

in the greatest of all dispensations, and there are many things which the Lord has withheld from the foundation of the world, and which have never before been revealed to man, which will be revealed to the Saints of this dispensation. Things will be revealed to us which our forefathers looked anxiously forward to.

Every dispensation of the Gospel has had its work, and at no time has God ever set His hand to do a work among men, without having an element prepared to work with. This is true of this dispensation. God has raised up a Prophet in this age, and to him sent messengers who had once lived in the flesh. The Lord understands if man does not, that all His works must be performed according to the laws of salvation, the laws of the Holy Priesthood. The Lord raised up Joseph who was sold into Egypt, and who did the work appointed to him. So the Lord raised up Joseph Smith, at the time set for him to appear and perform His work, and to him He revealed the same Gospel which was revealed to Abraham and Moses and to the prophets. It is the only Gospel God ever revealed to man. In fulfillment of the revelations of St. John, and other scriptures, this Gospel was revealed to Joseph Smith.

Many here in this congregation have seen and heard Joseph Smith, and knew him and his teachings. It cost him his life to proclaim those teachings. It cost Jesus and the Apostles their lives also. Jesus was a Jew, through the loins of Judah, yet he incurred the hatred of the Jewish nation. Is it not strange that a righteous man cannot stand up among the people and not incur their hatred? Yet it is true that he cannot.

There was a war in heaven. Lucifer and one-third of the hosts of heaven rebelled and were cast out. That warfare has never ceased, but has been manifested in every dispensation of the Gospel committed to man. Did Jesus undertake to please the Jews? No. He was faithful to the mission He had received from his Father, without regard to whether the Jews were pleased with Him or not. The Lord revealed to Moses and all the prophets of every age that a Savior would be born to redeem mankind. In the meridian of time He appeared, and organized His Church. The Apostles whom He chose, faithfully labored to spread the work which He introduced. But it cost a great sacrifice to belong to the church of Christ in those days. The persecution of the saints was so great that at length the last man bearing the priesthood disappeared from the earth and the Church went into the wilderness. This opposition to the truth will continue until He comes to reign whose right it is to reign and cast Satan into the place prepared for him, where he can no more deceive the nations. Jesus is with His father and His apostles are mingling with just and holy beings in the heavens where they can plead for their brethren. There are different degrees of glory to which men will attain. The number of men

who will reach the highest is few, for there are not many who are willing to make in the flesh the sacrifice necessary to entitle them to it.

The Prophet Joseph Smith lived some fourteen years after he organized this Church and then he laid down his life for it. But did his death disorganize the Church? No. It continued to grow and flourish. Need we think we can please the world? No. We cannot please the wicked. In order to do so, every Latter-day Saint would have to deny every principle God has revealed to us. I have been with this Church more than fifty years. I can testify that whatever the world may say, Joseph Smith was one of the greatest prophets that God ever raised up, save Jesus only.

The Savior said on the cross, of those who were the cause of His death, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." They did not know what they did. They did not comprehend what they would have to pass through in consequence of having shed the blood of the Son of God any more than did the mob who slew Joseph Smith. The yoke remains on the neck of the Jewish nation today. Our business is to honor God and serve Him. Our aim is eternal life. It will pay any man that ever breathed to keep the commandments of God and be virtuous and upright. We have labored faithfully in warning the nations because the day of God's judgment has come. We have now been doing this work for sixty years, and have suffered much affliction, and God has preserved His work. I say to the Saints, "fear not, little children; it is your Father's good will and pleasure to give you the kingdom."

Brother Cannon this morning delivered one of the most solemn discourses ever uttered by any man. What he said was true. I am pained to see the increase of crime in all its various and most hideous shapes in my own and other nations. These things are noticed by heaven. If you want to know what is going to come to pass read the Revelations of St. John. They will be fulfilled. Who will believe them? After two-thirds of the inhabitants are destroyed the other third will continue in wickedness and unbelief. There is no power on earth can govern the Almighty. No nation committing sin can escape the judgment of God. It is mournful to think of the wickedness of this and other nations. I want to say to the Saints as a servant of God, attend to your prayers and perform every duty and all will be well.

If you are curtailed in any of your privileges you may know that God will hold responsible those who cause the curtailment. Joseph Smith said if he had power he would sustain every man and woman on earth in their religious liberty. All are responsible to God alone for the exercise of their religious rights. God is in earnest in His labors and work. I know this is the Gospel of Christ, the Zion spoken of by the prophets, and God will sustain it to the end of time.

The world will find before the Lord gets through with them that He has all power in heaven and on earth. I have never seen any reason since I became identified with the work of God to desert it. I bear my testimony to the Latter-day Saints concerning these things. I pray that you all may be faithful. If you are you will be satisfied when you get behind the veil. There are many today who would lay down their lives for the work of God, if it were necessary.

All classes of men will have to go into the spirit world, and will finally learn whether or not "Mormonism" is true. I testify that it is.

#### Apostle John Henry Smith

Was the next speaker. The substance of his discourse was as follows:

The Spirit of the Lord has rested in great power upon the brethren who have spoken to us yesterday and today. Each of them has given to us words of counsel, and testimony, or of reproof. The remarks of our President to us this afternoon are words of life unto us. If we, having received the Gospel and started in the way of life, can receive in our hearts the admonitions and testimonies that have been borne this day, we will not be far from the line of our duty.

It is probable that if three-fourths of those here today were asked: "Have you received the witness of the Son of God to the truth of this work?" the answer would be: "Yes; hundreds of evidences of its truth have been given to me."

And yet with this testimony from God, we discover that the weaknesses of the flesh, and the false traditions under which we were reared, frequently bar us from living up to the obligations and requirements that we feel resting upon our shoulders. It is not to be wondered at that we make many failures when we sense the conditions that exist; the immorality, and lack of faith that prevail so widely among men, many of whom profess belief in Christ. Skepticism on the right hand and on the left exists, because men have departed from the truth, and have violated the law of God. I have discovered that when a man schools himself in a disbelief in a Supreme Being, or in the truths of revealed religion, such a course is often due to the wrong acts of the individual himself, in violating some law of virtue or right. One of the prophets, speaking of the time when the world should be in an apostate condition, pointed out those states that would exist among men in regard to those relations that concern the perpetuation of life. The prediction that men would be adulterous and cease to multiply is being fulfilled, as well as that prediction which foretold a restoration of the Gospel of repentance that would tend to lead man back to the presence of his Maker.

The world is in the condition foretold by the prophets in respect to chastity. Men seek to gratify their animal passions, and are drifting further and further away from the