

DISCOURSE

The necessity of Faith—the Holy Ghost—
Importance of the Sacrament— Warfare
between God and the power of evil—a true
Later-day Saint cannot be converted—a
knowledge of the truth can only be re-
ceived from God—none will suffer as
Christ suffered—God overrules all things
for the good of His people—the organiza-
tion of the Church of God is perfect—the
proper training of the children of the
Saints.

WHILE I attempt to speak to you, my brethren and sisters, this afternoon, I desire an interest in your faith and lives as great as I have in the life of the Lord would have me say, that we must be fed, strengthened and encouraged to do our duty as Saints of the living God. We are doing the passing of the sacrament during the passing of the minds from this sacred ordinance, so let us in partaking thereof. We should remember that it is not pleasing in His sight to receive the sacrament in a thoughtless manner, but that we should come with hearts full of love to our Father, covenants and of pledging ourselves once more to remember the Savior, to keep His commandments—that is, to keep all of them that have been revealed to us since He came to earth. We are devoted and obedient to the principles which have been revealed for the salvation of men.

It is said, and truly, that without faith it is impossible to please God. It may be as truthfully said that without obedience it is impossible to please God; that without virtue, without truthfulness, it is impossible to please God. It is not possible for us to perform the labors that are required

the Gospel among the nations, to gather together the people to build temples, and to perform in those temples the labors that are necessary for the salvation of the living and the dead—except we are aided by the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. It is not possible for men who stand at the head of this Church to direct, or to give counsel in regard to the building up of the Kingdom of God, in regard to the location of new settlements, in regard to organizing branches, wards, and stakes, and the opening of missions.

except they enjoy the Holy Ghost. It is not possible for us as Apostles, as Presidents of stakes, as Bishops or wards, as Presidents of quorums, as Presidents of associations, to preside with dignity and in a manner pleasing to God unless we enjoy the Holy Ghost. It is not possible for us as parents to preside in our families, to set good examples before them, to set and keep our houses in order—as it is necessary

ny should be kept that we may have salvation—unless we enjoy the Holy Ghost. It is not possible for us as individuals to be Saints, unless we enjoy the Holy Ghost. It was conferred upon every one of us when we were baptized, when we first embraced the Gospel, and the Lord has given us ample instructions as to how we should live, as to the labors we should perform, and as to the lives we should lead in order that we may enjoy the Holy Ghost. Among other things the sacrament was established by the Savior

established it again when He visited this continent and set up His Church among the Nephites. He has again established it in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and it seems to be very important that this sacred ordinance of the Gospel should be attended to frequently, that by partaking of it we may witness to the Lord that we are willing to take upon

ten Him, that we do keep His commandments, and are still willing to keep them, and to walk according to His counsel. Hence it is important that all Saints, not only presiding officers, but all Saints who have named the name of Jesus Christ and entered into covenant with God, should meet together often and partake of the sacrament and renew their covenants, in

the Lord. It is not pleasing in the sight of the Lord for us to partake of the sacrament if there be hard feelings in our hearts, if there be jealousy, if there be enmity or strife, if we are not in fellowship with one another, if we are not in fellowship with the Church, if we are not keeping the commandments of the Lord, if we are not living in peace, if we are not obedient

It is not pleasing in the sight of the Lord to partake of the sacrament under such circumstances. This is an ordinance that should be partaken of properly, understandingly, thoughtfully, and with faith that we will receive an increased portion of the Holy Spirit. If we were not in a world of sin; if we were not in a world of trial and temptation; if evil was not in the

not evil influences; if the spirit and power of darkness was chained and there was nothing in this life but good; if there was no evil inspiration, no evil insinuations—if none of these things existed then we might possibly manage to go through this world without committing sin. But we find that as good as is in the world so there is evil. As there is light in the world, so there

influences of evil—to the powers of darkness. We are liable to temptation. God has given us our agency; and it is found necessary that we should have very particular instructions, very complete organization and perfect care thrown around us as the saints of God under those circumstances in order that we may obtain salvation. It is not enough that we be

We need organisation. We need the Priesthood. We need authority. We need power. We need the blessing and help of God from the beginning. When the Elders go out into the world and baptize for the remission of sins they do not there leave the people. They are taught the necessity of other ordinances, the necessity of gathering together, the principle of fitting, the

prayer; all those doctrines are laid before them. Then organization is given them, not in perfection, but in a primitive form. They have branches, and presiding authorities, Elders, Priests, Teachers, Deacons, etc., to teach and care for them while they are in the world, and when they gather to Zion they have a more complete organization of stakes, wards, quorums, asso-

man and every woman has a place and a position. They act as helpers, exhorters, encouragers, and all these are necessary for the salvation of the people; for we find, as we become attached to the Gospel of Christ, the evils of the world come in upon us, and they come with greater strength and power to overcome and destroy us.

There is a warfare in the earth be-

Lord has established this Church. The Father Himself in person, accompanied by His Son Jesus Christ, came and laid the foundation of this work. They commenced it. They established it. They have sustained and supported it. It has not been sustained and supported by the power of man. Those who have stood faithful to this day—whether they be many or few—

stood by the blessing and power of God. No one that was living in the days of Naumoo, or in the days of Kirkland, or that joined the Church during the lifetime of President Young, and have faithfully endured to the present time, can arrogate to himself and herself that they have endured in their own strength. God has sustained them. The Lord has given

their hearts & knowledge of the truth. And the reason that this Church is so much more stable and solid—cannot be overthrown, cannot be broken is upon by those from the outside—is that in

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