

RELIGIOUS.

Sunday Services.

Religious services were held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, October 27, 1889, commencing at 2 p. m., President Angus M. Cannon presiding.

The choir and congregation sang:

Our God, we raise to Thee
Thanks for the blessings free,
We here enjoy.

Prayer by Elder Wm. C. Dunbar.
The choir sang:

O Lord of Hosts, we now invoke,
Thy Spirit most divine

The Priesthood of the Fourteenth Ward officiated in the administration of the Sacrament.

ELDER THEODORE TOBIASON

was called to address the congregation. He said he had but recently returned from a mission to the Northwestern States. In that labor he had been greatly blessed, and realized more than ever before that there was a God in heaven. He knew that he was a weak instrument, but was desirous of performing his duty, and the choice blessings of heaven rested upon him. I came in contact with many who claimed to have the Gospel. I found few who were willing to accept the Gospel as its principles were made known in the Scriptures. I found great diversity of opinions, and that men were teaching their own doctrines, and had not the Gospel. They had neither the organization nor the power. I had searched diligently the Scriptures that I might teach only that Gospel which was taught by Christ and Peter, Paul and the other Apostles. I found that some taught that the ordinances which were found necessary in the primitive Church were not necessary today; but I also found that there was no divine authorization for such a claim, and that the ordinances, gifts and powers are just as necessary for the salvation of men today as they were anciently, that there is but one true and everlasting Gospel, the plan of salvation to man, in every age alike.

I found, for instance, that there was much contention about the necessity of baptism. Jesus says that unless we are born of water we cannot enter the Kingdom of heaven, and that he who endeavored to enter by any other than the true way is a thief and a robber. Therefore there is no avoiding the ordinance of baptism. Following this is the promise, given to every one who receives of the new birth, that they will receive the Holy Ghost, which is to guide them into all truth. There are certain gifts which accompany the possession of this Spirit, which the world repudiates. As Paul declares, no one can, of his own knowledge, say that Jesus is the Christ, except by the Holy Ghost. The world repudiates the gifts of healings, miracles, prophecy, tongues, etc., but these are a part of the Gospel taught by our Lord, and except we teach the same doctrines we will come under condemnation. If these blessings are with us we have a proof of the correctness of our position.

"By their fruits ye shall know them" is the test given by our Savior. One of the fruits of the Gospel is the spirit of love. How is it with the world? If you accept the faith of the Latter-day Saints, do they try to win you by the spirit of love? No, but bitter hatred springs up in their hearts. They bring forth no "strong reasons," as the Prophet required, but they try by violence and persecution to compel us to accept their views of religion. The Gospel brings peace and joy. Where in the whole world can you find such peace and joy as exists among the Latter-day Saints? Not among any of the Christian nations; they rather exhibit a spirit of war and discontent. Their fruits are just the reverse of those which come from obedience to the Gospel. This is because they have perverted the Gospel, and follow not the divine plan of salvation.

Christ gave gifts unto men when He ascended on high. Among these were Apostles, prophets, etc. The world say they have no need for these inspired officers. Christ says they were for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

The Saints cannot be perfected without them, because that is the mission of these officers. They were to remain till we all come to the unity of the faith, to the stature of a perfect man in Christ Jesus. Has this been accomplished? If it has not, then their mission is not completed. Is there union, and peace, and perfection among men, as pertains to the doctrines of the Gospel? We all know there is not; therefore the work of Apostles, prophets, etc., is not yet accomplished and they are still necessary. Men are still blown about by every wind of doctrine, because they are not builded on the rock of truth.

God has restored His Gospel in this day, and the Latter-day Saints are engaged in its promulgation. It was brought by an angel, and is for all the world. God is no respecter of persons. He has revealed His plan of salvation for mankind today. He has raised up Apostles and Prophets and a people to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. May we search out the truth and be faithful to it in all respects, that the blessings of the Lord may be with us.

ELDER A. H. WOOLLEY

was the next speaker. He said we understand the things of God only by the Spirit of God, and it is necessary for the hearers as well as the speaker to have that Spirit. While I was on my mission I was greatly blessed. I know that the Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation. I realize that there are some few here who have not received that Gospel, but I pray that what has been said may sink deep into their hearts and bring forth fruits for righteousness. When I left on my mission I realized that I represented a people spoken evil of everywhere. I went forth in a humble endeavor to do my duty, and I found joy in proclaiming the Gospel. I was proud of the fact that I was a member of the Church

of Jesus Christ. I was proud to be able to present the Articles of Faith of the Church, and to preach the principles therein contained. When I declared that the Lord had Apostles and Prophets, the people generally did not believe my testimony, but it was nevertheless true. They thought these officers were necessary anciently, but that they were done away. For this latter proposition there is no warrant in the Scriptures. The Church anciently was full of Prophets. All who have the testimony of Jesus have the spirit of prophecy, and are prophets.

In regard to the gifts of the Spirit, that have been spoken of, I know that they are in the midst of the Latter-day Saints, and follow them in their belief in the Gospel. If these signs did not follow us, it would be an evidence that we were not true believers. God has commanded men everywhere to repent, and after we exercise faith in Him, repent of our sins and are baptized, we are to receive the Holy Ghost which is to teach us the Father's will. This gift is betowed upon us by the laying on of hands of those who have authority. The promise of the Gospel is to all those whom the Lord shall call. These principles which I have named are doctrines of the Gospel, and are necessary in order to receive the benefits that follow them.

The laying on of hands is as much a doctrine as faith, and we can no more avoid the one than the other if we would conform to the will of God, for it is a command given by Him. So it is with repentance and baptism for the remission of sins. The Holy Ghost is a precious gift to those who receive it, and if we follow its direction we become united in a bond of love and peace that cannot be broken. If we do not live up to the principles of truth we cannot expect the blessings thereof. That which we live for is what we will receive.

I feel thankful for my membership in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I bear my testimony that it is the work of God. All who honestly obey the principles I have named will receive the same testimony. It cannot be obtained by hypocrisy. Those who endeavor to obtain it by dishonesty will fail in their purpose. The first man I baptized was one of this class. But those who are honest do receive this testimony, and the gifts of the Spirit are given to them, to some one gift and to some another, just as the Apostle Paul says.

The organization, the gifts, powers and blessings are all necessary in the Church of Christ. They exist among the Saints today. We have a right to the gift of revelation, each for his own guidance, and the Saints enjoy this as well as the other gifts. I know that the Holy Ghost rests upon the faithful Saints. Let our light so shine that the world may see our good works and glorify God. Let us obey the commandments of our heavenly Father and be true "Mormons"—that is, true followers of the Gospel taught by the Prophet Mormon, which was