

tered; but it is the same God who worketh all in all; and they are given by the manifestations of the Spirit of God unto men, to profit them.

For behold, to one is given by the Spirit of God, that he may teach the word of wisdom;

And to another, that he may teach the work of knowledge by the same Spirit;

And to another, exceeding great faith; and to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit.

And again, to another, that he may work mighty miracles;

And again, to another that he may prophesy concerning all things;

And again, to another, the beholding of angels and ministering spirits;

And again, to another, all kinds of tongues;

And again, to another, the interpretation of languages and of divers kinds of tongues;

And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ; and they come unto every man severally, according as he will.

And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that every good gift cometh of Christ.

And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that he is the same yesterday, today and for ever, and that all these gifts of which I have spoken, which are spiritual, never will be done away, even as long as the world shall stand, only according to the unbelief of the children of men.

Here we have another prophet that gives the same testimony to the nation unto whom he wrote that Paul does, in almost the identical language, because both of them spoke and wrote by the Spirit of God. But the Prophet Moroni explains more fully even than Paul does concerning these gifts. He said "that if the day cometh that the power and gifts of God shall be done away among you, it shall be because of unbelief." Not because God is not willing to bestow gifts upon His children, for as this prophet says, "God is not a partial God, neither a changeable Being; but he is unchangeable from all eternity to all eternity." His dealings with the children of men are alike. If they come to him with faith and obey His Gospel, He is bound by the promises that He has made to bestow upon them the same blessings, and not to discriminate between His children; for if He did so, He would not be a just Being. But justice is his attribute, and He deals justly with His children. He gives unto them His gifts and blessings according to their faith. To one He gives one gift, to another He gives another gift. These gifts are given by Him for the perfection of His people; that in this vale of tears, shut out as we are from His presence, a veil of darkness having been drawn, as it were, between us and Him, those who will exercise faith in His promises and will keep His commandments may receive the aid that is necessary to enable them to walk before Him and to enjoy His power. We are in a state of probation, and to a certain extent in a state of darkness. Many men in their unbelief say, "If God be God, why does He not reveal Himself to men? Why does He not show His face? Why does He not give tangible evidence of His existence? Why does He leave us to walk in the dark, groping hither and thither to find the light? If He be the Being that the Scriptures say He is, why does He not reveal Himself with greater plainness unto mankind and dissipate those doubts, remove this darkness, and end these controversies and this contention?"

Skeptics ask these questions. But those who have faith in God understand that this is a state of probation; that we

are sent purposely to have our faith tested and developed. By the exercise of faith, a knowledge of God can be obtained as well as the blessings and gifts of God, so that man need not walk in darkness and in doubt. He can receive the evidences from the Lord, by the exercise of faith, that will convince him of the existence of his Father in heaven, and also of His willingness to hear and answer the prayers and supplications which are addressed to Him in sincerity; It is for this purpose that these gifts are bestowed; that those who do obey the commandments of God shall have privileges, blessings and powers that those who do not take this course cannot have. The bestowal of these is to create a distinction between the people of God and those who are not His people; to give them that superiority which the enjoyment of these gifts bring.

We have been endeavoring for sixty-three years, as I have said, to lead mankind to believe that these things are possible. But it has been an uphill business. There have been great obstacles in the way. Men have doubted it. Why? They have asked this question. "The generations that have preceded us lived without these blessings; have they therefore come short?" They cannot understand it. Because these blessings and gifts have not been enjoyed, they look upon it as an evidence that it was not intended that they should be enjoyed; not taking into account the statement that I have read in your hearing, that through unbelief these gifts have been withdrawn. Men have not enjoyed them because they have not believed they could be enjoyed. How could it be expected that men would receive these gifts if they did not believe it was the will of God to bestow them? That has been the condition of the world. We find it so in our missionary efforts. We find the whole world, it may be said, in this condition. Men who have read the Bible all their days, and who have based their hopes of salvation upon its words, are to be found in every land in this condition of unbelief concerning these gifts and blessings.

Our Father in heaven determined to restore in our day the truth to the earth. He has restored it. He has restored His church. He has restored the authority of the everlasting Priesthood, by means of which mankind can receive the ordinances and the blessings which always follow obedience to these ordinances.

To show you, brethren and sisters and friends, that it is God's design that these gifts should be enjoyed in our day, I will read from a revelation that God has given to this Church through His prophet. It is a revelation given shortly after the Church was organized. The Lord says:

Wherefore, beware lest ye are deceived; and that ye may not be deceived, seek ye earnestly the best gifts, always remembering for what they are given:

For verily I say unto you, they are given for the benefit of those who love me and keep all my commandments, and him that seeketh so to do, that all may be benefited that seeketh or that asketh of me, that asketh and not for a sign that he may consume it upon his lust.

And again, verily I say unto you, I would that ye should always remember, and always retain in your minds what those gifts are that are given unto the church.

I think it is very important that as Latter-day Saints we should always re-

tain in our minds what these gifts are that are given unto the Church. Not unto the church of the Corinthians, not unto the church of the Ephesians, not unto any of the primitive churches is this word of God addressed; but unto us who now live and who constitute the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

For all have not every gift given unto them; for there are many gifts, and to every man is given a gift by the Spirit of God:

To some it is given one, and to some is given another, that all may be profited thereby;

To some it is given by the Holy Ghost to know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that he was crucified for the sins of the world;

To others it is given to believe on their words, that they also might have eternal life if they continue faithful.

And again, to some it is given by the Holy Ghost to know the differences of administration, as it will be pleasing unto the same Lord, according as the Lord will, suiting his mercies according to the conditions of the children of men.

And again, it is given by the Holy Ghost to some to know the diversities of operations, whether is be of God, that the manifestations of the Spirit may be given to every man to profit withal.

And again, verily I say unto you, to some it is given, by the Spirit of God, the word of wisdom;

To another it is given the word of knowledge, that all may be taught to be wise and to have knowledge.

And again, to some it is given to have faith to be healed,

And to others it is given to have faith to heal.

And again, to some it is given the working of miracles.

And to others it is given to prophecy,

And to others the discerning of spirits.

And again, it is given to some to speak with tongues,

And to another it is given the interpretation of tongues:

And all these gifts cometh from God, for the benefit of the children of God.

And unto the bishop of the church, and unto such as God shall appoint and ordain to watch over the church, and to be elders unto the church, are to have it given unto them to discern all those gifts, lest there shall be any among you professing and yet be not of God.

And it shall come to pass that he that asketh in Spirit shall receive in Spirit;

That unto some it may be given to have all those gifts, that there may be a head, in order that every member may be profited thereby:

He that asketh in the Spirit asketh according to the will of God, wherefore it is done, even as he asketh.

And again, I say unto you, all things must be done in the name of Christ, whatsoever ye do in the Spirit;

And ye must give thanks unto God in the Spirit for whatsoever blessing ye are blessed with;

And ye must practice virtue and holiness before me continually. Even so. Amen.

This is the word of God to this Church in our day, showing that these gifts and blessings are ours if we will live for them. I have read to you the testimony of an ancient Apostle to the people unto whom he was sent. His testimony is that these gifts were to be enjoyed by the Church. I have read to you the writings of another Prophet, who dwelt on this land. He bears testimony, in almost the same language as Paul, being inspired by the same Spirit, that these gifts would always be enjoyed as long as the world should stand, and that they never would be done away with only through the unbelief of the children of men. And I have read to you the words of God through His Prophet in our day, bearing testimony that these gifts are for the Church now,