FIDELITY TO GOD AND EACH OTHER.

Discourse Delivered at the Salt Lake Stake Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday Afternoon, March 3, 1895, by

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[REPORTED BY RITCH'S WIRES.]

I am pleased to meet with the Latter-day Saints in the Conference in this State. It is a pleasure I always have. I enjoyed the sermons this morning, setting up a standard of our coming brethren, and I only regret that you people were not here to hear them. It is encouraging to hear the testimonies of our brethren that we do not appreciate to have the privilege of listening to.

I have felt that there is a work that ought to be cultivated more extensively than it is in the midst of the Latter-day Saints, and that is the work of love and fidelity to the Kingdom, to the Gospel, to the operation of the Church, and to each other. It is a word that should be cultivated in every mind in regard to all subjects pertaining to the Kingdom of God. We have been blessed as no other people. We have been treated as no other people have for years past, and we have been favored. At no period the morning dawn there began, we have been treated with the revelation of the Gospel by an angel, and God sent another to have hand that gave it to people upon the face of the earth have made the claim. And in connection with the Gospel just as a very important part of it, we have had given to us the Holy Spirit, which bears record unto the angel his voice, and that the Gospel and the Priesthood of Melchisedek and Aaron have been conferred through messengers sent from heaven. No other people have made this claim but the followers of the Prophet Joseph Smith. And I feel that the spirit of loyalty should be cultivated in the hearts of the Latter-day Saints towards the men who have been established among us. We understand what loyalty means in a sovereign or a person, to a national or a state, and that same spirit of loyalty that we should manifest toward our sovereign king should be also manifest toward each other, and toward every one and requirement of the Church. We have requirements in regard to every quorum of the Priesthood, and every organization, branch, ward or stake, and they should be cultivated in the heart of every father, loyalty to his ward, to his stake, to his quorum, to his family. The same spirit would be cherished also by every one. It should be paramount loyalty toward the ordinances of God and the requirements of Heaven. There should be loyalty to the sacred ordinance, the Lord's Supper, of which we are partaking now. It we are loyal to this ordinance, we will be at the place where the sacrament is prepared for us. We will not stay by ourselves, but we will be prepared to partake of it worthily. I say that tribute should pass constantly and sincerely in the hearts of our souls, loyalty to God and to the principles of eternal life. Brethren should labor to plant that spirit of loyalty in the hearts of their daughters, that they will be true to God and to the laws of His Gospel. If sons and daughters are so loyal to the Gospel of salvation as they ought to be, they will never become companions yoked with the unbeliever. For a man cannot be loyal and true to Heaven who would become companion yoked with those who are not of our faith. Not one who would be true would be such in the faith and lacking in loyalty. Where the spirit of loyalty is properly cultivated there is no discussion, no contention, no inclination to be at war with the powers that be, no inclination to be in opposition to the wise and requirements of the Lord and His Church, for the spirit will make us true to every requirement. If we are loyal to the principle of tithing, which the Lord has laid down in His Church for us to observe, we will be prompt in the payment of our tithing. If we are loyal to the requirements of the Lord in regard to the offerings necessary for the maintenance of the poor, we will not neglect the poor.

If we have the spirit of loyalty within us, it will impel us to every every obligation and requirement. It comes from the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, and might be here a great deal on this point. When we are called to have some spiritual exercises, it always brings our hearts home to the source of inspiration, the gathering spot of God, and infuses in us an inclination to exercise a degree of wisdom from the Lord, and that we may be the instruments of Heaven in the hands of God to bless and cause us to be so instructed by God and be so prospered, and so blessed in our labors, that our happiness and joy and peace may be in proportion to our faithfulness, and so that we may be capable of exercising a whole, that we should be able to do the work, and to do it in the manner, and in the spirit, and in the manner in which the Lord has ordained it, and in the spirit of loyalty to the leaders who are placed in the midst of the Church to direct and to lead us in the paths of life, and to be the instruments of bringing a great people, that we would indeed allow a feeling of our hearts to spring up in us that it is necessary that we should be prepared and capable of being led, and be willing to be led. We should be loyal to our leaders who are placed in authority, loyal to the Bishops, loyal to the Bishop's Court and to counsels, in fact to the constitution that we have adopted as the regular pattern of the Kingdom of God in our dispensation at our time. The revelations are express upon this point. They are intended to give order to the Kingdom of God, and to cause a union of feeling and of purpose in the hearts of the people, that they may be prepared to be instructed by the Spirit of God, and be led and guided in the paths of life and of salvation. We should be loyal to our sovereigns, and to our leaders, and to our quorums, and to our organizations, and to our families, and to our wives, and to our children, and to our friends, and to our neighbors, and to our fellow-citizens, and to our brethren and sisters, and to our fellow-laborers in the work of God, and to our fellow-citizens in the world, and to our enemies, and to our friends, and to our brethren. The Latter-day Saints are one family. We are led to the spirit of loyalty, and we are entitled to loyalty, and we should be loyal to every spirit that is in the Latter-day Saints toward the men who have been established among us. We understand what loyalty means in a sovereign or a person, to a national or a state, and that same spirit of loyalty that we should manifest toward our sovereign king should be also manifest toward each other, and toward every one and requirement of the Church. We have requirements in regard to every quorum of the Priesthood, and every organization, branch, ward or stake, and they should be cultivated in the heart of every father, loyalty to his ward, to his stake, to his quorum, to his family. The same spirit would be cherished also by every one. It should be paramount loyalty toward the ordinances of God and the requirements of Heaven. There should be loyalty to the sacred ordinance, the Lord's Supper, of which we are partaking now. If