

ful Saints, as he was with Joseph in their life-work. The quorum of Apostles would always be in existence. It was a quorum which would never be dissolved, but would exercise authoritatively and power in accordance with the responsibilities placed upon them.

All were exhorted to remain in the light and inspiration of the Gospel of Christ, persevering in good works, that the testimony of Jesus might remain with them forever, and they be saved from the burning of the dross when they should be tried as gold in the fire.

The choir sang:

The song of the Redeemed.

Benediction by Elder Seymour B. Young.

Afternoon Session.

The hymn which commences,

Praise ye the Lord! my heart shall join  
In work so pleasant, so divine,  
Now, while the flesh is my abode,  
And when my soul ascends to God,

was sung by the choir.

Prayer by Elder Edward Partridge.

Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God,

was sung by the choir.

PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

said there were two powers—those of good and evil—which had always existed and the latter invariably operated against God, Christ and His work. The evil spirits which were cast out of heaven had operated upon mankind to lead them into darkness from the beginning. President Woodruff narrated a number of incidents in which the power of evil spirits had been manifested among the Saints and had been overcome by the authority of the Priesthood. These manifestations of the influence of Satan referred to occurred in England during the early efforts of the Elders to introduce the Gospel into Great Britain. The speaker explained the principles upon which such malignant spirits operate, and stated that they would follow the Saints and have more or less power until Satan and his hosts should be banished from the earth and bound. The speaker had witnessed instances of men suffering themselves to be influenced by spirits which were not in union with the interests of the work of God. He then made an explanation of the condition of Moses Thatcher, and of the reasons why his case had not been disposed of by this time. He had not been united with the quorum for a number of years, and the reasons why action had not been taken in the matter was owing to the delicate state of his health. The present status of Brother Thatcher, however, could not be maintained; a change must ultimately be reached one way or the other. In the meantime he was in the hands of his quorum.

PRESIDENT LORENZO SNOW

testified to the truth of President Woodruff's remarks about Moses Thatcher's fellowship with the Twelve. The present quorum of Apostles was organized seven years ago, with himself as president. He had tried to bring about a union between the brethren of the quorum, which had failed only in the case of Moses Thatcher. His lack of union with the rest of the quorum had been apparent

more than a year before the dedication of the Temple. On the night before this event, the quorum labored until almost 2 a.m. to bring Moses Thatcher into union with the other members of the quorum. An understanding was arrived at which obviated the necessity of a mention of this disunion during the dedicatory exercises. From that time to the present other attempts had been made to bring Brother Thatcher to a proper position with reference to his relationship with his quorum; but it had been in vain so far. But President Snow was determined to continue his efforts in that direction, because of the love he felt for Brother Thatcher. His refusal to sign the address issued at the Conference six months ago was only a small matter compared with the conditions before referred to, although in this matter he had shown a lack of confidence in his brethren. The trouble had been in his whole course since the speaker had presided over the quorum. President Snow closed by exhorting the Saints to pray for Brother Thatcher, as he himself and the other members of the Council would do.

ELDER JOHN HENRY SMITH

said that within three days after Brother Moses Thatcher refused to comply with the request of the quorum of the Twelve he would have been dealt with had it not been for his illness. The explanations which had been given on this subject were necessary, that the authorities might not be deemed affected with fearfulness. There could be no doubt that the Twelve and the Presidency of the Church were in full sympathy with the expressions of Presidents Woodruff and Snow. The speaker stood by his resident and the President of the Church in the position they took in reference to this lamentable case. He still cherished a hope, however, that Brother Thatcher would yet, and at an early date, see his error. The speaker had been disposed to so express himself and act in this matter as to admit of the allowance of fully as much time to the principal as would be proper in which to completely make up his mind regarding his final action.

Elder Smith then discoursed upon the necessity of being guided by the counsels of those whom God had selected to preside over His work. He had not been blessed with a personal acquaintance with the Prophet Joseph Smith, but he knew that the mission of that great man was divine. He had been afforded opportunities of becoming acquainted with other men of God, however, and he knew that they were the servants of the Most High. Among these were Brigham Young, John Taylor and the present Presidency of the Church. The speaker closed with an earnest testimony to the divine character of the work of God founded by Joseph Smith, according to the revelations of the Almighty.

ELDER BRIGHAM YOUNG,

of the same quorum, spoke upon the subject of Moses Thatcher's position. The speaker had felt to mourn over the circumstance of Brother Thatcher standing out in opposition to his quorum, a thing which no man could do with safety. President Woodruff had given to the speaker the cause of

Moses Thatcher's darkness of mind, in the words, "He has sought to rule over his brethren, and lost the Spirit." The speaker read from section 122 of the book of Doctrine and Covenants, verses 40 to 46.

A man might cut himself off from the proper line of communication with God, and deprive himself of the companionship of the Spirit of God, the only true guide. A man who refused to endorse such a document as that which was presented to Brother Thatcher, bearing the signatures of President Woodruff and counselors and the other authorities of the Church, placed himself in opposition to the work and authority of God, and was in darkness.

ELDER HEBER J. GRANT,

also of the Council of the Apostles, was the next speaker. He spoke of the spirit of testimony, and proclaimed in all soberness and sincerity his absolute knowledge of the divinity of the mission of the latter-day Prophets, Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, John Taylor and Wilford Woodruff; and that no man could stand out against this testimony and hope to retain the blessings of God. He had prayed and pleaded for the salvation of the one who had been the chief subject of the afternoon's discourses, and had never felt in his heart to attack him, although he had been accused of doing so. He prayed that all might be saved from opposing the servants of God.

ELDER GEORGE TEASDALE,

of the quorum of the Twelve, followed with his testimony of the truth of the work of God, which had been manifested to so many in its saving principles and ordinances. If all had paid prayerful attention to the prophecies of the past, and the signs of the times, they would not be in a position of rebellion against God. They were expected to offer, to their Heavenly Father a broken heart and a contrite spirit. No man should accept the position of an Elder of Christ, without a willingness to submit to the rightful authority of those placed over him. The speaker had experienced great pleasure in his association with the quorum of Apostles, because of his willingness to do as directed under the Spirit of God. He bore a strong testimony to the divine mission of President Woodruff and Lorenzo Snow, and their humble faithfulness in their labors. He felt to place himself and his talent and possessions at the disposal of God, because he desired to advance righteousness and to gain the reward of the faithful. He testified to the truth of the remarks regarding Moses Thatcher, who had been one of his best friends; and it was still the speaker's desire that he would yet humble himself and enter into fellowship with his brethren.

PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. SMITH

admonished the people against unwise sympathy for those who are departing from their allegiance to the truth, and are doing wrong. He felt a love for those who were in the line of their duty, but if one steeled his heart against goodness and obedience, the speaker could not feel a love for him in his rebellion against God. He would let