

## DISCOURSE

REST. GEORGE Q. CANNON  
DELIVERED  
at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City  
Sunday afternoon, Nov. 9th, 1884.  
REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

12th verse of the 3rd chapter.

42 For the eyes of the Lord are over the  
righteous, and his ears are open unto the  
righteous: but the face of the Lord is against  
them that do evil.

43 And who is he that will harm you, if ye  
be followers of that which is good?

44 But and if ye suffer for righteousnesses  
happy are ye: and be not afraid of  
them, neither be troubled:

45 But sanctify the Lord God in your  
arts: and be ready always to give an  
answer to every man that asketh you a reason  
of the hope that is in you, with meekness  
and fear.

46 Having a good conscience, that when ye  
are reproved, ye may be able to answer that which

18 For Christ also hath once suffered for  
us, the just for the unjust, that he might  
bring us to himself by the flesh, and  
kill the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:  
19 By which also he went and preached  
to the spirits in prison;  
20 In which much longer disolvement, who  
receives the long suffering of God waited in  
the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparin  
herein few that is, eight souls were saved  
by water.  
21 The like figure whereunto *erren baptis*  
th also now save us, (not the putting away  
the filth of the flesh, but the answer of  
a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrec  
tion of Jesus Christ:  
22 Who is gone into heaven, and is on the  
right hand of God; angels and authorities  
and powers being made subject unto him.

men have wrought the will of the Gentile  
 men we walked in lasciviousness, lust-  
 ing, in the eyes of the world, as we were  
 in our evil doings, banquetings, and  
 in committing fornications;  
 Wherein they think it strange that  
 we must not *with them* to the same excess  
 of sin, speaking evil of *you*.  
 Who shall give account to him that  
 is the Judge of the living and the dead.  
 For for this cause was the gospel  
 preached also to them that are dead, that  
 they might be judged according to men,  
 but live according to God in the  
 spirit.  
 But the end of all things is at hand:  
 therefore let us be sober, and let us have  
 mercy on one another.  
 And above all things have fervent char-  
 ity among yourselves for charity shall cover  
 a multitude of sins.  
 These words, my brethren and sis-

They are exceedingly appropriate to the circumstances, and were written to former-day slaves. The circumstances which surround the former days no doubt were similar in many respects to those which surround the present day, and, therefore, the inference that they are not scattered to the same extent they were; we have gathered together from the manuscript, and are now living in one community in these mountains. But that is the same power of evil, the same power of good, the same Spirit of God, and we are now experiencing it then, and were experienced by the Saints who look upon them as the words of Christ, the words of us who now live.

Since I have come into this stand my health has been so good, that I can preach a few days again, and return to the minister of the Dutchess County, who has been through this city, and who was introduced to me, and had a good man, who was a member of the church. When I told him how God had blessed Himself in these last days, he said, "I have been here for

vation, the Gospel in its original purity and power, accompanied with the Holy Ghost and its gifts, and had organized the Church as in ancient times, and related to him what God had said concerning all the churches in Christendom, he had the question to ask, which is so frequently asked of all Elders when they travel and declare the same message, "Why have I left the Christian world for so long a time without these blessings and these powers and these gifts that you now claim as belonging to your church and having been restored from heaven? And what has become

“Gospel salvation?”  
These are very pertinent questions. These are questions frequently asked by all our Elders. They are questions which suggest to them the possibility of a man when he is told that at God has restored the truth in its original purity, with the power and authority of the Priesthood which have been restored to the Church, that he may have known, at least some of them: we may have known the morality of their lives, the purity of their intentions, the goodness of their motives. We may have known that they did not understand the principles of the Gospel when we are told the message that the Elders have to bear, that they are to be the bearers of the message to our grandfathers, our grandmothers,

at they are not in the presence of  
d? Why, better people I never knew  
d I have always thought," says the  
quirer, "that they really had gone to  
aven, and now you tell me that they  
I do not understand the Gospel, you tell  
I that unless I am baptized I shall  
damned, and yet they are dead and  
ve not been baptized."

expect many feel as the heathen

He had surrendered his old conviction, and he had willingly consented to receive the sacrament of baptism. A Catholic Bishop from Rome was to sprinkle him. But before submitting to be sprinkled the king had asked the question what had become of his ancestors. The Bishop, more ready than an apologist, said, "They have gone to

Now, I expect that there are many people in the world who, in the absence, or for the want of knowledge concerning the plan of salvation

they would be damned. But when people are enlightened concerning the plan of Jehovah, the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, they can easily reconcile justice and mercy as being attributes of the Great Being whom we worship. I remarked to this gentleman, "I can easily answer your question by propounding another question to you: Are you a Christian minister; you teach what you believe to be the Gospel; what has become of the millions of people who have been named as

"Oh," said he, "but they were no

...d I, "Do you think that God makes a distinction between the souls of the spirits of men? Is there one class of spirits for whom He has greater respect than He has for others? Is a Christian soul more valuable, or more precious, in the sight of our Creator than the soul of a heathen?"

