

Great God, attend while Zion sings,
The joy that from thy presence springs.

ELDER GEORGE Q. CANNON said he never enjoyed himself better in the faith of the gospel than at present. He then spoke of the ordeals that the Latter-day Saints as a people had had to pass through, and still greater and of a different character were awaiting us in the future, that would put to a severe test our doctrines and our system to the perfect satisfaction of all that were connected with it. A multiplicity of tests and trials would surely come, that would eventually place us in that eminent distinction that the prophets had predicted for us. Let us, therefore, be faithful in the performance of our duties, and cherish and cultivate the Spirit of God, so that we might be fully prepared to meet unflinchingly every difficulty that awaited us. In every effort of our enemies, is the murder of our Prophet and Patriarch, in the robberies and plunderings and drivings that we had had to endure, the faith of the Saints was stronger at the end of these troubles than when they first commenced. At the present time, notwithstanding all the efforts and machinations of the enemy to strip us of our liberties and wrench them from our hands, God had blessed us with far greater blessings, and stretched forth his Almighty power to make known his great kindness in preserving us from the grasp of the enemy. All those who had lived up to their privileges and enjoyed the spirit of God, and offered up their prayers night and day to him, had been able to see very plainly the wonderful deliverances that he had wrought for us. There was a great destiny awaiting the future of this people, that few were able to comprehend. There was such a thing as a living, vital faith, that could pierce the heavens and unvail the future. We had been slandered with the charge of disloyalty, and with the statement that, were it not for the presence of troops in Camp Douglas, the laws and constitution of our country would not be respected by us. Our whole history gave the lie to such a charge. But this lie and all others against us we had to live down by pursuing the path that God had marked out, by being upright and honest and truthful, and living the religion that we had received, until the world would be tired of listening to the misrepresentations and falsehood so freely circulated about us. From the experience of the past few years, we were certainly prepared to appreciate the blessing of a just judge sitting on our bench. And when the time came, and most assuredly it would, when power would fall into our own hands, he hoped it would be wielded in righteousness and justice be done, not only towards each other as a people, but towards all men, of whatever creed, that might happen to be among us. He felt to acknowledge the hand of God in keeping us in a state of vassalage as a Territory, rather than permitting us to become a State government. Our very insignificance seemed to have been a preservative against greater evils than we had hitherto been subjected to, citing the recent difficulties in Louisiana. He had ceased to have any anxiety about Utah becoming a State in the Union, but felt to leave that entirely in the hands of a wise and overruling Providence. Many efforts had been made to bring us under military law, by introducing petty tyrannical measures with a view of evoking resentment by the people to give a plausible pretext for placing us under despotic and military power. These repeated acts of aggression would stand out as a marvel in history—that a people could be found who would submit tamely under such circumstances. He expected to see the day when the Latter-day Saints would have to stand forth and defend the constitution of our country. He had repeatedly told gentlemen that such would be the case. He had also quoted the prophecy of Joseph Smith, of civil wars, &c., that would soon devastate the country. He then spoke of our healthy financial condition, compared with that of almost every other State and Territory in the Union. We were the most lightly-taxed people of any he was aware of. Let us continue to be—he was in favor of light taxation. This was one reason why he was opposed to free schools. A new set of officers would be required to handle the public

funds, and there would be new temptations for manipulating them to their own advantage. He then warned the young against the vices of drinking, smoking and profanity, but recommended them to be true to the principles of their religion, and have moral courage enough to stand out in a virtuous example against the tide of evil practices around us, though they be ever so popular.

PREST. B. YOUNG preached a short discourse on the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Conference was adjourned till tomorrow at 10 o'clock a.m.

The choir sang the anthem—

Who is the King of Glory?

Benediction by PRESIDENT B. YOUNG.

FOURTH DAY—MORNING.

Friday, April 9.

The choir sang—

Father, how wide thy glory shines,
How high thy wonders rise.

Prayer by ELDER LORENZO SNOW.

The choir sang—

Sweet is the work, my God, my King,
To praise thy name, give thanks, and sing.

