

teachings. That is what we have covenanted this afternoon to do. The power and authority of this Priesthood is here, as Brother Grant has borne testimony. I bear my testimony also that Jesus is the Christ, and that He has been revealed in these last days. This is His Church; for He has set it up. He is its Living Head. It is His word that comes to the Church through the channels which He has appointed. Therefore, this is His Church; and it is rightly named, the Church of Jesus Christ, of Latter-day Saints because we live in the latter days.

But what about all these other churches? Why, the time will come when all persons, whether they belong to a church or not, whether they live in a Christian land or not, will hear this one Gospel. I know that modern teachings are to the effect that when a man dies, that is the end of his chances. It is a most absurd proposition, and it is contrary to scripture, if we are to be guided by that. "The tender mercies of God are over all His works." When people depart out of the body, they have just as much power to believe, to repent, to reform, according to the sphere in which they move, as they have in the body. They are intelligent, responsible beings just the same out of the body as in the body. As Christ went to preach to the spirits in prison who were disobedient in the days of Noah, as recorded by the Apostle Peter in the 3rd chapter of his first Epistle, 18-20 verses, so in the good time of the Lord everyone who has breathed the breath of life and has departed out of the body into the spirit world, will have an opportunity of receiving God's truth and accepting God's religion. But they must all come to the truth, come to the life and to the light. Those that have done things worthy of stripes will be beaten, some with a few stripes, some with many; some will have to pay "the uttermost farthing" for their corruption, wickedness and abominations. Eternal justice will surely claim its own. But mercy will step in when justice is satisfied; and the time will come when every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is the Christ, to the glory of God the Father." Christ will gain the victory, Satan will be overcome, evil will be driven away, and this earth, which God created for His children, will be purified and made glorious, like a sea of glass mingled with fire, as John saw in the Revelation. Christ will bring forth all from the grave. The sea will give up the dead which are in it; death and hell will deliver up the dead which were in them, and all will be judged according to their works. Eternal justice will point out where and what place they shall have in the "many mansions" that God has prepared for His children. He has a place for all things, and He will put all things in their place.

This, in a very brief way, is something in relation to the Gospel that God has restored in these last days. There is no time now to enter into these things in detail but I will say that this is the reason why there was need for the Gospel to be restored. This is the reason why the Book of Mormon had to be brought forth, giving the ancient history of this continent, showing how Christ came here after His resurrection and established His Church here, with the same Gospel, and power, and Priesthood that was on the eastern hemisphere. This hemisphere was not then known to that side of the earth. This book has been brought forth by the power of God, and translated by the Prophet Joseph Smith. It contains the Gospel of Christ, in its purity, in great simplicity and plainness. It is the same testimony as is recorded in the Bible. The two books run together like two

drops of water, and become one; for both are true, and truth never contradicts itself. The reason why this had to come forth, with the revelation of the Priesthood and the establishment of the true Church, was because darkness had been upon the earth for hundreds of years, and the people had become divided and subdivided, and they were quarreling and jangling over points of doctrine, with no voice from heaven to decide. There was no light from out of eternity to chase away the darkness from their minds. Men were teaching by their wisdom and by their learning the things which had been taught them in college, whereas the things of God can only be made manifest by the Spirit of God. Now in these last days, in God's eternal mercy, He has established His Church again. He raised up a Prophet, whom the people of this nation put to death, like the Prophets of old were slain. "Which of the Prophets," said Jesus, "have not your fathers slain?" That has been their history from the beginning. He sealed his testimony with his blood. We who have been gathered from all nations to these mountain tops, because of our faith in the Gospel, can bear testimony that God has given us the witness that He raised this man up to introduce the latter-day dispensation, the dispensation of the fullness of times; to introduce this holy Priesthood again; to set up the Church as of old, with all the authority, and orders, and blessings, and gifts, and Spirit, and ordinances, and everything pertaining thereunto, to make it a perfect Church. God raised him up for that purpose.

