

trol these officers, than I could the superior courts of justice.

## REMARKS

By Pres. Heber C. Kimball, Tabernacle, November 15, 1857.

[REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.]

If this people will live up to their profession, that is, every Elder, High Priest, Teacher and Apostle, every person in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, they never will be troubled, that is, we shall never be under the necessity of shedding much of the blood of our enemies. You have heard me say often that I do not believe God designs that we should delight in shedding blood.

In a revelation which God gave to Joseph Smith, he says, 'It is not pleasing in my sight for man to shed blood of beasts, or of fowls, except in times of excess of hunger and famine.' Go and read it for yourselves. If he is not well pleased with us when we shed the blood of beasts when we have no need of it, would it not be much more displeasing to him were we to shed the blood of man unnecessarily? It is not the Spirit of God that leads a man or woman to shed blood, to desire to kill and slay. When the time comes that we have need to shed blood, then it will be necessary, we should do it, and it will be just as innocent as to go and kill an ox when we are hungry or in the time of famine.

Br. Geo. A. referred to one revelation where the Lord says, 'It is my business to provide for my Saints.' Some people rest assured that God is going to open the heavens and rain down manna or send the nations of the gentiles in here and let us take the spoil, because he has said he will provide for his Saints in the last days.

Many have not even planted a peach tree, an apple tree, a plum tree, nor a currant bush in their gardens. There are many gardens, within half a mile of this Tabernacle, destitute of fruit trees of any kind. And again, you may see many city lots that are not cultivated nor planted with corn, wheat, potatoes nor any other vegetable, but the people who own them expect God is going to provide for them without their co-operation.

I will ask you a question, you that have not raised even a kernel of grain on your gardens, what is the reason of this? Is it not because you have not planted it? You have not had a peach nor an apple, why? Because you have not planted the trees; and do you ever expect to? No, not while the earth stands, water runs, and grass grows. Such people never will be provided with these necessities except some other man provides them.

Here is the earth, the air, the water, and you have been exhorted to cultivate these valleys and raise grain and provide for yourselves individually and collectively. But, says you, 'God said to Joseph, it is my business to provide for my Saints in the last days.'

6. Behold, it is said in my laws, or forbidden, to get in debt to thine enemies; but behold it is not said at any time, that the Lord should not take when he please, and pay as seemeth him good: wherefore as ye are agents, and ye are on the Lord's errand; and whatever ye do according to the will of the Lord, is the Lord's business, and he hath set you to provide for his Saints in these last days, that they may obtain an inheritance in the land of Zion; and behold, I, the Lord, declare unto you, and my words are sure and shall not fail, that they shall obtain it; but all things must come to pass in their time; wherefore be not weary in well doing, for ye are laying the foundation of a great work. And out of small things proceedeth that which is great.—[Doc. and Cov., sec. XXI.]

We have been driven from our native land and birth place, many of us, and God has brought us into these rich valleys and says he, 'go to and cultivate and raise grain and provide for yourselves seven years' provisions? That is the way he is going to provide for you, to tell you, like a good father tells his sons, how to provide for yourselves. 'Here I will provide land for you, and seed, etc., Now go to and cultivate the soil, increase the seed and provide for your wants. Now, that is good logic, good reasoning; it is not in philosophy.

In this congregation there are hundreds of men who have not a mouthful to eat only as they get it from their neighbors from day to day or from week to week, and if others had not gone to and raised provisions they would have perished, every one of them for a temporal subsistence.—Is God going to rain down manna? He will not do it until we are brought into circumstances to require it. Will he remove a mountain? No, not until the House of Israel are brought into such straitened circumstances that there is no way for their escape except God removes a mountain for their deliverance.

The Lord says, 'in the last days it is my business to fight the battles of my Saints; if it is his business, he will take his children to do it, and we are his children. You may think that comes right in contact with the revelations of Jesus Christ, but it is not so. Why does our President, our Governor, order out three thousand men to be in the mountains? To fulfill your prayers. What do you pray for? 'O Lord,' says you, 'I ask thee, in the name of Jesus Christ, to hedge up the way of our enemies, that they may never come here.' We had to send some three thousand men to fulfill your prayers. Who is going to fight the battles of the Lord if not his people? They have got to stand in defence of this kingdom and Church of God in the last days.

If our enemies are prevented from coming here, they are prevented because of the Saints of God. Would they have been prevented from coming here if our brethren had not gone out there and hedged up their way? God will take his few valiant servants in the last days and with them

use up the world and bring every kingdom and dominion into subjection to the kingdom of God.

