

the man presiding over his family, and being lord over them. Thus it is that Jesus is called Lord of Lords. He is Lord of Lords because His brethren will exercise this power and authority over their posterity. And then what? Why, the creative power will be given to men. They will not be sitting upon a cloud, thrumming a harp and singing songs. We will not spend our days throughout the endless ages of eternity in any such monotonous employment as this. It is delightful as a recreation. It is very nice to sing and to have music at intervals; but to follow it up through eternity, and that be our sole occupation, it would be the most dreary prospect that the human mind could conceive of. There was a concert here last night. Would you like to have one tonight, tomorrow night, and the next night, and every night for a week, and have to go there to sing and hear singing? Why, you would get so tired of it that you would not know what to do with yourselves. That is not heaven. It is one of the joys of heaven, but it is not the sole occupation of the redeemed. What will be their occupation? The exercise of that creative power that our Father and God has exercised in preparing this earth as the abode for man. He called together the elements and formed the earth as a habitation for man; and man, if he is faithful, will progress until he will do that very same thing for his posterity. Abraham, standing at the head of an innumerable posterity, will find it necessary to have room. He will want to emigrate after awhile from this earth and find a new habitation, for there will not be room enough on the glorified earth for him and his posterity in the coming eternity. Thus it is that the heavens are bespangled with the glorious orbs that we see at night—the creations of God, peopled by the children of God.

And all this God promises to us, if we are faithful. He says, "You shall be kings, you shall be queens, you shall sit upon thrones, you shall sway scepters, and you shall have power and dominion, if you prove yourselves faithful and true to me; and you shall be my heirs, and joint heirs with my beloved Son, Jesus Christ, your Redeemer." We have built temples that within their sacred walls these holy ordinances can be administered and these promises given and sealed upon the heads of the children of men. We have not commenced to do many things that will yet be done in temples. But we have made a beginning. We have begun to seal, by the authority of the Holy Priesthood, wife to husband, and where children are not born in the covenant, children to parents, or where they cannot be sealed to their parents, adopted to others as parents, for be it known, there must be a connecting link between every generation and dispensation from our father Adam down to the present. And that will have to be done in the temples of God. The marriages of our fathers and mothers—that is, those of them who were married before God restored the Priesthood—were not eternal marriages. They married until death should them part. It was a covenant that they entered into. The priest that married them

had no more authority from the Lord to marry them than a justice of the peace has. These marriages were recognized by the laws of the land as legal, but they did not extend beyond this time; they were only until death should them part. Now they have died, and the covenant that they made with each other terminated with death; it was no longer binding. How shall they be united for eternity? If the family relationship be the true relationship that shall exist in eternity between the sexes, how shall those who have died be united one to the other in eternity? God has commanded temples to be built in order that that ordinance may be attended to therein. Jesus died for us. He made a vicarious offering for us. He died in our stead, and through His death we are redeemed. In like manner, we can be saviors, to a certain extent. We can act vicariously for our dead. If my grandfather and grandmother died before they had the opportunity of being married by the authority which God recognizes, and which would make their marriage binding for time and eternity, as their heir, can go forward in the temple of God, with the heiress, my sister, who may represent the female branch of the family, and we can be united for and in their behalf, acting for them in this vicarious manner. Thus the family relationship that existed and that was dissolved with death, can be re-created and made perpetual and binding throughout all eternity. Thus children can be sealed to their parents, and one generation to another, until the whole family of man shall be re-united and bound together, all being the children of God. Hence it is as the Savior said, that there will be no marrying nor giving in marriage in the resurrection, because this ordinance will be attended to upon the earth in this manner.

These will be some of the labors that we shall have to perform in the millennium, during the thousand years of peace on the earth, when Satan will be bound. We shall build temples, and we shall go forth in peace and in righteousness, doing the works of redemption that have to be done for those that have died in ignorance of the Gospel and without receiving these saving ordinances. We shall find plenty of employment during the thousand years in doing these works, and the earth will be cleansed from sin. Satan will be bound, and he will not have power to tempt the nations of the earth, and we shall dwell in peace and righteousness. There will be no war, for swords will be beaten into plowshares, and spears into pruning hooks, and there shall be peace from one end of the earth to the other. And this is the beginning of it here in these mountains. Already we have a foretaste of that spirit which, when it spreads throughout the earth, will bring about that happy consummation, that glorious period of which the Prophets and Apostles have spoken. Already that spirit has been poured upon us, to a certain extent, and we enjoy it; and when we live according to that spirit, there is no quarrelling, there is no contention, there is no disposition to fight, but we are filled with love. This, my brethren and sisters, as I have said, is a fore-

taste of that which is to come; and though it may seem to you that it is a long delayed day, it nevertheless is near at hand. All we have to do is to bear patiently the trials and the afflictions that we have to contend with, for the hour of our deliverance is near at hand. The Lord is mighty, and this wickedness that now afflicts men and that is so sorrowful to contemplate, will be banished from the face of the earth; for there will be calamities, and scourges and judgments go forth to remove the wicked; and there will be but few men left, the Prophet says. We are required to prepare ourselves for these things. God has not forgotten us, and will not forget us. He is with this people, and is overruling all things for our good, and if we are faithful He will deliver us.

But I want you, my brethren and sisters, to realize if you can—I want to realize it myself—that which God has done for us. How different are all our thoughts and all our anticipations from those that our fathers had who had not the Gospel! We look at things differently. God has thrown a flood of light upon the principles of the Gospel. He has shown unto us that we lived with Him before we came here. We can understand why our Savior should be born as He was, because through the revelations that God has given to us we know that we were born in like manner. We know that we existed in the spirit world before we came here, and that we are really the offspring of our Father in heaven, and that He desired us to come here and receive tabernacles of flesh, that we might be tempted, tried and proved, to see whether we would be true to Him or not. The scenes through which we pass have for their express purpose this testing of our integrity. I tell you that Latter-day Saints ought to be a people of the strongest friendships. We ought to be a people that are bound together by ties that are far stronger than death. We ought to have a love for one another that would be like the love of angels. How can I be true to my Father in heaven if I am not true to my brethren? As the Apostle John says, "He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" A man that is not true to his brother cannot be trusted. A woman that is not true to her husband and to her children cannot be trusted. Such people God will not trust, and sooner or later they lose the Spirit of God and go out of the Church. And this spirit of divorce that is so prevalent in the world is not of God. There is too much of it among Latter-day Saints. I tell you that where that spirit prevails the spirit of God does not prevail. God intends to have a people who will not break their covenants; a people who will suffer death rather than do this. If they have a friendship, they will not break that friendship. If they have a brother, they will be true to that brother. They would rather lay down their lives than be untrue. They will not speak lightly about their brethren. They will not belittle their brethren, nor disparage them. Neither will sisters disparage their sisters, nor speak lightly of them, nor backbite them. God is going to have a people of this kind. You remember what the Prophet