And we know that this Church will abide. We know that there is no power beneath the sun that can root it out, because it is God's work. We do not profess to be anything very great. We do not profess to be very much better than our fellows, although we ought to be, for the light and truth that God has revealed to us; but to God be all the glory. It is His work. He revealed it. He will sustain it. It will abide. It will prevail. The honest and the true in all nations and climes will come to the standard that God has reared. Those that refuse the message God has sent, those that shut their eyes to the light, they must reap the consequences of their own wickedness and folly. They are in the hands of the great Creator. But the true and the good from every land will rally around this standard that God has raised. They will receive the Gospel; they will repent of their sins; they will be baptized by those that have authority to administer it for the remission of their sins; they will receive the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands. And then the light of God will illuminate their souls, and they will receive a witness from God for themselves that the work is true; for the promise is just as good today as when Christ made it with His own lips when he was on earth—he that doeth the will of the Father shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God or not. So doubt flees, misunderstanding is scattered, and the light of the Lord shines in and our souls are filled with it, and with joy and gladness. We realize that the Comforter guides into all truth, shows things to come, and comforts our souls in the knowledge of God.

This is my testimony. I know that these things are true as I know that I stand here, and I bear my testimony to them. May God bless this testimony, and bless all who will seek unto Him for light and for truth; may the darkness he scattered, and may doubt and division, strife and evil be banished from the earth; and may the light of the Lord Jesus Christ shine forth to the uttermost parts of the

earth and of the spirit world, that God may be glorified and His work consummated. Even so. Amen.

LAND OF THE EQUATOR.

(Copyright, 1898, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

Guayaquil, Ecuador, March 19, 1898. —The City of Guayaquil! How shall I describe it? It is one of the strangest mixtures in the world of cities. It lies sixty miles up the wide Guayas river, almost under the shadow of the equator, frowned upon by the snowy peaks of the Chimborazo and Cotopaxi. Wooded hills surround it. The Guayas river, wider here than the Mississippi at St. Louis, flows rapidly by it, and the moist miasmatic air of the tropics lulls it to sleep. In the river before it you are reminded of Venice from the Grand canal. Upon its wharves the scenes make you think of Naples, and back in its business sections you are in a maze of bazaars much like those of Cairo, Calcutta or Bombay. Not only its looks, but its smells smack of the orient. It has streets more slimy than those of Seoul in winter, and some of its customs are as vile as those of Peking. It is one of the best business points on the west coast of South America, and is the only commercial port of a country at least four times the size of the state of Ohio, having a population about as great as that of the city of Philadelphia, and in natural resources one of the rich countries of the globe. It is the New York of Ecuador, the center of trade and the place through which all of Ecuador's exports and imports must pass. In the neighborhood of \$8,000,000 worth of goods are brought here every year from the United States and Europe and some millions of dollars worth of coffee, cocoa, hides and rubber are sent from here to all parts of the civilized world.

Guayaquil is what the Ecuadorians call a progressive city. It has 50,000 inhabitants. It covers the banks of the River Guayas for two miles, and at a distance is very imposing. It has fine buildings of the Spanish style, with balconies, out of which dark-eyed beauties look from under half-closed shutters down upon you as you go through its streets. It has a maze of great stores, which are open at the front, so that you look within as in an Egyptian bazaar. Stores with stocks of goods worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, and wide-open warehouses filled with bags of cocoa, coffee and sugar awaiting shipment. Its streets are lined with workmen who labor at their trades on the sidewalks, with Indian women who comb the insects from their own and their children's hair and lunch upon them in the intervals of their sales; with fierce-looking men carrying great bags and bales upon their backs, and with beautiful women of the better classes, who go along in couples, dressed in black with black shawls picturesquely draped about their olive brown faces. It has hundreds of donkeys, who carry all sorts of things through the streets. Here goes one loaded with boards, and there is one with two panniers filled with bread upon its back. That is the baker's wagon of Guayaquil. The city has also a large number of active business men, the richest of whom are Italians, English, French, Chinese or Spaniards, and two banks, one of which at times pays dividends of 33 1-3 per cent a year. It has a tramway, the cars of which were made in America, and on the river there are little steamers which were imported in pieces from the United States. Guayaquil has an excellent club, at which you may meet as good fellows as you will find anywhere in the world. It has plenty of priests and a big church facing a beautiful park, where the band plays