

unite in family prayers, and should also pray in secret, we should have prayer meetings and also call upon the Lord in our private chambers. If we exercise the power we have in this respect we shall prevail against our adversaries and God will bless and sustain us. We all rejoiced on the fast day we had recently, and it will surely bear its fruit. On a certain occasion when Daniel prayed he did not receive an answer, and so continued in prayer for three weeks. An angel came to him and said: "From the day that thou did'st set thine heart to understand and chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard and I am come for thy words." Read the Xth Chapter of Daniel. We learn there that this angel came to receive Daniel's words, but was withstood by the prince of the kings of Persia one and twenty days, and Michael came to his help. There is a key for us. Do as Jesus says: "Pray without ceasing." And remember the parable of the widow and the unjust judge. I know that God answers prayer. In prayer combined with our righteousness is our strength.

Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.

If we want people to love us we must love and try to bless them. Do good to all men; even if they wrong us we should be good to them. The reward will surely come, either in this life or in the life to come, with the certainty of an eternal future. When we shall receive the full reward of our actions there is comfort. This is a world of injustice and of trial. The world to come will be one of justice and reward. Doing good enlarges the soul. It builds up character. We become essentially better from doing good deeds, and therein is natural exaltation. Shall we do good to those who are our enemies, who misrepresent and revile us and seek our hurt? Certainly. There are many who are injuring us in ignorance. Those who do so knowingly—and there are some—we will leave to the Lord, and they should have our pity rather than our wrath, for verily they will have their reward.

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

The world laugh, because we, who are so few in comparison, say we are in the right. But it was always so. The few have been in the right and the many in the wrong, taking the broad road which leads to death. When any new and good thing has been brought out, the many have invariably opposed it. The innovators have been despised and put to death. It is a strait way—a narrow way—that leads to the lives. The word should be in the plural. In the celestial kingdom, to those who are faithful there will be given a crown of eternal lives—the gift of eternal and per-

petual increase. Therein is ever-enlarging power and dominion and majesty. Those who obtain this crown will have passed through the pressure of the strait way and overcome every trial. All things will be theirs; they will be Christ's and Christ will be God's.

Rejoice ye Saints that you have been called out of the world, and are despised and misjudged. Be patient and persevering. Show that you can endure. "He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved." Christ set us the example. Let us pursue the same strait and narrow way in which He walked. Let us spread abroad the Gospel that all who will may receive it, and let us become in deed and spirit Christ-like and Godlike, that we may be crowned in their presence and glory.

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

We have had considerable experience with "wolves in sheep's clothing." They put on a smug appearance of canting piety. They come forth to reform the Saints. They are after the fleece rather than the flock. Judge them by their deeds. Watch those who pretend to overcome religion. We may judge them by their fruits. We have seen people of this class whose pretensions succeeded for awhile and then their true character has been developed. How many of them have shown by their fruits that they were mere human thorns or thistles! The Saints should be judged by their fruits and not by the slanders of their enemies.

Let "Mormonism" also be judged by its fruits. They are all good. It teaches us to avoid all that is corrupt, and to practice all that is pure and worthy. It brings forth the fruits of the spirit. It bestows the outward gifts of the gospel and the inward gifts that characterize the spirit of truth. When there is anything wicked among this people it is contrary to "Mormonism." It is done in violation of the precepts and spirit of "Mormonism," which is a good tree, and brings forth only good fruits. Our wrong-doing comes not from this system, but from our individual weakness. The fruits of "Mormonism" are pure and include all the blessings of the Gospel of peace.

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

That is the doctrine of Christ. Righteous actions, good deeds are the passport to salvation. It is not salvation of mere belief. Faith alone

is not sufficient. The modern Christian idea is fallacious. False precepts teach that a criminal who is too vile to dwell with men, may through simple belief in Christ at his last hour be made fit to dwell with the immaculate Jesus. Too corrupt to dwell with mortals, they choke him to death and send him to dwell with immortals. Man cannot endure him, so they send him by a short cut to enjoy the society of Almighty God. Belief in Jesus is his only fitness. That is modern Christianity but not the Gospel of Christ. His Gospel teaches the doctrine of personal righteousness.

Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

It is not a man's preaching, nor praying, nor psalm singing, nor prophesying that qualifies him for exaltation, but his individual righteousness—his good deeds. Iniquity unfits a man for the presence of God, no matter how many gifts he may have. But righteousness will qualify him for salvation. Character, not reputation, will be recognized in the eternal world. Let us have the courage to do right and seek to serve the Lord under every circumstance, no matter what the world may think of us, even though it may lead us unto death. None will abide the presence of the Lord but those who are fit for it.

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Here is the effect of building on a sandy foundation. Lip service, outward seeming, formal worship, instead of doing the will of God. Find out what Christ commands; and do it; that is the way of life. Make truth the mainspring of your lives. Get the word of the Lord and live it and you will be sanctified. Neglect to live it, and you will not be sanctified. The forms, ceremonies and ordinances of religion are means to an end, but they are not the end. They are all necessary, but not all that is necessary. God has instituted nothing but what is essential, but the object of all is to form right character and make people practically righteous and imbued with the Spirit of Christ. Seek for this. Regard not the ways of the world, but seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all things will be added to you, and He will make you His own when he numbers up His jewels.

And it came to pass, when Jesus had