

work; but when He does call men to do His work they have to trust in Him.

I marvel today, in my own mind, why I stand before you as the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I have been associated with some forty Apostles in my day and time. Twenty-four of them—two quorums—are today in the spirit world. There is a quorum of young men, many of them the sons of Apostles who have passed away, with us today. Well, when I look at this and see that I am still in the midst of Israel, and realize that I have been called to this position, I marvel at it. But it is the business of the Lord and not of man. It is not a position that I have sought. On the other hand, the eternal truth of this responsibility stares me in the face. I know that I am responsible, for the position that I hold today, to the God of heaven, who has chosen me, as are these apostles before me and these tens of thousands of Elders of Israel who now dwell in the flesh on the earth. I attended a Priesthood meeting here last evening with quite a number of those bearing the Priesthood. I look upon the responsibility of these people as being very great. We have been called upon in this day to receive the Priesthood and to go forth and preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to this generation—to the Gentiles first, and then to the House of Israel. This has been my lot. It has been the lot of these Apostles, and many, yea thousands, of the leaders of the Latter-day Saints. We have been called upon to preach the Gospel of Christ to this generation and to warn them of the judgments which are to come.

There has been a great deal said at this conference. We have had strong testimonies borne by the Elders of Israel who have addressed us. I remarked at the commencement of this conference (there were comparatively few people here then) concerning our position and revelation. I remarked that Moses gave revelations to Israel. We have the Bible—the stick of Judah—containing the law of God through Moses and through the ancient prophets and patriarchs. It has been handed down to us through the thousands of years that are past and gone. While libraries, like the library of Alexandria (which was destroyed by an Arab chief and took days and days to burn, it being one of the largest ever gathered together in the world) have perished, the Bible has been preserved unto us, and we have it to read. It gives unto us the law of God given to the ancients. But there has been no change in that law, so far as the gospel is concerned, from that day until this. The Bible—the Old and the New Testament—gives unto us the law whereby we may be exalted and go back again into the presence of God and dwell with Him for ever and ever. It gives unto us the course we should pursue in order to receive a part in the first resurrection, that we may come forth clothed with glory, immortality and eternal life. It also gives us the history, not only

of what is passed with the Jews, but of what is to come to pass. Then we have the Book of Mormon—the stick of Joseph in the hands of Ephraim—that was written upon this continent by apostles and prophets. It contains, among other things, the teachings of Jesus Christ when he appeared, after his resurrection, in his immortal and glorious body, and taught the gospel here. Those revelations contain a great many principles. They show unto us the final winding-up scene, the situation of great Babylon and the judgments that were to come to pass in the last days before the coming of the Son of Man. We have also the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, which you have in your houses and which you can read. This code of revelation was given through the mouth of the Prophet Joseph Smith, by the Urim and Thummim and otherwise. That book contains some of the most glorious and most sublime revelations God ever gave to man. It shows unto us what lies before us, what awaits this nation and the nations of the earth, and what is at the door of the inhabitants of the earth. These things are clear, they are pointed, they are strong, and they are the revelations of God, and they will be fulfilled, whether men believe it or not.

Now, with regard to present revelation. President Young led us a great many years. He led us to these valleys. He was a man of God, filled with revelation. His teachings were attended by the inspirations of Almighty God. He laid the foundation of the building of this whole Territory. He governed and controlled this Tabernacle we are in, the Temple we are building, and other Temples that we have built in this Territory; and in all his counsels the word of the Lord was with him. He had but few revelations that were written and published to the world. But we had the word of the Lord through him day by day. The same with President Taylor. We have already got, as I said before, this code of revelation, which we can read every day, and which is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction, to guide us in the way of life from day to day and from year to year while we dwell in the flesh. When the Apostles and Elders of Israel are called to teach you, when they are called to go abroad and to teach the inhabitants of the earth, they are commanded of the Lord to speak as they are moved upon by the Holy Ghost; and when a man speaks as he is moved upon by the Holy Ghost, it is the word of the Lord, it is the mind of the Lord, it is the will of the Lord, it is Scripture, it is the power of God unto salvation unto every one that believes. If we do not have the Holy Ghost we have no business to teach. But when the Elders of Israel do teach you by the Holy Ghost, you have the revelations of God to you. We have these revelations lying before us for our guidance day by day, as well as the living oracles.

I would say to the President of the United States, to the Congress

of the United States, to the Cabinet, and to all the inhabitants of this land, as well as to all the nations of the earth—kings, emperors, princes and people—do not worry about these Latter-day Saints. I would say to all nations under heaven, if these people are not the people of God, if this work has not been established by God Almighty, they will fall of themselves, they will be swept from the face of the earth by the judgments of God, when Great Babylon falls. But if they are of God, what can you do about it? What can the nations of the earth do about it? Have the nations forgotten that there is a God in Israel? Have they forgotten that there is a God who created the heavens and the earth, and that He governs and controls all these things? If He has set His hand to perform this work, there is no power on the face of the earth, or in hell, that can destroy it, because Jehovah holds it in His own hands. He holds our destiny and the destiny of all the world in His hands. But the great difficulty with this nation and with all nations is, as it has been in every age, they do not acknowledge the hand of God in any of these things. You see it in the history of the whole world and in the dealings of God with men and cities and nations, from the creation of the world. I have referred to these things before in my remarks. Whenever a nation is ripened in iniquity, the Lord raises up prophets and inspired men and they are sent forth to warn that nation, and when they have warned the people and given unto them the word of the Lord, that word will not fall unfulfilled. We have before us a great many instances of the dealings of God with men. We have a fair example in Babylon the Great. King Nebuchadnezzar, surrounded with the city walls a hundred feet high and wide enough for several chariots to ride abreast upon the top thereof, with brazen gates and with a power to defy all but God himself, what did he say: "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?" The prophet might have told Nebuchadnezzar that the God of heaven had proclaimed a man before he was born that would come and take that great city and destroy its ruler. Cyrus was named by the Lord before he was born, through the mouth of the prophet; and when the time came, as King Belshazzar and his princes were feasting and drinking wine out of the cups that had been brought from the temple at Jerusalem, he took possession of the city and carried off the treasures. The army of Cyrus turned the river out of its course and walked in under the walls of the city. Belshazzar was taken prisoner and slain, and the city went into the hands of people they were not looking for. What did Cyrus do when he took the city of Babylon? He took the riches—cattle, horses and property—there was in that city and offered them as a sacrifice to the great God. This is the course that a heathen king took; and we understand, from