Do you suppose you are going to sit here on your seats and in your habitations and never step forth to the help of the Lord? Nearly one year ago the last who came in with hand carts were brought in out of the mountains; would they have been in our cities and congregation to-day, had we not gone out and brought them in? Through our faith and works they were saved from death, and many of them have brought forth sons and daughters unto God in the valleys of the mountains. Would they have done this if we had not stepped forth and manifested our faith by our works in delivering them from death?

I think there is a scripture somewhere that says, 'by your works you are justified; and again, 'obedience is better than sacrifice.' It is the works that God expects. I may have faith as much as I please and sit in my house and keep my boys at home and exhort this people to stay at home, but will that hedge of the way of our enemies? No.

Will our enemies come here? No, except we let them. God gives us that privilege; we have the right to let them in here or keep them out, and we choose to keep them out, and we shall do it by the help of God and we shall prevail over every nation, tongue and people; and every president, king, governor, judge and every Latter Day Saint that lifts their hands against this church and kingdom shall be confounded and frustrated in their attempts. What! a Saint do this? Yes, a Saint that turns back unto the devil, takes into his tabernacle the worst spirits, which make him many times worse than he was at the first.

When pigs are washed in soap suds they look clean and you would think them almost nice enough to live in the house, but no sooner have you washed them than they will go into the nastiest mud-hole they can find and muddy themselves all over from head to foot. Now, do they not look worse than before they were washed? It is just so with you; when you turn from your righteousness; you are worse than before you entered into the Church of Christ.

Make your preparations this present season to go to and cultivate the soil and raise everything you can and then we shall have plenty. We have done the best we can, and if our enemies come upon us, God will throw them into our power and they will become subject to us. 'Now,' says the Lord, 'take that spoil and consecrate it unto my people.' The Lord will provide for his Saints when necessary and in his own way.

Are these things interesting to you, brethren? They are what you have to do, every man of you that belongs to the House of Israel. Are there goats in our midst? Bless your souls, if there were not, there would be more diseases than there now are. It is said that goats, because of their strong smell, have power over diseases. Take a little assafetida and put it on a child's stomach and certain contagious diseases will not come unto it, probably because the assafetida stinks so much worse than anything else.

I do not say there are many goats now; there is, however, one goat; I do not know whether it is in the congregation or not; his face is longer than Lorenzo Dow's, and when you see such a man as that, you may know who I mean. Amen.

## SERMON

By Elder Orson Hyde, Tabernacle, November 15, 1857.

[REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.]

A question arises in the minds of some few, and perhaps in the minds of a great many: 'How will our present difficulties terminate? I would like to know the sequel. We have been kept in suspense for a length of time, and I would like to know the final issue.'

In my opinion, there is no person that can know the final result of the present movements until it is seen. We have faith in relation to it, and the assurance of the Almighty that all will be well; but the exact how and manner in which it will be brought about, we cannot tell; for it is by faith that we move and not by sight. But in the course of some remarks which I may make, you may, perhaps, be led to a satisfactory conclusion as to what the final issue may be, and not only the final issue, for we are already satisfied about that, but with regard to the progressive stages leading to it.

It is said in the good book that 'not many wise, not many mighty, not many learned are called, but God hath chosen the poor of this world and rich in faith to be the heirs of his kingdom.' We are furthermore told that He has chosen the weak things of this world and things that are not to bring to naught the things that are, that no flesh should glory in his presence.' Now I will quote from a modern writer:

"Say first of God above, then man below,  
How can we reason but from what we know?"

I will go back to the days of the commencement of this church, when a young man of no particular literary qualifications was called upon to bring to light truths that have been hid for ages, truths in themselves grand and sublime, yet when brought forth they were clothed in language not so eloquent as might please the ears of many of the learned. They were not dressed up in the style of modern oratory; and because of this, they were rejected by the fashionable and religious world. The religious world had been taught and completely moulded after the fashion and learning of this world, so that a man could not be considered a qualified orthodox preacher unless he had been through college and acquired the learning of the age.

Here, then, an illiterate youth rises up with a system of true religion, that lays the axe at the root of every other system in Christendom. Look at the odds that were apparently against this

young man, even Joseph Smith, the martyr, the Prophet of the Most High,—without learning, without resources or friends to back him up, with the whole tide of popular sentiment arrayed against him, backed up by all the learning of the world. If we look at him through a worldly eye, the odds were materially against him.

