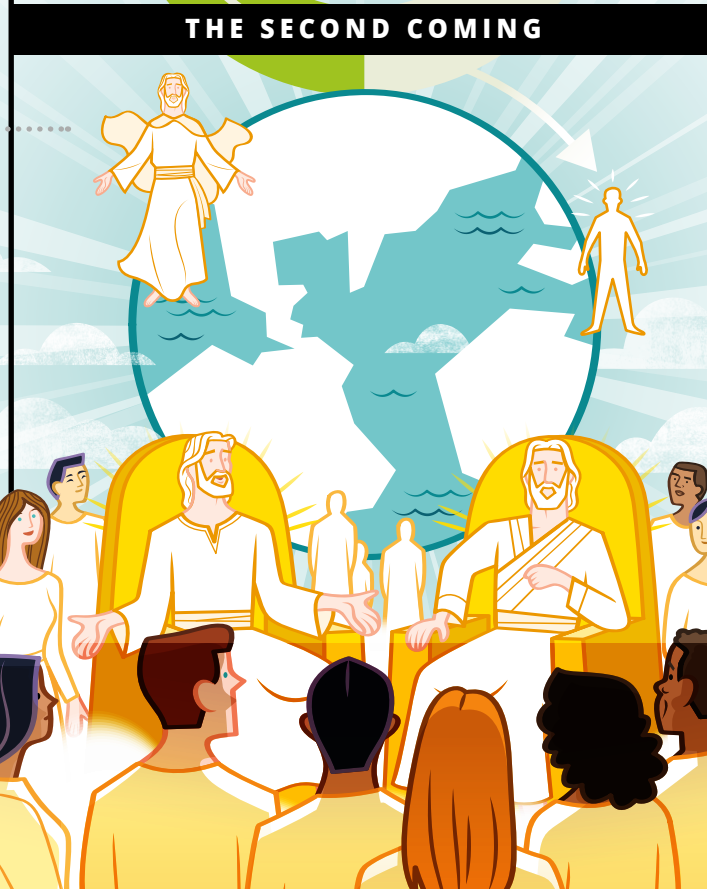
1. The Earth and Adam and Eve in Paradisiacal State:

“This first temporal creation of all things . . . was paradisiacal in nature.”² Immediately after the Creation, nothing was mortal or subject to death.³



2. The Earth and Humankind in Fallen State:

“The earth itself fell under the curse incident to the fall of [Adam and Eve], and . . . even as man shall be redeemed so shall the earth be regenerated.”⁴



NOTES

1. See James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ* (1916), 322.
2. Bruce R. McConkie, “Christ and the Creation,” *Ensign*, June 1982, 9.
3. See Robert L. Millet, “The Man Adam,” *Ensign*, Jan. 1994, 10.
4. James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ*, 322; see also Genesis 3:17.
5. Russell M. Nelson, “The Creation,” *Ensign*, May 2000, 85.