

REALITY QUEST

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"Was I that good?" I asked my grandpa. "You were the best you could be, but most importantly, you were the best for you; and no one could have lived your life as well as you," he said very praisingly.

I then began to perceive other groups of people gathered around each other. I soon realized that I was in some sort of a welcoming area, and that all the other groups of people were welcoming others who had just died. The feeling that came from within the light was not from a god, or any other type of being, but from the welcoming feelings coming from the countless numbers of beings greeting loved ones that they knew while mortal.

I communicated briefly with each of those who shared memories with me, and was beckoned by my grandpa to follow him out of this part, of what I now must call the spiritual dimension, into a world of indescribable wonder.

I don't know the right words to give an accurate description of what I saw. As mortals we see light prisms and rays which are bounced off the object we are looking at and back into our eye where our brain figures out what we are looking at. Without a mortal body, seeing is nothing more than perception. There was a great amount of light- not like any light that my memory could recall seeing as a mortal. Obviously I had no brain or eyes to catch any light bouncing off what I was seeing. Yet, I could still visualize what was taking place before me.

Everyone was dressed, as I perceived it, in white robes covering their beings. What surprised me immensely was that I perceived no gender in the beings with whom I shared no memories. However, when I focused my thoughts on the particular individual, and they likewise focused on me, I determined what sex they had been as a mortal. I read their memories.

As a youth I was taught by the particular religion that I belonged to that we all lived as spirits before we came to earth. I remember asking one of my religious leaders what we looked like as spirits before we came to earth. He told me that our mortal bodies looked very much like our spiritual bodies. I never questioned his answer; and now I found out he was wrong.

Part of the teaching of a preexistent state included the belief that we were spiritually begotten by a spirit mother and father; that our father was God, the Father, who had the eternal ability to create spiritual bodies for his children by some sort of union with his eternal wives. (I say wives, because if this belief were true, it would make sense that polygamy is the lifestyle of the gods, because one god can create a lot of spirits with lots of wives, if it so be that the spirit mother had one child at a time.) If this were the case, then it would seem that my spirit body would look like that of my father and mother. Perhaps I would have had my eternal father's nose, and my eternal mother's eyes. Nevertheless, I look like my mortal mother and father. My grandfather looked like his earthly mother and father, yet when I met him in the spiritual dimension, he looked exactly like the way I remembered him as a mortal. Therefore, his spirit before he was mortal could not be the same spirit that I was seeing, or it would have looked like his eternal father and his eternal mother.

It didn't take me long to realize that we see other's spirits according to what we can perceive from their memories and thoughts. If I never met a person as a mortal, and therefore shared no memories with he or she, when I meet them as a spirit, I will form my own perception of what they look like from *their* memories. However, if I meet someone I have shared memories with, I will see them as I remembered them. Since I got my perception of the beings I didn't know from their own memories, I am sure I was perceiving them as they perceived themselves. For this reason most of the spirits appeared to be very beautiful in appearance; there are few mortals who perceive themselves as being ugly, even if others do. Beauty truly is in the eye of the beholder.

As mentioned before, the strangest thing that I noticed as I looked around at the vast multitudes of spiritual beings, is that I could not determine their sexuality; and what was more interesting, is that a lot of

them, those who I made an attempt to communicate with, had both male and female memories. This stunned me at first, but soon clarified itself later on. (This will be discussed later.)

My entourage, which included my grandfather and the others who had greeted me in what I now call the spirit reception center, stopped when I stopped and proceeded as I did. I was aware that others joined out entourage, and it seemed that I had quite a following.

One of the first questions I asked those who followed me was the question that all mortals probably ask upon dying: "Where is God?" Almost instantly as I thought this question, (you see, I couldn't speak without a voice box,) a surge of knowledge came to me like a micro-burst of wind. It was if all the people who understood my inquiry answered at the same time. At last I found the answer to the age old question of a supreme being.

In the reception center I mentioned that a feeling of love and acceptance seem to radiate out of the light which filled the room. I also mentioned that there was no being which caused the feeling, but that it came from the people who were in that area greeting their loved ones who had just entered the spirit world. I remembered reading the near death experiences of others, where they perceived this light and the overwhelming feeling that came from it as their God, nor matter what belief they may have had. Most of these individuals never stayed in the spirit world long enough to understand the concept of God.

I understood at that moment that there was no one individual that ruled the rest, but that all beings had a say in what was taking place in their existence. It was the ultimate democracy, perpetuated by the free-agency of the being. I then realized that an omnipotent god who could do anything it wanted to the beings which it created, could not be possible if the being was truly a individual being with its own powers and existence. If there was such a being as the god taught to most mortals, we would all be puppets, unaccountable for our successes or mistakes. Thus, existence would be useless and futile.