ELDER W. WOODRUFF said we had all learned by experience that we needed the Spirit of the Lord to help us in our public duties. If ever there was a dispensation since the beginning of the world, that needed the spirit of inspiration, now was the time. We were living and were now engaged in the last dispensation, and needed the assistance of prophets and apostles. Where were the great nations and their history, that once stood in mighty grandeur and power like Babylon, Tyre, Sidon, etc.? Not only had those cities been swept from the earth, but many others, all of whom had been the subjects of prophecy in their turn by the humble servants and prophets of God, which prophecies had received a literal fulfillment in the entire destruction of these cities, according to the word of the Lord. The Bible or stick of Judah contained records of many of those mighty nations, that had been preserved. So with the Jaredites, Nephites and Lamanites, and their cities and temples, people who once dwelt on this continent. The only complete record now in existence in reference to them is the Book of Mormon, or stick of Ephraim, brought forth by the spirit of revelation. All the prophecies contained in the Bible and Book of Mormon, that had received a literal fulfillment, were a sure and certain guarantee that others that pertained to this last dispensation would also be literally fulfilled in their time and season. Not one jot or tittle of the word of God would fail. God had decreed by prophets, in the Book of Mormon, that no nation should be permitted to continue on this continent and prosper unless they kept his commandments, but when the cup of their iniquity was full they should be utterly cut off and be destroyed. This continent was now occupied by a Gentile people, who had slain the Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum, cast the Saints from their midst, and been persecuting them ever since their organization; and unless they repented and humbled themselves before God and embraced the Gospel, no power on the face of the earth could prevent the judgment of God being executed according to the prophecies of the servants of God. No previous dispensation was ever fraught with so many prophecies as this in which we lived. No man could indulge in fighting against God and his servants, without being cursed by the Almighty. There was no judge, president, or ruler that ever measured arms with the Prophet Joseph Smith or Brigham Young, but what had withered under the displeasure of God, and so it would continue to be. We be unto those who fought against Zion.

He then reviewed the labors of the present Apostles and Elders who started out without purse and script, and exposed to hunger and cold, traveling thousands of miles from State to State on foot.

He then exhorted the Saints to faithfulness, as this was not a time for trifling away our time, neglecting our prayers, and other duties that God required us to diligently observe. In a short time the parents of the present generation among us, would be with Joseph and Hyrum, behind the veil, as a mighty work awaited

them there. Then the responsibilities of this great work would rest upon the shoulders of our young people; hence, he said unto them, prepare yourselves for this labor.

He then spoke of the value of keeping a record of the dealings of God among us a people. God had inspired him to keep a record since he became a member of the Church, and he earnestly urged upon the young men to do the same. Babylon would be swept away, her libraries would be burned up, and what records were kept by the servants of God would be invaluable in the future for generations to come to read and trace the work of God as it daily transpired.

He strongly recommended the Elders to cease spending their means in smoking and drinking, and other evil practices, and have it devoted in educating the children and we would hear nothing said about a five cent tax to sustain free schools.

ELDER LORENZO SNOW said that what had been accomplished by the preaching of the Gospel, the establishment of a Territory, the emigration of thousands from the midst of poverty and bringing them into a free country, where they had made for themselves comfortable homes and a thousand other things, we attributed to the wisdom, power and blessing of God. We had never relinquished one principle of truth that God had revealed for our salvation, with the view of keeping off the frowns and persecutions of the world or securing their favors. It is true we gave up our temples, our houses and possessions for the time being, but we fully believed we should return again in some future time and retake possession of those things, and accomplish what God designed us to bring about in those sections of country. We believed in Celestial Marriage. Joseph Smith told him personally, between twenty and thirty years ago, that holy beings revealed that principle to him, giving him much instruction pertaining thereunto, and commanding him to practise it and make it known to the Church. He believed as strongly in that doctrine to-day as he did when Joseph first revealed it, and he could not compromise it under any circumstances. We as a people had received a knowledge from God of the truth of this work, and had been sustained and backed up by a great amount of circumstantial evidence, such as the healing of the sick, and many other manifestations of the power of God. Therefore, from the nature and character of the everlasting gospel, and the bright and sure hopes of eternal life, we were prepared to endure whatever might lie before us.

