

RELIGIOUS.

Sunday Services.

Religious services were held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, May 14th, 1893, Elder Angus M. Cannon, President of the Stake, presiding.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn:

Our God, we raise to Thee
Thanks for Thy blessings free.

Prayer by Elder H. P. Richards.
Singing by the choir:

Jesus, once of humble birth,
Now in glory comes to earth.

The Priesthood of the Fifteenth Ward officiated in administering the Sacrament.

Elder Charles W. Peurose addressed the meeting and prayed that the Spirit of the Lord might rest upon him and enable him to present such things as should be best adapted to the Saints, for their edification and instruction, that thereby the people might be comforted in the things of God. He desired also that his hearers be under the influence of the Holy Spirit and thus be able to fully comprehend what was said. All should be anxious to receive the light that cometh from heaven. They should learn what is right, what is true, and having learned these things should live up to the light. This is the stepping stone to salvation—the doorway to the full and complete exaltation in the presence of God to those who remain true to the end. Without complying with the requirements of the Gospel as taught by Jesus Christ and His disciples in the meridian of time no one can attain a fullness of glory. It is true that our Savior died that all mankind might be saved and brought into the presence of God to be judged of Him for the deeds done in the body. But unless mankind receive and keep all the commandments of Jesus Christ and walk in the path which He has marked out they cannot receive the full benefit of His atonement. He is the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world, but this is conditional on mankind repenting of their sins and doing the works that He commands to be done. He verified the saying "As in Adam all die even so in Christ shall all be made alive." As death came into the world through the transgression of one, so through the righteousness of one, as far as what is called the original sin is concerned, salvation will be universal. All must give an account to Him that is to judge the quick and the dead, and all are to be judged according to their works. Those who receive Jesus Christ as their Savior and Redeemer, and manifest their acceptance by yielding obedience to His commandments, will enter into eternal life and be crowned at the right hand of God, while those who receive not Jesus Christ, and will not hearken to His precepts and walk in His ways, will not inherit the glory of the celestial kingdom where the Father and the Son dwell.

While the atonement of the Lord is universal as regards the consequences of the original sin, that atonement has been wrought out conditionally for the human family, as to their

individual transgressions. Those who are obedient to Jesus Christ will accept the conditions He has given to them. The plan of salvation and exaltation in the presence of God is predicted on the strict obedience of His laws and commandments. The Gospel as preached by the Latter-day Saint Elders is the same as taught in the beginning of the Christian era. It is the Gospel that was proclaimed by the Apostles Peter, James, John and Paul, by Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas and other Apostles and Elders of the Church at that time. The Gospel believed in by the Latter-day Saints contains the same ordinances, gifts, privileges and blessings that prevailed in and characterized the primitive Church, when the Son of Man was upon the earth. This old gospel has been again revealed to men through the instrumentality of the Prophet Joseph Smith. This is in fulfillment of prophecy recorded in the Old and New Testaments. The Gospel, as formerly, is to be preached to every nation, kindred, tongue and people, with this difference: that the Church as now existing has come to remain forever.

Whenever the Gospel has been upon the earth, the inhabitants thereof, with rare exceptions, have rejected it, as our Redeemer said, because their deeds were evil; hence condemnation came upon them. In a revelation given by the Lord through the Prophet Joseph Smith, to the people of this Church, we read these words: "Behold here is the agency of man, and here is the condemnation of man, because that which was from the beginning is plainly manifest unto them, and they receive not the light. And every man whose spirit receiveth not the light is under condemnation for man is spirit. The elements are eternal, and spirit and element, inseparably connected, receiveth a fullness of joy." Men are condemned because they receive not the light.

Holy men of old wrote and spake as they were moved upon by the Spirit of God. Paul did not preach by enticing words, but by the gift of the Holy Ghost. The disciples did not go forth proclaiming the message given to them until they were endowed with power from on high. The Elders in latter days have delivered the glad message of life and a salvation to the people of the world, but many have rejected it to their own condemnation. The heathen will not be condemned for not receiving the truth, for the reason that they have not the privilege of hearing it.

Jesus commanded His disciples to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. He said unto them: "Teach whatever I have commanded you." They taught one Lord, one faith and one baptism. Paul preached the same Gospel that we preach, with the same graces, the same baptism, the same Holy Ghost. The Latter-day Saints enjoy similar blessings to those enjoyed by the Former-day Saints. They are baptized with the same baptism and have received of the same Spirit.

In answer to the people's cry on the day of Pentecost—"Men and brethren, what shall we do to be saved?"—the Apostle Peter said unto them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you

in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." God is unchangeable. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. All who receive His word in honest hearts enjoy this great gift. God is no respecter of persons. What is called Mormonism is the truth of heaven—the plan of life and salvation. There can be but one true Church of Christ on the earth, with one Lord, one faith and one baptism. There is no place for schisms.

For preaching the word which God gave to him the Prophet Joseph Smith was slain. Hedied a martyr to the truth. All manner of evil was spoken against him falsely. He was exonerated by the courts from every charge brought against him under the law by his enemies, who, on failing to have him convicted by the courts of the land, said: "The law cannot touch him but powder and ball shall." His blood cries for vengeance from the ground, and the Lord will avenge him on his enemies. We do not cry vengeance but leave the slayers of the Prophet Joseph in the hands of the Lord.

Our mission is a mission of peace and good will to all men. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is far reaching in its nature, and is for both the living and the dead. It is for the salvation of the dead that temples are being erected—that those who have died without a knowledge of the Gospel may be officiated for the same as if they were living. The Prophet Micah says: "In the last days it shall come to pass that the mountain of the Lord shall be established in the tops of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people will flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for the law shall go forth out of Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." This prophecy is fulfilled in the erection of the Temple on this block. The time has come for the gathering in of Israel from all the nations of the earth. We call upon all people to walk in the light and to prepare themselves to dwell with God eternally.

The choir sang the anthem

God of Israel, hear our prayer.

Benediction by Bishop William B. Preston.

THE LAST census of the United States shows that there are 82,000,000 men and 81,000,000 women. Men are in the majority in all the states and territories except in the District of Columbia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Maryland, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New York, South Carolina, Virginia and New Jersey, in which there are more women than men. The District of Columbia has the largest proportionate excess of female population, and Montana contains the largest percentage of men. In New Jersey the two sexes are most nearly equally represented. The increase in numbers has probably not disturbed the foregoing proportions very much.