Understanding Abraham

Abraham is the most misunderstood figure from the Bible. Despite the fact that the Restored Church has a detailed history of Abraham from ancient Egyptian scrolls, The Mormons have a misconception of the Gospel of Abraham. That will be the focus of this section.

The prophet Elias appeared to Joseph smith to yield up the keys to the Gospel of Abraham, but what is taught pertaining to this is a misleading doctrine. That will be covered is one article if not more.

The key to understanding Abraham is to understand the meaning of heaven. *Keys* as taught in Mormon tradition, assume keys relate to a special priesthood power. Mormon tradition extends the authority of the priesthood from performing and recording covenants to that of sealing individuals into heaven. The first in performing ordinances and recording covenants is true, but the extension of sealing one into heaven of the celestial kingdom is a misapplication of the mission of Jesus Christ.

[Luke 11:52](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/nt/luke/11.52?lang=eng#51)

Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.

[D&C 128:14](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/128.14?lang=eng#13)

...they also that are heavenly. And as are the records on the earth in relation to your dead, which are truly made out, so also are the records in heaven. This, therefore, is the sealing and binding power, and, in one sense of the word, the keys of the kingdom, which consist in the key of knowledge.

[D&C 84:19](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/84.19?lang=eng#18)

And this greater priesthood administereth the gospel and holdeth the key of the mysteries of the kingdom, even the key of the knowledge of God.

[D&C 128:11](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/128.11?lang=eng#10)

Now the great and grand secret of the whole matter, and the summum bonum of the whole subject that is lying before us, consists in obtaining the powers of the Holy Priesthood. For him to whom these keys are given there is no difficulty in obtaining a knowledge

Within this section a method of obtaining knowledge will also be explained in the School of the Prophets. Over several articles the meaning of the Gospel of Abraham will be corrected.

Knowledge is Power

We have Francis Bacon to thank for his intellect, essays and concept of "scientific method". As many know, everything is better with bacon who coined the phrase *Knowledge is Power.* As soon as anyone that comes along and turns power into that of a magician will eventually corrupt the truth. Intelligence and the authority of position do not give one the privilege to control the mind of others by some special authority of the priesthood. Regarding the priesthood, the Lord was clear:

[Doctrine and Covenants 121:37](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/121.37?lang=eng#36)

That they may be conferred upon us, it is true; but when we undertake to cover our sins, or to gratify our pride, our vain ambition, or to exercise control or dominion or compulsion upon the souls of the children of men, in any degree of unrighteousness, behold, the heavens withdraw themselves; the Spirit of the Lord is grieved; and when it is withdrawn, Amen to the priesthood or the authority of that man.

A priesthood holder no longer receives revelation or the authority to bind in heaven if the heavens withdraw or revelation cannot be received. This does not effect the sealing power as to recording a covenant, but does affect the power to receive the Holy Spirit of Promise.

The Gospel of Abraham is the most misunderstood doctrine. Despite the fact that the Restored Church has a detailed history of Abraham from ancient Egyptian scrolls, The Mormons have a misconception of Abraham’s gospel. That will be the focus of this section. The prophet Elias appeared to Joseph smith to yield up the keys to the Gospel of Abraham, but what is taught pertaining to this is a misleading doctrine. That will be covered at the appropriate time.