But he could see a wide distinction between those who were Christians and those who were not. Nevertheless the difficulty still remains, and it will ever remain to those who do not comprehend the plan of salvation as revealed by the Lord Jesus.



severe condemnation. There-  
in the spirit world there are  
of punishment just as there are  
of spirits who are ignorant  
men who never heard the name  
have lived according to the  
that God gave them; for God has  
to every man that is born into  
world, according to the revelations  
we received, His Spirit. He has  
unto every man and woman His  
not the gift of the Holy Ghost,  
Spirit by which they are led  
ended. Some call it the light of  
ence, the voice of conscience.  
never committed a wrong that  
led to that voice without being

to the light of the Gospel or in entire ignorance of it. Every man within him a spirit which from our Great Creator, and if we do not let lead us, guides us, and we may not know it. In the case with many thousands and millions of human beings, as all the children of men when listen to it: it leads them in the peace, in the path of virtue, in the happiness: but if they do not at spirit, they cry it, they go to its monitions, if they harden their hearts against and sin against it departs, and another spirit takes place, namely, the spirit of gloom.

[illegible]

For example, how can we conduct in their dealings—and in their desires—as you think of these, you need afraid that they have lost anyone because they died in ignorance? Son of God, I tell you that providence is over all His children; He will reward every man and woman according to his or her work, and we will reward every exemplary lives, those who are moral, whether they be heathen Christian, whether they be named the name of Jesus or not, or have had the Bible or some other book, no book whatever may have been their aid and circumstances. If they

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they give him and to the laws  
 they understood, God will reward  
 them and eventually give every  
 one upon them which they seek  
 of receiving. Yes, those poor  
 who persecute us, those peo-  
 ple would, in their ignorance, de-  
 sires, we can well say to them and  
 sing them that which Stephen  
 then said to give up the ghost.  
 "Lord, Thy mercy be shewed  
 for his belief. He had declared  
 the Gospel; but they stoned  
 him to death. Before he died he said—  
 "The spirit which every man of  
 who comprehends the purposes  
 and the plan of salvation will  
 and always give utterance to

They were ignorant. He therefore sought the Father to forgive them; they did not know what they were doing. Therefore it is instantly made proved by the fact that the man at whose feet lay the clothes of him who committed this bloody deed afterwards became a flaming light of the Church and Kingdom of God. He ultimately laid down his life for his brethren and was crowned a die for, and which at the time of death was a righteous judgment upon him.

Brethren and sisters, we can all be charitable. As the Apostles said: "Above all things have charity, which is the bond of perfect union." Let us strive for each other's good, and our own.

charity for an ignorant world  
 won't not what they do not fighting  
 toward, in fighting against His  
 in a sea of His His His His His  
 from the face of the earth: they  
 not what they do. We would  
 them if we could. We would carry  
 Gospel of salvation to them. We  
 fly, as we have been, to endure  
 for the sake of the souls of  
 the women. We would  
 to continent, from land to  
 om island to island, wherever  
 as a door open, to preach the  
 We have forsaken home, for-  
 gives and children, and all the  
 of that home, everything that  
 we and hold sacred, even the  
 of our lives, for the salva-

scrip, gone forth in the midst  
of me and in my name. In the face  
of the most cruel and  
of the most dreadful charac-  
ters, I don't think we are stu-  
pid, we shall do it, until every soul  
under the broad canopy of heaven  
hear the Gospel of the Son of  
his message of life and salvation  
has been entrusted to us. Every  
shall hear the glad tidings of  
son. They shall be judged by  
the Father. The Father shall  
of God or His condemnation  
according to their willingness to  
or their determination to re-  
the Gospel; and then when this  
ended, when this mortal is laid

thority of the Son of God; with that authority; enveloped, even the fullness of it; we go into the spirit world and glorious as the world of spirits, brethren and sisters who once in the flesh, natl throughout the world the Gospel of salvation heard from one end of it to the other. It is a neverending work that we have taken upon ourselves. It never terminate until this earth is redeemed, until the power of the Father's substance is upon all. All be banished from the earth. He reigns whose right it is to and every knee shall bow and tongue confess that Jesus is the

concerned; but it will never  
until all who belong to this  
whoever were born upon it—no  
in what age, no matter what  
no matter what nationality—  
be redeemed who can be re-  
deemed.

My brethren and sisters, you  
see little idea of the character  
of work in which we are engaged.  
set too much value upon our  
ood—when we talk about  
ood and authority—when these  
labors that attend the Priest-  
hood that devolve upon it? No,  
not value our calling too highly.  
say to you that you have entered

away your time; you may be different and careless; but you see thereby the progress that might be made. Unless you come to an unpardonable sin, you will progress. It is written in the 7 of our God that every soul that progresses that does not retrograde. Therefore, make good use of the time you have. Now is the time of your probation, now is the time of harvest, now is the summer of your days. Let us enjoy this harvest, because the probation is ended, and my soul is not in bondage. But let us bear in mind that the probation that God has given us. Let us make use of it by doing the works of righteousness, by

in Christ Jesus; which may  
grant in the name of Jesus.

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