

was denied him, he being informed that there was an impassable gulf between them; and said Abraham to Dives—(In effect,) "When you were in the flesh you had Moses and the prophets, you had the gospel preached to you, but you rejected and refused to obey it. You had your good portion and your enjoyments in the world, now you are denied them, they are given to Lazarus." How long do the honors, wealth, and pleasures of the worldling last? Until death claims him for its own, then he ceases to enjoy them, because he has failed to secure his title to them, they have not been sealed upon him by the authority of the priesthood of the Son of God, which has power to bind on earth and it is bound in heaven. If they have wives and children, when death calls them they are no longer theirs, because they have not been sealed unto them by the power of God. They do not obey the truth, they do not receive the ministrations of the priesthood, and consequently they are deprived, not only of their wealth but of their wives and children.

We are not living only for the few miserable years that we spend on this earth, but for that life which is interminable; and we desire to enjoy every blessing throughout these countless ages of eternity, but unless they are secured to us by that sealing power which was given to the Apostle Peter by the Son of God, we cannot possess them. Unless we secure them on that principle, in the life to come we shall have neither father, mother, brother, sister, wife, children, nor friends, nor wealth nor honor, for all earthly "contracts, covenants, bonds, obligations, oaths, vows, connections, and associations," are dissolved in the grave, except those sealed and ratified by the power of God. It is said in the Scriptures that the earth and its fulness are the Lord's, and that they are to be given to the Saints of the Most High God, and they are to possess them for ever and ever.

You know that those who have not faith in the gospel call us exclusive and uncharitable; they say—"You cast out all except those of your faith." Then enroll yourselves under the banner of King Emanuel, to whom the earth and its fulness belong, and when it shall be given to the Saints of the Most High God you will come in for your share, and only in that way can you do so. Obedience to the gospel of Christ is the only way to secure blessings for the life that now is, or that which is to come. We are not talking in parables, neither are we ignorantly repeating the words of the ancient apostles. Our declarations are founded upon modern revelation and inspiration, and we know whereof we speak. We know that angels have come to earth and that God has spoken in our day, that he has raised up Apostles and Prophets, restored the holy priesthood, and shown himself to man and revealed his truth to those who dwell on earth. We know these things, it is this that makes us bold to declare it to the world. We are not ashamed of it, because we know it is the power of God unto salvation.

May God help us, and all who love the truth, to keep an eye single to his glory and to the building up of his kingdom on the earth, that we may be among those who shall be counted worthy to possess the earth and its fulness for ever and ever, in my prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## Correspondence.

Editor Deseret News:

"How are the mighty fallen!"—DAVID.

"O Zion, let thy princes put on the robes of sackcloth and mourn for thy young men, for verily many have gone astray from the shining paths of honor, integrity and virtue. They have left the holy sanctuary for the saloon, they have forsaken the Lord's Supper for feasts of vanity. They have revelled and raffled at the races. They have joined hands with strangers, whiffed the fumes of tobacco, and drowned their convictions in the cup of intoxication. The sacred closets, that were wont to witness their pure breathings and spiritual devotions, are now forgotten. Fast meetings and offerings for the poor are neglected. The thoughts of building temples, and gathering God's chosen from the four winds comes not into their minds. The redemption of their covenants and the prospects of a bright future have fled from them as the dreams of a night vision.

How is the fine gold become dim!

—SELAH.  
O Zion, thy daughters are in mourning, for many of their fair sisters also. They have returned the smiles of strangers to their hurt. Mothers have seen this and have not chided them. Fathers have given no counsel to check the weakness of their daughters, who have taken for granted that what suits their tastes is all right, without consulting the whisperings of the Holy Spirit. On step after another in the dark has weakened their confidence in themselves and in the truth, and finally they have yielded to outside influence, lost their faith, and given themselves up to lust after the fashions and abominations of the harlots of Babylon, the voice and the soft whisperings of that gentle spirit that once they listened to with such attention and firmness to obey, have fled from them.

O daughters of Zion, the cup you are mixing is bitter with gall and wormwood.—SELAH. A. Z.



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