

and this great work will go on despite all the obstacles and difficulties which may beset it. Let us be true and faithful to our covenants and the blessing of God will assuredly rest upon us and our labors in His cause.

Apostle Anton H. Lund

said in substance: I have enjoyed listening to the testimonies borne and teachings given by the brethren. The prediction to the effect that this work should be a marvel and a wonder has been fulfilled. This can be comprehended when the nature of this work, then in its inception, sixty years ago is compared to its present status. Those who were connected with the Church when it was organized looked forward to this day and were glad. The prophecies of Joseph have been partly fulfilled and the remainder will also be verified. He was told that his name should be known for good and evil throughout the earth, and that the Book of Mormon, the record of the ancient inhabitants of this continent should be revealed and published abroad and be a means of manifesting the Gospel in greater plainness. There has been no necessity to change any of the principles inculcated in the plan of salvation, because, being true, they are eternal. Joseph was shown by the power of God that those who embraced the Gospel should gather from the nations of the earth, and he predicted that the Church should remove to the Rocky Mountains. These things have all been fulfilled, and it is a marvelous work.

It is true that men have apostatized, that men high in authority have fallen, but that is no proof that this work is not of God. Some of those men who followed the Prophet Joseph Smith and were called to assist him did not remain faithful; but one thing is evident to all those who study the matter, that those witnesses to the Book of Mormon, those who published their names to the world, all adhered to their testimony; they never recanted or took it back. They did not dare to deny; and although cut off from the Church, we find that they would still give their testimony to the world that they had seen the plates from which this work was translated. Some persons may ask, "How is it possible that men who had seen angels and had such a testimony could fall away from the Church, as these men did?" Men may see angels and have revelations, and as long as they obey the whisperings of the Holy Spirit they will not apostatize; but when they begin to feel that they have strength enough in themselves, and fail to acknowledge God as their Helper, then they cannot stand.

My testimony is that God has established His work upon the earth and will carry it to a successful issue; that this is the kingdom as was predicted, and that we will see the Lord fulfil His promises to His Saints. We have nothing to fear; and as President Woodruff told us this morning, we need not be troubled. God is at the helm and will steer the good ship Zion into a safe harbor.

Apostle Mariner W. Merrill

spoke in substance as follows:

I have had many reflections today in looking back over our history. I was not personally connected with the history of the Church before coming to this country, but I have been somewhat familiar with that of our people since 1853, that being the year I came to America. I have attended many Conferences in this city—in the old tabernacle here, in the old Bowery, and more recently in this building. I have been led to ask myself the question, Where are our brethren whom we saw upon the stand in years gone by? Where is President Young, Jedediah M. Grant, Heber C. Kimball, George A. Smith, Orson Pratt, and other Apostles? Many of those present have perhaps heard these men bear faithful testimony to this work, they having been identified with it from the beginning. But they have gone on the other side of the veil, where they are actively engaged in promulgating the Gospel of the Son of God.

It has been said by some people in recent years—by those who know not our people, our methods and designs—that those men whom I have just named were not loyal to the government of our country, that they encouraged bloodshed, anarchy and opposition to law. I, for one, having had personal acquaintance with our deceased brethren, know that these statements are untrue. They were not only loyal to the government, but faithful and true to their Church and people. They sought the welfare and salvation of the Saints and of the whole world. During the settlement of the north by the Saints, where we were surrounded by the Indians, people hostile to us, when some of our brethren were actually slain, President Young's advice to the Saints was this: "Do not shed their blood; it is not our mission, it is not our calling to shed the blood of our fellows. Feed them rather than to fight them." This has been the policy of our leaders all the time, both in the north and in the south, and among all the people scattered throughout this land—to save, not to destroy, the lives of men.

We are called upon to build Temples; but we learn in the sacred book that David was not permitted to build a Temple because he was a man of war and bloodshed. The Lord does not require His people to shed the blood of their fellow-men, but He requires them to have a crown of light set upon a hill, to the God-fearing, honest, straightforward and upright in all the affairs of life—an example to all the world.

We are assembled here today from various States and Territories, to hear the word of the Lord through His servants. If we want a good Conference and to enjoy the Spirit of the Lord we must come in to this building humbly and peacefully, seeking to know the Lord and to hear His voice through His servants. The Lord has been very merciful to us ever since we first came into this place, when it was an

unfruitful desert. He has blessed this land of Zion to us, and will preserve it until He sees fit that we should go somewhere else. We must not, however, set our hearts upon the things of the world to the neglect of those duties required of us as the servants of God.

I exhort you all to seek the Lord earnestly, that you may know Him for yourselves. I know that God lives, that this work is true, that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, that Brigham Young and John Taylor were Prophets of God, great and good men and filled with the power of God, as also are those who live after them. God revealed this work to me when I was but a child and I bear record of it today. Do not depend upon parents or those around you, but know the Lord for yourselves, so that you may be able to give the reason for the hope that is within you of eternal life.

President Wilford Woodruff

Said: Before the close of the meeting I have a request I want to make of these Apostles, these High Priests, Seventies and Elders, and the Lesser Priesthood and all the Latter-day Saints who have any communion with God or with the Holy Ghost. Brother Merrill has been talking of revelation. If there was ever a time since God made the world that the inhabitants of the earth needed revelation, it is today. Now, the Lord has given us the stick of Judah—the law of God to the Jews—which reaches down to our day and generation, and which shows us their history and has told us what would come to pass with them and what will come to pass in the future. So has the Lord given us the stick of Ephraim—the stick of Joseph in the hands of Ephraim—giving the history of the inhabitants of this continent and what shall take place in the last days. I hold in my hands a code of revelation (the Book of Doctrine and Covenants) given to Joseph Smith, the Prophet. There are some of the most sublime revelations in that book God ever gave to any generation, or to any prophet or people under heaven. This book of revelations, like other records, will go down to the end of time and into eternity. These revelations give you the whole history of the celestial kingdom, of the terrestrial kingdom and of the telestial Kingdom of our God. But we want revelation every day. Well, you say, the President of the Church should give revelation. Yes, it is true, the President holds the keys of giving revelation to the Latter-day Saints. But is he alone to give revelation? No, verily, no! There is not an Apostle in this Church, there is not an Elder in this Church that stands up in this congregation to teach this people, but should be full of revelation. There is where your revelation should come—from those who teach you day by day.

How many revelations did Brigham Young give that were written to the people? Very few. How many has John Taylor given that were written to the people? Very few. How many has Wilford Woodruff given? Very few. We have