

Notes on the Adamic Language

The Origin of Language and Writing

Elder Bruce R. McConkie stated:

“In the beginning God gave Adam a language that was pure, perfect, and undefiled. This *Adamic language*, now unknown, was far superior to any tongue which is presently extant. For instance, the name of God the Father, in this original language, is *Man of Holiness*, signifying that he is a Holy Man and not a vague spiritual essence. ([Moses 6:57](#).)



“This first language spoken by mortals was either the celestial tongue of the Gods or such adaptation of it as was necessary to meet the limitations of mortality; and Adam and his posterity had power to speak, read, and write it” (*Mormon Doctrine*, 19).

Elder McConkie said the following about the book of remembrance mentioned in [Moses 6:5](#): “From the beginning, the Lord provided a language and gave men the power to read and write. . . . The thing which they first wrote, and which of all their writings was of the most worth unto them, was a Book of Remembrance, a book in which they recorded what the Lord had revealed about himself, about his coming, and about the plan of salvation, which plan would have force and validity because of his atonement. This was the beginning of the Holy Scriptures” (*The Promised Messiah*, 86; see also [Moses 6:46](#)). (Pearl of Great Price Student Manual, MOSES 6:1–25)

Topical Guide, Adam

From latter-day revelation we learn that Adam had a pure and perfect language that was both written and spoken ([Moses 6:5–6](#))

Some have spoken Adam's language today

A year after his baptism, Brigham Young traveled with Joseph Young, his brother, and Heber C. Kimball to Kirtland, Ohio, for his first meeting with the Prophet Joseph Smith. Brigham remembered his excitement. He wanted to learn. “When I first saw Joseph,” he later said, “I had but one prayer”; he hoped to “hear Joseph speak on doctrine, and see his mind reach out untrammelled to grasp the deep things of God.” [7](#)

“[I] received the sure testimony, by the Spirit of prophecy, that he was all that any man could believe him to be, as a true Prophet,” Brigham Young remembered. The Prophet greeted his visitors warmly and had them come to his home, where in the evening they worshiped. Brigham Young was asked to pray. As he did, his words were transformed, and he spoke in tongues under the influence of the Holy Ghost. It was the “pure Adamic language,” Joseph Smith told those who were present. (*Manuscript History of Brigham Young, 1801–1844*, ed. Elden J. Watson(1968), 4.)