You are acquainted with the history of the church and well know how matters went on. You know the many trials to which Joseph the Prophet and his friends were subjected, and the difficulties with which they had to contend, but was there ever an instance when the enemy gained an advantage over the truth of heaven or thwarted the purposes of this illiterate young man? No! Did they not call to their aid all the learning and craftiness of the world in proportion as the cause he advocated increased? And did they succeed any better? When the cause became more extensive among men, did opposition succeed any better than at the commencement? Not at all!

In process of time, the Elders went forth preaching this gospel, and remember there were not many learned, not many mighty that were called, and I may say none at all. With the limited abilities they possessed, they went forth to proclaim a system of truth that laid the axe at the root of the false religions and false philosophy of the world; while the learning, popularity and resources of the world were arrayed against us, which we had to meet; poor, and limited in abilities, in learning and worldly qualifications, we were despised and regarded as a set of outcasts.

With all the powerful odds against us, the truth greatly gained ground. Let me appeal to the experience of all present, while I ask you, if you have ever known an instance where a faithful Elder, who has kept his garments clean and unspotted from the world, has ever been confounded while administering the word of life as proclaimed through that illiterate young man, Joseph Smith? To be sure, a few who may have got the 'big head' or been puffed up in their own imaginations have been foiled, or those who have been in transgression. God despises a victory gained by such characters. He will not acknowledge or own a victory gained in this cause by a corrupt and wicked member of His church. I do not know positively how that is, however, and I will not stop to investigate it. Suffice it to say, it is the pure in heart God delights to work with. Just like any good mechanic, when he wishes to make a nice piece of work, he wants tools that are sharp and clean to do it with. He will not work with dull and rusty tools to execute a nice job of work.

So it is with our heavenly Father, altho' He may use seemingly awkward instruments, yet they are polished after his mind and will; and he being the master builder, knows what pleases him best.

Has the greatest champion against 'Mormonism' ever been confident enough in his own success and triumph in any debate with the Elders of this church to publish his own arguments with those of his opponent? I do not know but there have been such instances, but not one occurs to my mind. While on the other hand, our faithful Elders have not been afraid or ashamed to publish both sides of the question for all eyes to look upon.

Often we have seen pieces in public journals, and also books published against us in burning zeal, and flaming with vengeance against us and seemingly calculated to overthrow us, exposing what they called the wickedness of the 'Mormons,' beguiling and duping their hearers with cunningly devised falsehoods; very many cases of this kind we have seen and have also seen their end. The Almighty has put His hand over them and they have sunk so low that the strongest prejudiced hand against us will not now reach down to bring them up. Their power has become weakness and their influence is blasted forever by the breath of the Almighty.

Does the everlasting gospel lose its influence with the good and pure of mankind? Upon those who are not disposed to work righteousness, alone is its influence lost,—upon those who shent 'great is Diana of the Ephesians;' but with the honest, simple hearted sons of men it is just as sweet now as ever it was; and to them its charms increase, notwithstanding all the trials and difficulties they endure for its sake.

'This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached for a witness unto all nations and then shall the end come.' Was it the gospel of the kingdom that was preached in ancient days, in the days of the apostles, that went into all the earth and their words unto the ends of the world? It was the gospel, but I conclude that it was not the gospel of the kingdom; for that was to be revealed at the time when the kingdom of God should be established on the earth, to stand forever, and this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached as a witness unto all nations and then shall the end come.'

Where has this gospel been preached? Through the United States of America, in Europe, Asia and Africa; I do not say that it has been soundly and distinctly in the ears of everybody living, but I do say that the sound has gone into all the earth and their words to the ends of the world.

I recollect a certain saying in a revelation that was given to the Saints in the early days of this church. The Lord said thro' Joseph Smith that it became every man, after being warned, to warn his neighbor, that all may be without excuse. If all the people who have heard the word had been as faithful in warning their neighbors as the few Elders who are now under the sound of my voice have been in warning those with whom they have been associated, and to whom they have been sent and among whom they have labored, would not the whole world have been fully warned at this time? Yes!

In another revelation to the first Elders of this church who had been forth preaching in their weakness, (being called in at Kirtland, Ohio) the Lord told them to wash their feet in testimony that they were clean from the blood of this gen-

eration and goes on to say, 'let those who are not of the first Elders of my church remain in the vineyard, for their garments are not yet clean.' Those first Elders had labored but a short time in the vineyard, perhaps one or two years, when it was said, 'your garments are clean.'

