

Man's Destiny

by President Lorenzo Snow
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As a new convert further studying the Restored Gospel, Lorenzo Snow had a personal revelation which he wrote out as the phrase "As man is, God once was; as God is, man may become." He kept this to himself as a personal revelation until several years later, when he showed it to Joseph Smith, who agreed with it and enlarged upon it. About ten years before he passed away, President Snow wrote this text, which can be sung to the tune "The Morning Breaks" by George Careless. (Meter 8-8-8-8-8)

Has thou not been unwisely bold,
Man's destiny to thus unfold?
To raise, promote such high desire,
To raise, promote such high desire,
Such vast ambition thus inspire?

Still 'tis no phantom that we trace
Man's ultimatum in life's race;
This royal path has long been trod
This royal path has long been trod
By righteous men, each now a God:

As Abra'm, Isaac, Jacob, too,
First babes, then men - to Gods they grew.
As Man now is, our God once was;
As now God is, so man may be, -
Which doth unfold man's destiny.

The boy, like to his father grown,
Has but attained unto his own;
To grow to sire from state of son,
To grow to sire from state of son,
Is not 'gainst Nature's course to run.

As son of God, like God to be,
Would not be robbing Deity;
And he who has this hope within,
And he who has this hope within
Will purify himself from sin.