I understood that there was a government, of sorts, set up by the spiritual beings to govern the actions of the rest. I found this government to be very similar to the free governments of mortality, except for one thing: In order to be a leader in this government, one had to have demonstrated its potential to serve the rest without any selfish nature at all. In other words, these beings existed to serve others, selflessly forever. The power which they had was no more than any being had, but their knowledge and experience was incredible. They had power in that the rest of the beings honored them as their leaders. However, if one were to fail in its duties, it would be immediately relieved of its leadership.

How did I know all this? Well, two individuals had joined my entourage and I perceived them as leaders among the beings. When I focused my attention on them, I understood who they were and what they did. From their thoughts I understood that they were male in their most recent mortality. I say most recent, because many spirits have lived various mortalities as different genders.

Their warmth and acceptance towards me was greater than any I have ever experienced by any stranger I had met for the first time. Unlike strangers in mortality, I felt very comfortable around these two beings, and thought of them as I would my closest friends. It was from these that I learned about the workings of the spiritual government. I learned that the spirit world works as closely as possible with mortals to help them create the best environment they can in mortality. It's a very accurate statement to say that the founding fathers of the American government in the United States of America were inspired to form the government they did. They were. As mentioned before, this free government is very similar to the spiritual government I perceived- minus the self-righteous, self-serving politicians and lobbyists. In fact, if the U.S. Government would do away with lobbyists, they would be even closer. In the spiritual realm, the government does only what is best for the beings it guides. The leaders receive no extra power, prestige, or riches for their service. Truly, all spirits are created equal and remain so forever.

I mentioned created in the previous paragraph. The next question that I asked was, "Who created all these beings?" This time the knowledge came much more subtle. What I did learn is that nothing spiritual was ever created, but the beings before me had evolved into becoming what they are today. Whether those who I was focusing on didn't know the answer, or they were hiding it from me, I do not know. But, I could not perceive anything more than the fact that no spiritual being was ever created, for anything created, can be destroyed and ended, and spiritual entities were eternal. I believe there were some things not revealed (understood) to me at that time. However, I still wonder to this day how they could hide any knowledge from me, because knowledge is the memory of facts and figures, and I could perceive everything they knew. Yet, I also learned that intelligence is the application of knowledge, and there are not as many intelligent beings as there are knowledgeable ones; and it could very well be that truly intelligent

beings have found a way to keep the facts, or truth, from other beings who either couldn't or wouldn't use the application of these truths for the benefit of the whole. Anyway, I still don't know the answers to many of my questions. I guess I'm knowledgeable, but not intelligent enough.

The two beings mentioned were not there to command me or instruct me. As mentioned before, unless they were somehow hiding something from me, I knew what they knew. They seem to have an authority among the rest of the beings, and were concerned about how I was handling my visit to this extraordinary dimension.

I realized that what was taking place was not the orthodox way of living in this spiritual realm. I was to return to mortality. Obviously, this was the reason why these two beings led the entourage that accompanied me throughout the rest of my journey.

I was not compelled to follow any certain direction or do any particular thing. I was left to myself, to go where I wanted to, and communicate with whom I chose. I could perceive that motion was taking place among the spiritual entities, but not anything like walking or moving in mortality. In mortality, the gravity of the earth pushes down on our bodies and pushes against us as we try to move forward. As spirits there exists no external force which inhibits our movements in any way. Therefore, I was able to move at tremendously great speeds, so it seemed, when and where I wanted to.

This place was huge. It seemed endless with no boundaries. However, I soon learned that the spirit world ends where mortality begins. Nevertheless, the interaction between the two worlds was incredible.

As mortals we do not understand why premonitions or thoughts seem to come from no where. Our ability to determine if our thoughts come from our own making or from some other source is inept. Many religionists who claim revelation have made it their belief that "God" is communicating with them and instructing them. These pious individuals are prideful in their determination that they receive special revelation, but will come to the knowledge after death that even the most heinous atheists receive the same kind of communication that they do from spiritual beings. Here's an example that I witnessed:

I noticed a being, who from its memories, I perceived to be a woman, very much focused in every way upon something going on in mortality. (Here I should mention that just by thinking about it, a spirit can be almost anywhere they wish to be in mortality.) I focused on what she (if using this gender can be proper without confusing the reader) was doing. Immediately I found myself in the bedroom of a mortal boy who appeared to be in his early teens. He was sprawled on his bed engaged in prayer. His prayers were to God. I looked around the room and found only myself and this being, which I now knew to be his mother, in the vicinity of the boy's voice. In other words, it was only us two who were focusing on what the boy was saying. Of course I couldn't hear his words, for I had no mortal ears to pick up the vibrations coming from his throat. Yet I perceived his anguish and his desires.

It seemed he had been bothered with his relationship with his step-mother, and was seeking some condolence from his god. As I listened more intently, I perceived that he had some sexual feelings for his new mother. These feelings made him sad, and I could tell he felt sinful and dirty. He was asking for help in overcoming the yearning of his libido.

