



Figure 11-3 *The Three Part Nature of the Children of God.* Each of us is an eternal being composed of three parts. We are Eternal Intelligence parted from the Father long ago in the Spiritual sphere. We are embodied with an Eternal Physical Body that combines together with our Intelligence to form our Spirit. Added to these two is our Body comprised of the substance of Temporality both mortal and later immortal in nature. The third part of our nature is *Flesh and Bone*; during our mortal existence, it is accompanied by *Blood* (however symbolic that accompaniment may be). Upon our death, we return to the "Spirit World" (appropriately named) where we lose the third part of our being and return again to the "embodied Spirits" we once were, there awaiting the restoration that comes through the Resurrection.

God is what we hope to someday be; as our Father, He is and always has been, what we are capable of eventually becoming. In the last chapter, we described God, our Father, as composed of intelligence, immortal matter (collectively His Spirit) and an eternal body of *Flesh and Bone*. We have shown here that His form, an embodied Intelligence clothed in immortal *Flesh and Bone* was also held by Adam and Eve in the Garden; this form, held precursory to the bodies they would receive in mortality, was indicative of their "*true character*" as children of God. After the Fall, the immortal bodies of our first parents were *transfigured* (at this time *downward* from perfection) and their *Flesh and Bone* was merged with *blood*, so symbolic of the Savior's sacrifice and His Atonement. This transfiguration is represented for us today in the Endowment and the Genesis 1 accounts through their being clothed by God in the *coats of skins* of animals in the Garden and our *like* receipt of Priesthood Robes (on the left shoulder) and Garments, which we are told represent those skins, within the confines of a Temple as well.

It should not be lost on the observer that the laws of obedience and sacrifice were given to Adam and Eve in conjunction with their receipt of these clothing skins. Neither should we miss that those skins themselves required the shedding of blood and that none of us can return to God and our *true character* but through the processes of justification, sanctification and the atoning *sacrifice* of the Savior, all of which require shedding (*separating from*) blood and *obedience* to the requirements of the laws given. Blood then, both symbolically and factually, is the corrupting component in our being.

Within the Garden Temple, Adam and Eve were specially empowered in the Physical sphere to choose and exercise their agency freely. This was accomplished

*What Is Man?*