

MAN A MORTAL AND AN IMMORTAL BEING—TEMPORAL AND  
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 RESURRECTION AND THE REDEMPTION OF HUMANITY

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. SMITH, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE,  
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Reported by Geo. F. Gibbs

We are called mortal beings because in us are the seeds of death, but in reality we are immortal beings because there is also within us the germ of eternal life. Man is a dual being, composed of the spirit which gives life, force, intelligence and capacity to man, and the body which is the tenement of the spirit and is suited to its form, adapted to its necessities, and acts in harmony with and to its utmost capacity yields obedience to the will of the spirit. The two combined constitute the soul. The body is dependent upon the spirit, and the spirit during its natural occupancy of the body is subject to the laws which apply to and govern it in the mortal state. In this natural body are the seeds of weakness and decay, which, when fully ripened or untimely plucked up, in the language of scripture, is called "the temporal death." The spirit is also subject to what is termed in the scriptures and revelations from God, "spiritual death." The same as that which befell our first parents, when through disobedience and transgression, they be-

came subject in the will of Satan, and were thrust out from the presence of the Lord and became spiritually dead, which the Lord says, "is the *first* death, even that same death which is the *last* death, which is spiritual, which shall be pronounced upon the wicked when I shall say: Depart, ye cursed." And the Lord further says, "But, behold, I say unto you that I, the Lord God, gave unto Adam and unto his seed, that they should not die as to the temporal death, until I, the Lord God, should send forth angels to declare unto them repentance and redemption (from the first death), through faith on the name of mine Only Begotten Son. And thus did I, the Lord God, appoint unto man the days of his probation—that by his natural death he might be raised in immortality unto eternal life, even as many as would believe; And they that believe not unto eternal damnation; for they cannot be redeemed from their spiritual fall, because they repent not." From the natural death, that is the death of the body, and also from the first