

and it seemed as if God had forsaken him. It was a dark day, but the Lord had not departed from him. After he had passed through affliction the countenance of the Almighty shone upon him, and he was delivered. Consider also the experience of the Savior in Gethsemane, when He endured incalculable mental torture. When on the cross, His sufferings and sense of loneliness were so intense that he called out "My God, my God! why hast thou forsaken me?" When we pass through ordeals as a people, His face finally beams upon us and He delivers us. The past teaches this plainly. The sun of glory will arise upon the Saints and deliverance will appear. If we have lived as we ought we know that God has accepted us.

In such gatherings as this there are people from nearly all the nations of the earth. We came to gether because we received something that caused us to believe God had accepted us. We heard a testimony from the servants of the Lord that He had raised up a prophet, and had laid down an order of things by obedience to which individuals could receive intelligence from the celestial world. When the obedience was rendered, those who were baptized for the remission of sins and received the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands rejoiced in a living witness of divine acceptance. We received a testimony that these things were true. This is what brought the tens of thousands of people called Latter-day Saints to this region. We are the people of God; He has not and will not forsake us, although we may have to pass through experiences that will, to the natural man, make it appear as if He had. Brother Snow further continued his theme, imparting comfort, instruction and encouragement to the Saints.

#### Apostle Anton H. Lund

Next briefly addressed the Conference. Following is the substance of his remarks: I rejoice in the blessings of the Lord. We should be grateful that we live when the Gospel has been revealed and that we have received a testimony of its divine origin. In having this testimony we should not stand still, but seek to carry out what God has revealed to us. It is not only needful for us to know that we have begun to walk in the path pointed out by the finger of revelation, but we must pass on in fulfilling the duties incumbent upon us. We should not leave our first love which we received and enjoyed when we entered the church. If we have become lukewarm the fault is in us. If we have been faithful we will be full of life and love, and show our gratitude to God by our course of life. Persecution should not retard our progress, as it gives up experience and enables us to show our fidelity. Those who will live godly in Christ will suffer persecution; it gives them experience and increases their faith. The anthem "Sing unto the Lord," was sung by the choir.

Adjourned till 2 p. m. Benediction by Apostle Mariner W. Merrill,

#### Afternoon Session.

##### Singing by the choir:

Behold, the mountain of the Lord  
In latter days shall rise,  
On mountain tops, above the hills,  
And draw the wond'ring eyes.

##### Prayer by Elder Cyrus H. Wheelock.

##### The choir sang:

Hew swift the months have passed away,  
'Tis Conference again  
And Zion's untold thousands come to swell  
The joyous strain.

#### Apostle Franklin D. Richards

Addressed the assemblage. The following is the substance of what he said:

He rejoiced in the contemplation of the work in which the Lord had called upon the Latter-day Saints to engage, and the longer he himself labored in God's cause the more intense became the pleasure of his soul. To say that he knew this to be the work of the Lord was simply to repeat that which had been so often uttered by the brethren when bearing their testimony to the truth of the Gospel. He learnt it many years ago, and since then this work had gone on increasing abundantly.

It mattered not how much the powers of darkness rage against the Latter-day Saints, this fact did not alter their line of duty, but rather strengthened their faith and spurred them on to further effort. At all times they should seek to be "diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord."

He desired most earnestly to testify to the truth of this work, which was making such rapid progress; indeed if they looked at it carefully and in the critical light of the spirit, it would be found that it was going forward about as fast as the Saints were prepared to receive it. He urged that the strong among us should help the weaker ones, while the weak should hold on to the strong, thereby sustaining them in the trials and temptations which beset the people on every hand.

Many interesting questions were arising in the present day, among others the coming of the Son of Man, reference to which was made this morning. While this was a speculative matter, the signs of His coming were now abundantly manifest. While we could not obtain from the revelations any definite statement of the time of Christ's coming in His power and majesty, to take to Himself the Kingdom, we could learn from them a great many things which had to transpire before that great event would come to pass. It had been declared to us from on high that the hour of God's judgment had come. We had seen those judgments, more or less, poured out upon the world, manifested sometimes by terrible fatalities. But we were told that before Christ again came the sun should be darkened and the moon turned into blood, Jerusalem should be rebuilt, and many other things be performed in the land of Israel. We need not deceive ourselves, however, for God had given us a great deal of prophecy and revelation relating to the restitution of this dispensation.

After citing several of these from

the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, the speaker said we were blessed with many revelations, doctrines, commandments, and principles that should be a guide to us in our every day life. He counseled the Saints to think more of holy things and less of the affairs of this world. By some persons, death had been regarded as the "king of terrors," but such was not the case with those who were filled with the Holy Ghost. Many of the righteous fell asleep in death as peacefully and calmly as did some fall into a natural sleep when they laid their heads upon the pillow at night. The terror of death lay in sin, when the conscience was burdened with guilt and a knowledge of evil deeds.

There was much to do in these last days; therefore, said Apostle Richards, in conclusion, let us be on the watch, keep diligently the commandments of God, walk before Him in all righteousness, and so train up our children that they may fear Him and serve Him faithfully all the days of their lives.

#### Apostle Moses Thatcher

Addressed the Conference. Following is a brief synopsis of his remarks: I hope to be able to speak under the influence of the same Spirit as that which animated those who have preceded me. These gatherings result in much good to the Saints who desire to serve the Lord. We should be grounded in the truth. Those who have the Holy Ghost need not err. They walk in the light which comes from our Heavenly Father. We should be more concerned about being prepared for coming events than filled with a desire to hasten them. There are many seductive spirits enticing us into dark and devious ways. The seed of the Gospel has been cast abroad, and there will be various yields. Where it has fallen among rocks it will be destroyed by the heat of the sun. The Book of Doctrine and Covenants tells the manner in which many have fallen—they have loved the things of the world and the honors of men. These allurements endanger our hopes of salvation? It is important that we know the Spirit we are following and manifest the fruits of the Gospel. Notwithstanding the efforts of the enemies of truth, it must be apparent to every observer that the Saints are being prospered in the things of the world. In this fact there is danger. I have always considered persecution as necessary. Blessings accrue to us through sacrifice. Happiness comes through being consistent and seeking to do good to the world.

I have never known a time when the authorities of the Church were more united than now. The Presidency are one; so are the Twelve. They have sought to lay aside any feeling of jealousy or envy that may have existed, and become united in Christ. I have never known a time when their union was more perfect than it is today.

Reference has been made to the coming of the Son of man. Brother Franklin D. Richards has cited events that must precede that great