The meeting was adjourned till 2 o'clock p.m.

The choir sang the anthem—

I will extol thee.

Benediction by ELDER BRIGHAM YOUNG, JUN.

FOURTH DAY.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON,

April 9th, 1875.

2 o'clock p.m.

The choir sang—

Praise ye the Lord, my heart shall join
In work so pleasant, so divine.

Prayer by ELDER ORSON PRATT.

The choir sang—

We're not ashamed to own our Lord,
And worship him on earth.

ELDER C. W. PENROSE felt thankful for the privilege of bearing testimony on the present occasion to the truth of the gospel. We had not come here to carry out our individual wishes and designs, but to devote our time and talents in the establishing of a better form of government than now existed, and that men might be taught to lay aside their wars, contentions, and conflicting notions, and learn somewhat concerning the designs and purposes of the Almighty, and walk in that straight and narrow path that led to his presence, the presence of God our Father in heaven, who thoroughly understood who we were, what we were, what our feelings were, and what we were doing, and therefore was well qualified to reveal to us the very plan that would suit our condition and circumstances to lead us back again to his presence.

He then spoke of the ample provision that God had made for the human family, in meeting out to every one according to his works. God had revealed to us the Gospel of his Son Jesus Christ through Joseph Smith the Prophet, and

most of us here present had embraced that Gospel, been baptized with the same baptism, received the same good Spirit by the laying on of hands, and received a portion of the Holy Priesthood, and just in proportion as we honored our calling, we should be blessed and prospered in the things of God. We were requested to pray with our families night and morning, to acknowledge our thanks and gratitude for our food, to attend our meetings, receive the sacrament, pay one-tenth of our increase as tithing, and many other things our religion enjoined upon us, and by strictly conforming to its requirements we should enjoy the Spirit of God, and experience that he is very near to us. Our religion also taught us to devote ourselves unremittently to the building up of his kingdom.

He then made some interesting remarks on the subject of priesthood or authority, about which the Christian ministers knew so little, referred to the conversion of Saul and other instances in holy writ, showing that no man had any right to preach and administer in the name of the Lord, unless previously called by new revelation.

He also spoke of the manner in which Joseph Smith received his authority from God to act in the name of the Lord, first by John the Baptist, who ordained him to the Aaronic priesthood, then by Peter, James and John, who ordained him to the Melchizedek priesthood, and that authority had been handed down from Joseph to the present time.

He spoke of the labors of the servants of God, who had been sent out to different nations on the face of the earth, all teaching the same doctrines, and all those who received their testimony, had been baptized and received the self same spirit which came from God our Father, and blest with the same kind of gifts that brought unmistakable proof that we had embraced the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Hence we were one, and united in our faith, and should be more in our works. We were not man-worshippers, but we honored the man whom God had anointed over us to give us the word of the Lord, and we ought to give diligent heed to his counsels. God's laws were not given to us in an arbitrary way, but they came to us exactly suited to our condition. We had to learn the will of God as pertaining to our body, that we might know how to preserve and take care of it. Our religion therefore embraced temporal as well as spiritual things. It also taught us to be united in everything that would blend and tie us together in one universal brotherhood. God had designed us to become mighty in the earth and although in our efforts to become one we might meet with opposition nothing could successfully withstand the work, and prevent us from spreading forth in the land, and wielding an influence in this nation as well as all other nations on the face of the earth, until the priesthood of the Son of God should rule, and cause the will of God to be done on earth even as it was done in heaven. The object of the Church of Jesus Christ was to bring man from under the curse, and place him in a position to be blessed and exalted in the presence of God. We were not here for any evil purpose, to make war upon any one, but to establish truth and righteousness and peace among men.

He knew that this was the work of God, having received the Spirit of God, and that it would rise and prevail, and no power on earth could prevent it, but it would grow in influence, in righteousness, and in power, until the earth should be filled with the glory of God.

ELDER GEO. Q. CANNON read the names of the following persons to go on missions to the several countries named respectively—

BRITISH ISLES.

