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BIBLE DICTIONARY

FALL OF ADAM

The process by which mankind became mortal on this earth. The event is recorded in [Gen. 2, 3, 4](#); and [Moses 3, 4](#). The fall of Adam is one of the most important occurrences in the history of man. Before the fall, Adam and Eve had physical bodies but no blood. There was no sin, no death, and no children among any of the earthly creations. With the eating of the “forbidden fruit,” Adam and Eve became mortal, sin entered, blood formed in their bodies, and death became a part of life. Adam became the “first flesh” upon the earth ([Moses 3: 7](#)), meaning that he and Eve were the first to become mortal. After Adam fell, the whole creation fell and became mortal. Adam’s fall brought both physical and spiritual death into the world upon all mankind ([Hel. 14: 16-17](#)).

The fall was no surprise to the Lord. It was a necessary step in the progress of man, and provisions for a Savior had been made even before the fall had occurred. Jesus Christ came to atone for the fall of Adam and also for man’s individual sins.

Latter-day revelation supports the biblical account of the fall, showing that it was a historical event that literally occurred in the history of man. Many points in latter-day revelation are also clarified that are not discernible from the Bible. Among other things it makes clear that the fall is a blessing, and that Adam and Eve should be honored in their station as the first parents of the earth. Significant references are [2 Ne. 2: 15-16](#); [2 Ne. 9: 6-21](#); [Mosiah 3: 11-16](#); [Alma 22: 12-14](#); [Alma 42: 2-15](#); [D&C 29: 34-44](#); [Moses 5: 9-13](#).

See also [Flesh](#).