

delity and for men thinking that after all there is not so much in this Christian religion as those who advocate it assume; because if Buddha, and Confucius knew these truths, where are the claims of the Christians that the Savior was the first to introduce them in His sermon on the Mount? Men put themselves in a false position by making such statements; for the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is as old as eternity.

Happily we have been delivered from that foolish error by the revelations which God has given unto us. God has revealed unto us that Adam himself was taught the Gospel in the same purity and with the same power and gifts that it was taught to the Twelve apostles whom the Lord chose as His disciples. We have been taught that Jesus Himself was the Revelator, so to speak. He was the Being who revealed to Adam and to his children, to Abraham, to Moses and to the prophets, the plan of salvation, and gave them the laws which they practiced. The offering of bullocks and other animals and fowls was typical of the great offering that should be made, and there was a purpose in view in making these offerings. But it is consummate folly for this generation to suppose they can measure and judge the Lord by their knowledge, or can fully understand His methods of dealing with the children of men in former ages unless He reveals this knowledge to them. This generation should not lift itself up in pride and think that it embodies all knowledge and is superior to every preceding generation. That has been a conceit that all generations have more or less entertained, and it has proved the ruin and downfall of many of them. They have thought they were the foremost in the ranks of men, and that no one until they lived had made such progress as they. Too many of our scientific men and religious teachers are puffed up with this kind of pride. They think they understand science, and the constant endeavor of some is to reconcile the Bible with science; while there are others who think they cannot be reconciled. But it is the fashion now to extol science; and many ministers of religion almost worship it. In doing so they think they are keeping abreast of the spirit of the age. Yet the truths of the Gospel are eternal, and after all it will be found that science will have to agree with them. The truths which God has revealed are immutable and they cannot be weakened or shaken by science or discussion. If scientific theories differ from them, the theories must go down.

We hear considerable about evolution. Who is there that believes more in true evolution than the Latter-day Saints?—the evolution of man until he shall become a god; until he shall sit at the right hand of the Father; until he shall be a joint heir with Jesus! That is the Gospel of Jesus Christ, believed in by the Latter-day Saints. That is the kind of evolution we believe in; but not the evolution of man from some low type of animal life. There is a tendency today in the scientific world to entertain and advocate such ideas concerning the origin of man. The attempt is made to prove that man has come up from the low-

est depths through the stone age, the bronze age, the iron age, until he has reached his present condition. This is incorrect. Man is the son of God, and came here perfect from the eternal worlds. Adam was made in the image of God, and he stood upright before Him. His children, however, fell into darkness and sin, and corrupted themselves; and probably there were times when they used flints, just as geologists now attempt to prove, and afterwards, bronze and iron. But that was not man's original condition. He came from God perfect, and he was so intelligent as to give names to all the animal creation, and he became their lord and master. He knew God and walked with Him. And God was, of a similitude then. He knew just as much as scientific men do now, I think. It has not been necessary for Him to go to school since the days of Adam in order to learn knowledge. He always knew what He comprehends today, and He could teach Adam everything that was necessary to be taught. Not only that, but men who lived as long as they did must have learned an immense amount. Think of it, Adam living nearly a thousand years! What progress he would make in the knowledge of earthly things, even supposing he started out ignorant! So with the others, until the earth was filled with knowledge. But men corrupted themselves and fell into darkness and sin, and became so wicked that God, in order that wickedness might not destroy His purposes, had to send a flood to wipe them out, excepting a few. Enoch walked with God three hundred and sixty-five years, and the Bible says he was not, for God took him. If he walked with God that length of time, he must have known something about Him, and about the heavens, and about the organization of the earth, and something about what is called science now, geological as well as astronomical. Our revelations tell us that not only he but his city was translated. They were all taken, with the exception of Methuselah, who was left on the earth, because the promise had been made to him that through him one should arise who should be the progenitor of a new world. This proved to be Noah, his grandson. After that the earth waxed worse and worse until the flood was sent and destroyed the world. I might read you something to show you how much Adam knew about the Gospel. There are many precious parts of the Bible which have been taken from it. It has passed through a great many hands and has been mutilated to a very great extent, many parts that would throw great light upon God's dealings with men having been taken away from it. But this part that I read from has been restored by revelation in our day.

And he called upon our father Adam by his own voice, saying, I am God; I made the world and men before they were in the flesh; and he also said unto him, If thou wilt turn unto me and hearken unto my voice, and believe, and repent of all thy transgressions, and be baptized, even in water, in the name of mine Only Begotten Son, who is full of grace and truth, which is Jesus Christ, the only name which shall be given under heaven, whereby salvation shall come unto the children of men, ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, ask-

ing all things in His name, and whatsoever ye shall ask it shall be given you.

And our father Adam spake unto the Lord, and said, Why is it that men must repent and be baptized in water? And the Lord said unto Adam, Behold I have forgiven thee thy transgression in the Garden of Eden. Hence came the saying abroad among the people, That the Son of God hath atoned for original guilt, wherein the sins of the parents cannot be answered upon the heads of the children, for they are whole from the foundation of the world.

And the Lord spake unto Adam, saying, Inasmuch as thy children are conceived in sin, even so when they begin to grow up, sin conceiveth in their hearts, and they taste the bitter, that they may know to prize the good. And it is given unto them to know good from evil; wherefore they are agents unto themselves, and I have given unto you another law and commandment. Wherefore teach it unto your children; that all men, everywhere, must repent, or they can in no wise inherit the kingdom of God, for no unclean thing can dwell there, or dwell in his presence; for, in the language of Adam, Man of Holiness is his name; and the name of his Only Begotten is the Son of Man, even Jesus Christ, a righteous Judge who shall come in the meridian of time. Therefore I give unto you a commandment, to teach these things freely unto your children, saying, That by reason of transgression cometh the fall, which fall bringeth death, and inasmuch as ye were born into the world by water, and blood, and the spirit, which I have made, and so became of dust a living soul, even so ye must be born again into the kingdom of heaven, of water, and of the Spirit, and be cleansed by blood, even the blood of mine Only Begotten; that ye might be sanctified from all sin, and enjoy the words of eternal life in this world, and eternal life in the world to come, even immortal glory: For by the water ye keep the commandment, by the Spirit ye are justified, and by the blood ye are sanctified; therefore it is given to abide in you; the record of heaven; the Comforter; the peaceable things of immortal glory; the truth of all things; that which quickeneth all things, which maketh alive all things; that which knoweth all things, and hath all power, according to wisdom, mercy, truth, justice, and judgment.

There is much of the same character in this revelation, which shows plainly that in that early day God sent His angels to Adam; that he repented of his sins and was baptized in water by an angel, and he received the Holy Ghost, just as much as we who live now do, and probably in greater power. These are the principles of the Gospel, and this was in the beginning. Every principle that was taught to men by the Savior in His day, so far as pertained to the Gospel, was taught in those early days. It is the height of folly, it is a libel on our Father in heaven, to say that those men who lived in those days dwelt in ignorance, or that the revelations of God to them were imperfect, or that God has improved since their day. He was perfect then; He knew all things then; and He taught that which was necessary then for man's salvation. The name of Jesus is the only name given under heaven whereby man can be saved. No man could be saved in the beginning without that name, and if he did not hear it on the earth he would have to hear it somewhere else, or he could not be saved. Paul speaks of this in the third chapter of Galatians,