

# DESERT EVENING NEWS.

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## DISCOURSE

PREST. WILFORD WOODRUFF,

DELIVERED

In the Salt Lake Assembly Hall, at

the Half Yearly Conference, of

the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, Sun-

day Afternoon, Jan. 9th, 1881.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

"Woe unto me, if I preach not the

gospel! For I do this thing willingly,

I have a righteous reward: a dis-

tribution of the gospel is committed

unto me? The words of the

of the Apostle Paul. Again he said:

"But though we or an angel from

heaven preach any other gospel unto

you than that which we have preach-

ed unto you, let him be accursed."

And he repeats this. Again he

says: "But if our gospel be hid, it

is hid to them that are lost: in

whom the god of this world has

blinded the minds of them which

believe not, lest the light of the

gospel of Christ, who is the

image of God, should shine unto

them." I will say as Paul did,

"Woe unto me if I preach not the

gospel! I will say the same for the

High Priest, the Seventies, and

the Elders, as far as they are

called to declare the words of

life and salvation to this genera-

tion; and if they do not do it, they

may ask why. I answer, because

a dispensation of the gospel of Jesus

Christ has been given to man

in ancient days or in this age for

any other purpose than for the sal-

vation of the human family. Again

the Lord says in sec. 1 of the Book

of Doctrine and Covenants: "And

the voice of warning shall be unto

all people by the mouths of my dis-

ciples, whom I have chosen in these

last days. And they shall go forth

and none shall stay them, for I, the

Lord, have commanded them. Be-

hold this mine authority, and the

authority of my servants, and my

preference unto the book of my com-

mandments, which I have given

them to publish unto you, O inhab-

itants of this land, in fear and

tremble, Oh, ye people, for what

I the Lord have decreed in them

shall be fulfilled." Where-

fore I, the Lord, knowing the calam-

ity which should come upon the in-

habitants of the earth, called upon

my servant Joseph Smith Junr.,

and spake unto him from

heaven, and gave him com-

mandments, and also gave com-

mandments to others, that they

should proclaim these things unto

the world; and all this that I the

Lord have said, and all that I the

Lord have done, and all that I the

Lord have decreed, shall be fulfilled

in the words of the prophets. Be-

hold, now it is called to-day (until

the coming of the Son of Man),

and verily it is a day of sacrifice

and a day for the tilting of my

people, for he that is tilted shall

not be able to stand (at his coming)

and I will not spare any that remain

in Babylon. Wherefore, if ye be-

lieve me, ye will labor while it is

called to-day. This is the word of

the Lord, the Elder, and the

High Priest, and the Seventies, and

I say the same to the Latter-day

Saints. It is no light thing for

any people in any age of the world

to have a dispensation of the gospel

of Jesus Christ committed into

their hands, and when a dispensa-

tion has been given, those receiving

it are held responsible before me

in heaven for the use they make of

it. I feel to back up the testimony

given to us this forenoon by Pres-

ident Taylor created this forenoon

upon the law of Tithing. Per-