I observed the spiritual being attempting to give him encouragement and succor in his time of need. I noticed how difficult it was for her to get her mortal son to concentrate on what she was trying to tell him. He was so engulfed in his own misery that he failed to open his mind to the answer to his prayer.

Presently, one of the two spirits which were accompanying me appeared in the room where there was once only me, the boy, and his deceased mother. He gently, as if he whispered, told the boy something to the effect that God understood, and that everything would be okay. Somehow the boy heard the communication of this entity, and felt an immediate calmness. What exactly this being said to the boy, I do not know.

The question that formed in my own mind was, "What would have happened to the boy if he only had his deceased mother to answer his prayer?" I already knew these two beings were not gods as mortals perceive "God" as being, yet they answered this boy's prayer when his mother couldn't.

I immediately understood that the boy's prayer wouldn't have been answered at that time had I not come along with my guides.

In the spiritual realm, the dead are concerned with those they were the most familiar with in mortality. This mother knew her son was having a problem with his step-mother and was watching him trying to help him out. This mother did not have the knowledge, and therefore, not the ability to help her

son. However, she knew that if she could not help him in his problem, and it was in her son's best interest to be helped, that she could go to other beings who were experienced and knowledgeable in dealing with this situation. However, these beings would not have been aware of the boy's problem if the mother, or someone else, did not inform them of his need.

There are many times that inexperienced spiritual beings give incorrect advice to their mortal loved ones, thus causing the mortal situation to become worse. I learned that just as wisdom is acquired in mortality by experience, it is acquired the same way as a spirit.

Finally I had an answer to the question which had bothered me as a mortal child, and perplexed me as an adult: "How does God hear and answer so many prayers at the same time?"

Spiritual beings are very active in trying to help out mortals in their struggles of life on earth. A spirit can interact with whomever, whenever it chooses. Nevertheless, the mortal being does not necessarily have to use the direction given in his or her life, nor are they always capable of understanding the spiritual guidance given them. What is interesting to note is that a mortal can be given direction from experienced beings who know what they are doing, or from inexperienced beings who want to help, but might find it a wiser thing to not give their direction until experience teaches them what the best thing to do would be.

I entered back into the spiritual realm after this experience with a better understanding of revelation, prayer, and demonic possession. The latter is only the inexperience of beings who don't know what they are doing with their ability to interact with mortals.

From this being, who was the mother of the mortal boy I had witnessed praying, I sensed a great amount of grief and turmoil. It seemed as if she was not happy living in the spirit world, and wished she could return. I again focused on the thoughts of this being and found her to be quite upset and jealous of the relationship her late, mortal husband was having with his new wife. It seems she had been dead for about three years, and that her mortal husband had remarried a wonderful woman who filled the void that was left in a man's heart who had loved his deceased wife dearly. His new wife was beautiful and loving to the children she had left behind. Their sexual relationship was gratifying and very sensual- much more sensual than that which this spirit being had experienced with him. Instead of being happy for her late husband, she was miserable and couldn't believe he could forget her that easily.

Yes, this spiritual being was in a state of hell; frustrated that the relationship she once shared with this mortal man was replaced by what she perceived to be a better one.

It didn't take me long to realize that there were many (a great many) beings who were in the same situation as this woman. What was far worse for these beings was the ability to perceive the thoughts of their loved ones that they thought they knew in mortality. Young wives who had died saw the lust imbedded in their former husbands hearts, as these mortal men searched desperately for someone to replace them. The beings who had been of the male gender, fretted themselves and humbled their egos as they witnessed the ones they had loved, fall in love again after they promised their now "dead" sweethearts that they could never be replaced.

I soon realized the unimportance that mortal relationships are in the spectrum of reality. No wonder so many individuals in the history of the human race, who were known for their wisdom and serenity preached against the orthodox relationships of mortals. Jesus, Ghandi, the Buddha, Mohammed, and many others had no interest in marriage, the ego trip of being a parent, or close relationships. Without these relationships, these and many others were able to come to an understanding of humanity and reality that few have reached.

I finally found the answer to a religious questions which had plague my mind since my early teenage years. I had been taught that "Families are Forever." This is the theme and greatest selling point of the Mormon religion. The emotional security that one feels as a mortal knowing that even after death one's loved ones will remain their "family", instills a great hope and desire to improve one's relationship with his or her family in mortality. However, I could find no evidence in the early teachings of the Mormon church, or in any part of their canonized scriptures, which included *the Bible*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Pearl of Great Price*, and *The Doctrine of Covenants*, that supported the doctrine or idea of "Families are Forever." When I questioned a church official as to why we believed in a doctrine that is not in the scriptures and was not taught by the founders of our faith, he explained that he "...didn't understand all things, but that we should have faith in the modern revelation of God's leaders on earth." ...continued...