

most foolish, nonsensical and false doctrine. You gaze upon a man who professes to have inherited the body or spirit of Moses, or any of those I have named, and I think you will conclude that his appearance does not indicate that such is the case; at any rate, it certainly has not improved him. Brother Woodruff, Brother Cannon, Brother Smith, Brother Lorenzo Snow, or any of the brethren, will never inherit anyone's body or spirit but their own, in time or in eternity, unless the devil gets into them. It is Satan who inspires men to believe in such absurd things. He delights in having any of the brethren entertain false ideas, no matter what they are. I tell you that whoever sees me in time or eternity will see Wilford Woodruff; not Noah, nor Abraham, nor Enoch. Every man has his own identity, and he never will lose that identity. Therefore, when you hear such doctrine as that advanced, do not believe it. There are a good many things Satan would like us to believe; but we must guard against these.

The Latter-day Saints need instruction; they need preaching to; and we esteem it a great blessing to be able to mingle with you, to speak to you and to bear our testimony unto you. I say to the Latter-day Saints that the visions of our minds are open, the revelations of God rest upon us, and the voice of God to us is that the day has come when we, as shepherds in Israel, holding the Apostleship and keys of the kingdom of God, should stand in the midst of this people and call them to repentance, call them to open their eyes to see, and their ears to hear, and to prepare themselves for the great events the God of Israel is about to bring to pass in the earth.

We live in a very important day. Father Adam, three years previous to his death, called his sons together—Seth, Enos, Jared, Cannaan, Mahaleel, Enoch and Methusaleh, with the residue of his posterity—into the valley of Adam-Odidi—Ahman, and there he blessed his posterity. The power of God rested upon him and he told the people what should befall them until the latest generation. These things are all written in the Book of Enoch, which will be revealed in the due time of the Lord. Since then there have been Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and other patriarchs and prophets. All of them saw, by vision and revelation, this day and this people. They proclaimed our history from the beginning to the end. Where are these men today? They stand, in their immortal bodies, in the presence of God and the Lamb. They are watching over us. We are their children and we are fulfilling the mission of the last dispensation of the fulness of times. I feel sometimes to ask, where are the hearts and feelings of the people who have embraced this work? It is a glorious work, a grand work. The Prophet Isaiah, in speaking of Zion, says:

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. * * *

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."

One hundred and fifty thousand of those Gentiles that Isaiah saw have gathered to these valleys of the mountains, in obedience to the Gospel of Christ. Is not that Gospel as true today as it ever was? Are not the revelations of the Almighty as true today as they were in the days of Adam, and Enoch, and Moses, and Christ and His Apostles? They are. And we have been reserved in the spirit world for thousands of years, to stand in the flesh in the latter days, and to take God's kingdom and build it up. Understanding these things then, what are we, as Latter-day Saints, thinking about? We have got a great warfare to fight. Lucifer, the son of the morning, and all his hosts, are united against us. We are but a little handful, compared with the inhabitants of the earth. There never were but few men and women, in any age of the world, who were independent enough to reject evil and to serve the Lord. But we have been counted worthy to be numbered as His people. It is time, therefore, that we arose, that we awoke, and that, clothed upon with the power of God and the Holy Priesthood, we should magnify this Priesthood and obtain the blessings belonging thereto. This people have power to contend with the heavens, and to control the heavens, in a measure. With this Priesthood resting upon them, this people have power that when their prayers shall ascend into the ears of the God of Israel, they shall be heard and answered upon their heads. Shall we desert the Lord? Shall we desert His cause? God forbid. There is no mistake about this work. The Lord is not trifling with us. We have the same eternal and everlasting Priesthood that God has kept in the heavens for eighteen hundred years. Will you tell me that we have not power to fulfill the commandments of God? If you do, you tell me that which is not true. The God of heaven has given us all needful power, if we will only rise up and magnify it before the heavens and the earth. We have no time to contend or quarrel over water ditches. We should be united together and magnify our callings before the Lord; for I tell you there is no time to spare. The Almighty is going to cut short His work in righteousness, or no flesh could be saved. The heavens are full of judgments, and all those who remain in Babylon, God will not spare; they will be burned with the wicked. We are responsible for the use which we make of the power God has given us. I tell you the devil has no power, the Gentiles have no power over the Latter-day Saints when they do their duty and are united. It is not ordained for the wicked to have power to bring to pass evil upon us, if we are united. Zion shall not be moved out of her place, saith the Lord. But the day has come when the Lord calls upon Zion to arise, and upon these Apostles and these Elders of Israel to feed the flock of Christ. We should

teach them the words of life and salvation, and the Latter-day Saints should hear us and lay these things to heart. They should fulfill the commandments of God. We are here only upon a short mission. We are the messengers of the God of Israel, messengers of life and salvation. And if we will do our duty and obey the commandments of God, we shall accomplish all that the Lord expects us to do.

Brethren and sisters, do not quarrel one with another; do not contend about water or anything of that kind. I tell you that the man who, rather than quarrel with his neighbor, will say, "Take my water; I won't contend with you," that man will get a good deal more wheat than the one who fights and quarrels and goes to law about his water. He will be blessed of the Lord and justified before Him. Let us put all these things aside and call upon the Lord in mighty prayer, asking that His blessings may be upon us, and that His revelations may be fulfilled upon our heads; that Zion may be purified and the Saints of God be united together.

This is the way we, as the Presidency of the Church and as Apostles, feel. I want you to understand that God is with us, that the keys of the Kingdom of God are here, and that Zion is here, and they have all come to stay. I rejoice in this; I rejoice in the Gospel of Christ, in which there is no change from eternity to eternity.

Brethren and sisters, let us try to live our religion and sanctify ourselves before the Lord. Seek for the Holy Spirit; pray for it; and labor for visions, for dreams, for revelations and for the gifts of the Gospel of Christ, that they may strengthen us in the good work. I pray God to bless you and those who preside over you, as well as those who labor in this Temple in Manti, and in all other Temples in Zion. They are performing a glorious work in these Temples. And when we get through our work here, I trust we will be together in the Kingdom of God on the other side of the veil. This is my prayer and desire, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE APOCALYPSE.

During several days of pleasant intercourse with Brother F. F. Hintze in the Holy Land, through part of which country we traveled together, sharing the varied experiences of a journey in a strange land, many an hour was pleasantly and profitably spent in studying the prophecies of holy writ. While conversing upon such themes, the visions of John on Patmos were more than once devotionally contemplated by us. Before we separated, I was earnestly asked to give publicity to some of the thoughts expressed in our conversations, a request with which I now readily comply.

WHAT THE REVELATION IS.

The revelation or Apocalypse is commonly known as John's, but the vision it contains is his only in