There are Elders who have labored from sea to sea, from island to island from country to country and have spent the vigor and strength of their days in the work of proclaiming the gospel—may we not say upon the same principle that their garments are clean from the blood of this generation? If so, what does it imply? That we shall not be held under condemnation if we never preach to them again. And there is another thing implied in this. If this generation shall rise against you to slay you for your religion, and because you are righteous, your garments being clear of their blood, and you slay them, their blood is upon their own heads. This is what I understand by being clear from the blood of this generation.

It is an important saying. In my opinion it means more than a casual observer would attach to it; it is a deep saying. If you have warned them,—have called upon them to repent,—offered them the blessing of eternal life through the gospel, and they thrust it from them, let what will happen to them, your garments are clean from their blood.

Now we see that the gospel has gone into all nations, countries and kingdoms, for the man that has been warned should have warned his neighbor, and the nation that has been warned, should have warned its neighboring nation, etc., so they are without excuse before God, whatever excuse they may plead before man.

We can see the unabating success of the gospel from the time Joseph got the plates until now, and the defeat and downfall of every opponent that has risen up to oppose its progress. If there had been any purpose in God that this work should be overthrown, would He not have suffered it to be done before this? For all means that could possibly be invented by the powers of earth and hell have been brought to bear against it, and every man who has risen up against it has gone down and his published works have become a stink in the nostrils of even this wicked generation, to say nothing of the Saints. The wicked themselves are even ashamed of their sayings and of their writings against the cause of truth. Their expositions of 'Mormonism,' as they call them, are hardly cold from the press until they are dead—their influence killed—and there is no sale for their books; the words of the apocalypse very appropriately apply to their case, 'no man buyeth their merchandise any more.'

I will venture to say that no publication has ever been issued against this work, only for the purpose of getting gain. Men have not been inspired to oppose it for the sake of the souls of men, but to save their craft, their salary, their party, their honor and their credit in the sight of men.

The system of truth revealed through Joseph Smith is not clothed in language so eloquent as this literary generation would desire. As a general thing, you know, a real polished scoundrel wears the finest cloth, the most fashionable garb, that he may be looked upon as an honest man by those who judge from outward appearances and not righteous judgment. The truth is not always clothed in the nicest style or according to the ideas of this world; but the Lord sends it forth in the shape of a stone of stumbling and rock of offence. He is not pleased to conform to the views of this generation. They have got to take salvation just as he offers it to them, or else take damnation, they can have their choice. It is not for them to serve up the dish they shall eat, but it is for the Almighty to dress it as suits himself, and if the sinner take it, it will heal him.

The patient does not prescribe, nor tell the doctor what he wants of him, that is, supposing the doctor to be what he ought to be; he examines the patient, knows the nature of the disease and prescribes accordingly. The patient takes the medicine and asks no questions for conscience sake. So it is with our heavenly Father. The world is diseased, and He has prepared a remedy and served it up as suits himself, not consulting the vitiated appetites of this consumptive generation to whom he administers it. It is like a root out of dry ground, it is without form or comeliness, without beauty, that men should not desire it. Awkward and unclothed as it is with worldly wisdom, behold, the illiterate Elders of Israel are sent with it and they have marched through the colleges and literary institutions of the learned world and have defeated those who dared come out to oppose and put them to the flight, and all their learning, iniquity, cunning and worldly wisdom were turned into foolishness.

A little boy, filled with the Spirit of the living God throws out an idea that completely knocks in 'pi' all their calculations. A simple sentence from the mouth of an uneducated youth often dissipates their profound wisdom into folly and nonsense. They know not what to do. They attempt to grasp a thing without form or comeliness. They know not where to get hold of it, and when they think they have hold of it, it slips through their hands. Such has been the great success of the preaching of the word.

Now then, if they resort to force of arms or to brute force, to overpower us, may we not safely calculate that the results will be similar to those in the mental contest?

'Say first of God above, then man below,  
How can we reason but from what we know?'

So far, we do actually know and understand. It is demonstrated by our experience and we are prepared to say that it is truly so. Behold the wicked are unwilling to be converted by the gentle means the Lord God of Israel has introduced. They are satisfied they cannot prevail against us by argument; and even polygamy in all the glaring forms they may please to give it, offers ob-

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