

## The Ways of Life and Death Benjamin's Explanation

**Key Scripture** Mosiah 2–5

**Explanation** In Mosiah 2–5, Benjamin explains the ways of life and death to his people and is subsequently met with an overwhelming desire of the people to follow the way of life. Missing from his explanation is information concerning resurrection and the spirit world. Instead, he focuses on the “natural man,” emphasizing that one must repent and be spiritually reborn to overcome natural tendencies to do evil. This chart illustrates the characteristics associated with each path—those personal deeds and attributes that land souls either on the left hand of God according to his justice (see Mosiah 2:38–39; 3:26; 5:10) or on the right hand of God according to his mercy (see Mosiah 2:39; 4:2; 5:15).

**Source** Mack C. Stirling, “The Way of Life and the Way of Death in the Book of Mormon,” *Journal of Book of Mormon Studies* 6/2 (1997): 164–66.

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## Benjamin's Explanation (Mosiah 2–5)

