REMARKS

Made at Cedar City, Utah, on Sunday, May 21st, 1899, by

ELDER ABRAHAM O. WOODRUFF.

I have been requested by President Snow to address you for a short time this evening. I assure you, in accepting the position, I feel very humble, and I desire unbodily the blessings of the Lord to attend me and His Spirit to attend the words that I may speak.

"Then shall have no other gods before me." And the first commandment given of the Lord to ancient Israel, the rest of the commandments depend to a certain extent upon the observance of this commandment. Dyneman stated a few days ago, in one of our meetings, that greater things would be required of the Saints than had ever been in the past. This brought to my mind the fact that man and women have been valued upon the ground in by some their lives for this work. In reflecting upon this I thought of a expression that is attributed to one of among the Latter-day Saints in referring to men of various habits, who do not keep the commandments of the Lord. We are of those that they are worth taking, rather wild, and unruly, but they are worth all for the church. I have had to believe in my experience that the men who will and have the courage to follow Christ are all that is are very few. I believe that there is no one who feel enough for the Lord to do for Him all who have the courage to live it. We read the parable of Judah, Esther, Jeremiah and other ancient Prophets, which the only "Take care the Lord," and "Do not doubt the Lord." Do we believe that they have evil? Do we believe in the Lord? We have in our older cities the men that the God of heaven has selected, and of the fourteen hundred millions of people who dwell upon the face of the earth, to lead and guide the people in the latter days to stand at the back so we believe, of the only one who is able to be found upon the earth today, whereby is taught the same truth, the same righteousness, the same principles of life and salvation, and the same keys of power for the gift of the Holy Ghost as was taught in the days of Christ. This man is the President of the Church. This man, in travelling through this country, has given the word of the Lord to the people. He has stated that the Lord requires every man and woman in this country, for it is the country of the Lord to be people. He has stated that the Lord requires every man and woman in our midst whether all the people will place the same value upon the teachings given to them by the President as they would upon the teachings of Isaiah, or Jeremiah, or some of the ancient prophets. We believe that he has the authority to speak in the name of the Lord as Moses and as any man spoken of God to the children of Israel.

Brethren, Saints will not do yesterday this we should not act on this such principle. As I stated, I believe that the Lord has said that we shall hold no other gods before Him. In the face of the commandments of God, there are some people who are strange and wonderful, strange gods. The people in the world worship a deity of gold. Some make an idol of their wealth, and bow down and worship it. Many worship a God with the belly, parts or passions. Others bow down to images of wood and stone, the workmanship of their own hands, while others make the gratification of their appetites their god. I remember preaching in the world, in the spirit of the ministry of God with the belly, parts and passions, when a gentleman said to me he thought that was a very foolish doctrine. He had a slave in the South at the time, just made to work it, and, holding it up, he said, "This is my god." There are people of people in the world that have made strong deals their god. But the Latter-day Saints should not be living and from God. I want to see to it we can only realize that we shall be judged by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God, and that the doctrine is among us, whether or what the good and will of the Lord is. If we realize that we shall be judged before God, we will do the right we can while we live, well and good for this time. There is nothing on earth that we should be so anxious about. I know some of the people that will not be here long, have a proper exercise of faith in the Lord of Hosts, Jehovah, and we should be prepared to meet Him, and we should be prepared to meet our friends, and we should be prepared to ask a favor, and we should be able to ask a favor, and we should be able to receive a favor. If we believe in the Lord, we believe in our friends, how much more we should believe in our Father which is in heaven, and good things to those that ask Him.

I believe that the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ has been established, and that the three hundred thousand men who have made up the body of the Church of Christ are simply the instruments of which God has chosen, in the great Church of Christ upon the earth. For we read that this little stone, that was cut out of the mountain without hands shall roll forth until it fills the whole earth. This being the case, the work of God is indeed only in its infancy. But in order that it shall grow, it must grow as a tree. We know that there is life in a tree. There is life in the earth. We should be faithful people, willing to accept the teachings that God has given us, and to live up to them, so that we may will allow, through our obedience, any cause to come upon this people of great power, which would compel them to give up their lives and the work they have to do. Now, we are in a position of the nations of the world, and we are surrounded by circumstances surrounding them. I do not believe, my brethren and sisters, that God the Eternal Father intended Brigham Young to lead his people into this southern country to have them, after a few years, abandon their home. A year ago this evening there is not prophesied in the Prophet of the Lord, at our Young Men's Improvement Conference, when the people were called upon to leave the cities, that it would be wrong, or hard to realize these valleys of the Rocky Mountains; but that God would bless them, and they would be able to realize these valleys for, and it they lived the lives of Latter-day Saints, they would not have power to bless them. Now this year, this year we have made through their industry and faith, from the desert, we have made the desert to come to the Rocky Mountains and to become a fruitful country, and to the Saints of their commerce, and in good instances they have made their efforts that God has blessed them. We have made the gods of Democracy and Republicanism. They have turned from the true and living God. They are not willing to do what God requires of them through His Prophets. They have made unto themselves strange gods. It is not about this or that, but it is about the Lord Hosts, Jehovah, Jehovah, and the Lord Hosts, and with these gods we have to live, and we have to live in the fear of God, and with these gods we have to live, and we have to live in the fear of God, and with these gods we have to live, and we have to live in the fear of God