John Hopkin, of Almy, Wyoming; Charles E. Griffin, Ogden; Lorenzo Brown, St. George; Edward W. Clark, Santaquin; James Mellor, sen., Fayette, Sanpete co.; David K. Udall, Nephi; Arta D. Young, Salt Lake city; William A. C. Bryan, Nephi; Andrew Galloway and Richard Warburton, Tooele city; Jas. Payne, Salt Lake city; Wm. Nelson and Wm. J. Lewis, Provo; Don Carlos Johnson and Franklin Boyer, Springville; Wm. McKay, Ogden; Wm. Stimpson, Riverdale; Thomas C. Martell and Thomas Evans, Spanish Fork; John Wardrobe, 20th ward, Salt

Lake city; Wm. L. Watkins, Brigham city; Arnold Goodliff, Malad, Idaho.

SCANDINAVIA.

Chr. Jensen, Ephraim, Sanpete Co.; H. P. Iverson, Washington, Washington Co.; Mads Christensen, Farmington; Mons Petersen, Provo.

HOLLAND.

August Teighten, or Tiltzen, Santaquin.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Wm. Pulsipher.

UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

Hayden W. Church, St. George; Henry G. Boyle, Payson; Ozias Kilbourn, Centerville; James S. Hamilton, Mill Creek Ward, Salt Lake Co.; John Leman, Morgan City, Morgan Co.; Wm. Maughan, Wellsville, Cache Co.; A. W. Sabins, Grantsville, Tooele Co.

AUSTRALIA.

Wm. S. Muir, Bountiful; Job Welling, Farmington.

LANANITES.

James Worthington, Bishop Tadlock, Lafayette Ball, Howard Egan, Samuel Worthington, A. C. Worthington, A. D. Larkins, of Deep Creek; George Boyd, Salt Lake City; James H. Hill, Cache Co.; A. K. Thurber, George W. Bean, Grass Valley; George W. Hill, John C. Badger, Ogden; Amos Wright, Bear Lake Valley; Wm. Lee, Grantsville.

ICELAND.

Theodor Dedrickson, Samuel Bjarnson, Spanish Fork.

ELDER GEO. Q. CANNON thought the labors that the Elders of this Church had been called upon to perform were abundantly sufficient to refute and falsify the predictions of the wicked in regard to this work, who had so many times prophesied the downfall of "Mormonism." We knew that God would sustain, uphold, and establish Zion, notwithstanding the wishes and predictions of the wicked to the contrary.

Meeting was adjourned till tomorrow morning at 10 a.m.

The Choir sang the Anthem—

How beautiful are thy towers.

Benediction by ELDER GEO. Q. CANNON.

FIFTH DAY—MORNING.

Saturday, April 10,

10 o'clock a. m.

The choir sang—

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come.

Prayer by ELDER WILFORD WOODRUFF.

The choir sang—

When earth in bondage long had lain,
And darkness o'er the nations reigned.

ELDER BRIGHAM YOUNG, JUN., desired that his words this morning, whether few or many, might be directed by the Spirit of God. This Church never could have been organized except under the dictation of the spirit of revelation. He believed the Christian reformers were influenced by a desire to do good, but they never laid claim to immediate revelation, nor the visitation of holy angels. Both themselves and their successors, as expounders of holy writ, rather discarded the idea of divine revelation being at all necessary for the preaching of the gospel and administering in its ordinances.

He then referred to the Bible, or stick of Judah, and the Book of Mormon, or stick of Ephraim, the latter coming forth in the last days, in exact fulfillment of prophecy, and which is a fact before the eyes of all people, each book having unmistakable testimony of the truth of the other. We came here that we might become one in the building up of the Kingdom of God. On natural principles we could easily see that where political differences existed, and opposition parties prevailed, no solid republic could ever be built up. So with the purposes of God, in trying to unite this people and make us one. We could never fulfill the revelations of God, until we were sufficiently instructed in what he required, and then brought together on a principle of unity, that would blend our interests together as one. Our mission was to build up Zion, and it was absolutely necessary for us to establish the order of Enoch. There was no salvation for those who re-