

his eyes over the valley and looked for some little time. When he got through he said, "Brother Woodruff, drive on. Here is our home. This is the place God has pointed out for us to plant our feet. I have seen this place before." He began to recover right from that time. Well, we camped there, and we visited around some. President Young said, "Now, brethren, go where you please; go north, go south; go to any part of the country, and when you come back you will say this is the place." Men came from California, among them Brannan, who urged us strongly to go to California, saying that it was such a fine country, and we were there in a barren desert. But President Young said, "This is our home. Here we shall build the Temple of God and the city of our God." I think this has been plainly fulfilled. The inspiration of the Lord was with President Young all through his life, and the result of it is manifest. I traveled with him in the first settling of this country. Where is there a man that has the spirit of inspiration but can see the hand of God in these things? We have had our day of affliction, of persecution and poverty. All earth and hell, if I may be allowed to use such an expression, were combined against the Prophet Joseph Smith, from the time this Church was organized until he was slain in the flesh, and the same spirit continued through the life of Brother Brigham Young. But we came to these valleys of the mountains, and from the day that we planted our tents in Salt Lake City there has been a degree of prosperity resting upon this people, and it has increased year by year until to say. The Lord has been with us. Blessings have been poured out upon the Latter-day Saints, and we have had plenty of food and raiment. But I hope that none of us will get proud and lifted up in our hearts so that we shall forget the hand that has given unto us these things.

This is a dispensation in which the Lord has set His hand to establish His Church, to build up His Zion, to warn the world, to prepare the nations for the judgments of God, and to prepare His people to be united together as the bride, the Lamb's wife. My faith centres in the promises of God. There is no power on the face of this earth that can break this Church. Why? Because God holds it in His hands. He is the Author of it, and He has promised, through the mouths of seers and seers of prophets, that it shall stand. It is in fulfillment of these promises that you are blessed here with a Temple and have power to enter therein to attend to the ordinances of the House of the Lord. And when you reflect upon these matters, and see how far these things have been fulfilled, can you not have faith to believe that the Lord will carry it out to the end? I certainly have. I know it is the work of God. And the Lord has chosen this people, out of the whole human family, to stand in the flesh, keep the commandments of God, and go forth to warn the world by the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ that they may know and understand the judgments of God which await them. The Latter-day Saints have been working at this for sixty years, and we have not

got through with it yet. Behold what is taking place in the earth today! It really seems as if the day had almost dawned upon us when there is no other place of safety for the human family than the land of Zion. Three elements—fire, water and wind—seem to have been chosen to go forth on a mission to visit the nations. Cities are burned up, and floods and whirlwinds sweep away towns and villages and the inhabitants are destroyed. Are not these things all proclaimed by the revelations of God? They are, and they will come to pass.

Brethren and sisters, this is the mission given to us in the last days. And that man is a very foolish man who will divide upon any principle against the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I have had more sorrow over one apostate in this Church than I have in attending the funerals of all the patriarchs and prophets and Latter-day Saints that I ever followed to the grave; because when I see men and women die who have been faithful I know they have gained a victory. That is the way I feel today. We must work together for the welfare of Zion.

I am glad to see you and to spend a few days again in St. George. I want to do what good I can. I expect we shall all meet the other side of the veil with those who have gone before, and have joy and rejoicing in the Gospel of Christ. We should be faithful to the Lord, and we should not forget our prayers. Our sons and daughters should be instructed in these things, and we should labor for their welfare. What joy and consolation it gives a father or a mother to have good boys and girls, who keep the word of wisdom, attend to Sabbath schools, remember their prayers, and follow in the footsteps of their fathers; while it gives us sorrow when we have sons and daughters that turn away from this. But I have hope and faith that the sons of Zion will rise up and magnify their callings. I do not believe that they will disappoint our Heavenly Father.

Seeing a portion of our gallery occupied by quite a number of our Lamanite brethren and sisters, I feel disposed to make a few remarks.

The first time I ever saw Joseph Smith was in April, 1834. I met him in the streets of Kirtland. He invited me to his house. I stopped with him while preparing to go up to Zion in Zion's camp. On Sunday he called a Priesthood meeting. They all gathered in a little cabin. There I first heard Joseph Smith speak publicly, also Hyrum Smith, Oliver Cowdery, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Parley and Orson Pratt, and William E. McLellin. The Prophet called upon the Elders to bear testimony of the Gospel of Christ, and they arose one after another and bore a short testimony. Then Brother Joseph arose and said: "Brethren, I am very much edified and interested in listening to your testimony. But I want to tell you that you know no more concerning the result of this work and what lies before you as the Elders of Israel and before this people, than a parcel of little children." I expect they were all a little startled by it. He told them this work would fill the whole earth, and

that all nations would have to hear the proclamation of the Gospel. He further said: "This work will fill the Rocky Mountains with tens of thousands of Latter-day Saints, and there will be joined with them the Lamanites who dwell in those mountains, who will receive the Gospel of Christ at the mouth of Elders of Israel, and they will be united with the Church and Kingdom of God, and bring forth much good." I little thought, when I listened to those words, that I should ever live to see the fulfillment of these words of the Prophet. I little thought that I should ever visit the Rocky Mountains, or ever see the Lamanites of whom he then was speaking. These men before me today bring to my mind sayings of the Prophet. His mind expanded on that occasion and he had a good deal to say with regard to the progress of this work, what the Elders of Israel would have to pass through, and the work that God would require at their hands in the redemption of the Lamanites and the honest and meek throughout the world, and in the building up of the Zion of God on the earth. But I have lived to see these days. I have lived to see the Lamanites in these mountains. I have visited a great many of them—the Zunis, Lagunas, Moquis, Navajoes, Apaches, and a great many of these Indian tribes. I have preached the Gospel to them, in connection with my brethren, through interpreters. I have spent many interesting days with these Lamanites in the mountains of Israel. I spent three days in the wilderness in Arizona with Petone, the great war chief of the nation. I preached the Gospel to him. He called his tribe together, stood upon his feet some two hours or more, and told his tribe all that we had said to him. This tribe was looked upon as a very dangerous one in the midst of the nation, and this Petone had engaged in a great deal of warfare.

I rejoice that I have lived to see this day; that I have lived to see the Rocky Mountains; that I have been gathered with the Latter-day Saints here. A great deal has been done by this people, but much more will have to be done. We tell sometimes about dreams. I had a dream one night about our Temple in Salt Lake. I thought the Temple was dedicated and organized, and was the Elders of Israel were laboring there for the redemption of our dead, and suddenly there was a door opened in the west, and an Indian chief came into the Temple, leading a vast host of his tribe, and took possession of the Temple, and I thought they performed more work in one hour than we could do in a day. This made a strong impression on my mind. I am satisfied that although we have done a little for the Lamanites, we have got to do a great deal more. I believe I sealed the first Lamanite man and woman together that ever were sealed in this dispensation. It was in the Endowment House, and quite a number of brethren and sisters were present. The man's name was Laman. I believe the day will come when these Lamanites, with the dark skin that rests upon them, will enter into these Temples of the Lord in these mountains and do a great deal of work. They will come to an understanding of the redemption of the dead. They