

among the nations of the earth. We have declared unto you the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You have believed our testimony and have received it. You went forth and were baptized in water for the remission of your sins, and you received the Holy Ghost by the power of God, and by that power you are here today. We might have preached to you till we had been as old as Methuselah, but if our testimony had not been backed up by the power of God, you would have remained at home; you would not have been here in these mountains to fulfil the revelations of God. These things are true, and you know they are true. You know you received the testimony yourselves, and by this you have been gathered together. Upwards of sixty years have passed over our heads since the organization of this Church on the earth, and its history is before the world. It has been a little stone cut out of the mountains without hands. We have had a terrible warfare from the organization of this Church until today; but one thing is comforting and encouraging: the God of heaven inspired men thousands of years ago to tell exactly what these Latter-day Saints would do. They were of the house of Israel, scattered among the nations of the earth, and the Lord would stretch out His hand and gather them together, and they would go to the place that the old Patriarch said should belong to Joseph:

Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall. The ironers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him: But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel.) \* \* \* The blessings of thy fathers have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separated from his brethren. (Gen. xlix, 22-26).

You are the descendants of this holy man of God. You have come here in fulfillment of these things.

I do not expect that I will be able to answer my mind in telling you how I feel with regard to these things, but I will do the best I can. You have been gathered to these mountains of Israel, led by a prophet, a seer, a revelator, and a mighty man. When we came here we found a barren desert. Men said, "Go to California; you cannot do anything here." "No," President Young said, "we shall stay here; we shall build a temple here; we shall build a city here. This is what is ordained of God, and we shall accomplish it." Judge, brethren and sisters, whether he was inspired or not. We have made a beginning. We have made the desert to blossom as the rose, and laid the foundation for the great work of our God that is going to be fulfilled in these mountains of Israel, and you will stand in holy places while the judgments of God work in the earth. Yes, let the world read these judgments of God and that which lies before all nations under heaven. These things will come to pass to the very letter. Then what is our duty and our position here? The Lord told us through the Prophet Joseph in the beginning of this work that He was going to call Elders into

the vineyard for the last time, to prune the vineyard. We have got to prepare it for the coming of the Son of Man. The wheat has got to be gathered into the garner before the chaff is burned. And the Elders of Israel have got to go forth and warn the inhabitants of the earth, as Joseph Smith told the Twelve Apostles the last time I saw him before his martyrdom, when he laid before us the work he was required to do. The Prophet said: "God has given to me every key, every power and principle of salvation belonging to this great last dispensation; and I have sealed upon your heads every key, principle and power which God has sealed upon me. Now, you Apostles, round up your shoulders and bear off this kingdom, or you will be damned, saith the Lord." I do not forget these things, and they are true. I believe I am the only man living in the flesh who was present on that occasion. This is our position, brethren and sisters, before the Lord. There is a tremendous responsibility upon these Latter-day Saints. We have the world to warn. We have to preach the Gospel, and attend to those things that God has committed to us. The Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum were martyred, and they will have a martyr's crown. They have gone to the other side of the veil, to mingle with the Gods and to plead for their brethren, and they are faithful and diligent in their duties. But some of us are left behind. Since that time this work has gone on, and it has got to continue, and we cannot avoid this. What the Lord requires at the hands of these Apostles, and Elders and Latter-day Saints is to warn the world, to preach the Gospel, to build up Zion, to carry out the purposes of the Lord, and to prepare ourselves to stand in holy places while the judgments of God work in the earth.

Joseph Smith revealed unto us the principle of the redemption of the dead. There was no revelation I ever read that gave me more joy and consolation than that. Jesus Christ and the Apostles had to go to the spirits in prison and redeem those who had lived from the days of Noah down to their generation. Here we have one thousand and eight hundred years, during which millions and millions of the human family have died without the Gospel of Christ. They have gone into the spirit world, and the Lord expects these Latter-day Saints to go forth and redeem these dead, as they hold the keys of the salvation of their dead; so that when they go into the spirit world and meet their fathers and their mothers and their relatives, they shall not say to them, "You held the keys of my salvation, and you have not attended to this work, and I am left here in prison." We should not neglect this. It is not only our duty to preach the Gospel and to warn the world, that they may be left without excuse in the day of God's judgment, but it is our duty to redeem our dead. Joseph Smith, when he was martyred, went and opened the prison doors in the spirit world. So did these brethren that died in Zion's camp. Every Elder that has gone to the other side of the veil has a work to perform there, and those in the spirit world will receive their testimony. But they cannot be baptized there. Their sons and daugh-

ters who dwell in the flesh have to carry out this great and mighty work.

Brethren and sisters, these are some of the duties that are required of us. We should open our eyes, and our ears, and our hearts, to see, hear and understand the great and mighty responsibility that rests upon us. Thank God, we have had power in this barren desert to build three temples. Hundreds of thousands of the dead have been redeemed in these temples, and there are millions yet to be redeemed. Here is this Salt Lake Temple that President Young laid the foundation of. We want to finish that temple and dedicate it unto the Lord. This is some of the work that is required of us. The eyes of all the heavenly hosts are over these Latter-day Saints, and they are over these sons and daughters that dwell in the mountains of Israel. God Himself and His Son Jesus Christ, who is our advocate with the Father, look to us to do this work. The eyes of Joseph Smith and every Prophet and Saint of God who dwells in the spirit world are watching over us. They cannot come here and build that Temple. They are not ordained to that. But we are here in the flesh, and I ask, in the name of the Lord, and as a great favor of these Latter-day Saints, that we will unite together with our means and finish that Temple, that we may go into it and redeem our dead. Many of you have got thousands of relatives in the spirit world who are looking to you. They never heard the Gospel in life, but they will hear it, at the mouth of David Patten, Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, John Taylor, and these Apostles and Elders that have gone into the spirit world. But, as I said before, they cannot be baptized there. We can, and we must do it for them.

This is how I feel about our position. We are here by the power of God. It is a marvel to me that we are as well off as we are. It is a marvel to me that we have the power that we have. For there is a vast number of fallen spirits that are at war against God and His Christ, against this people and this Church, and against the redemption of the dead. Lucifer knows that if this Church prospers, his kingdom will fall. But God has sustained us, and will sustain us until we get through, if we do our duty. The hand of God is over us here, and Zion is a city set upon a hill, which cannot be hid. We are only small, and have only just begun the organization; but the Lord will hasten His work, and it will continue until all these promises of God will be fulfilled. There is where my faith rests and my consolation dwells. I know that God is true, and that the testimonies of all the Patriarchs and Prophets, have thus far been fulfilled to the very letter. There is not a city nor a generation but has felt the chastening hand of God when they have undertaken to overthrow the work of God.

I want to say some thing in relation to home industry. True, it is Sunday, but that matters not; for we are called to build up Zion temporarily as well as spiritually. All that has been said in our Conference with regard to home industry is good. We want to continue this, and as far as we possibly can we should, as President Young told us, open doors of work