

RELIGIOUS.

Sunday Services.

Religious services were held at the Tabernacle, Sunday, Sept. 22, 1889, commencing at 2 p. m., President Angus M. Cannon presiding.

The choir sang:

Arise, O glorious Zion,
Thou joy of latter days.

Prayer by Elder James H. Anderson.

The choir sang:

Come dearest Lord, descend and dwell,
By faith and love, in every breast.

The Priesthood of the Eighth Ward officiated in the administration of the Sacrament.

ELDER MATHIAS COWLEY,

of Cassia Stake, was called to address the congregation. He said he felt his inability to say anything that would edify the people unless he was inspired by the Holy Ghost, which he desired to enjoy. I am happy in having a testimony of the divinity of this work—a testimony that any one can receive by obeying the Gospel. There is one distinctive feature of "Mormonism"—there is no exclusion of any one who will conform to the truth from obtaining a knowledge of the divine foundation of this work. It has been asserted that we are dependent upon our leaders alone, and have not an intelligent understanding, individually, of the cause we have espoused.

When Jesus came in the meridian of time He introduced the Gospel in its fulness and simplicity. He called John's attention to the manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit, and said "the poor have the Gospel preached to them." This was as the ancient prophets had predicted. He organized the Church by calling the Twelve, Seventy and other officers. Then He submitted to the shedding of His blood, and burst the bands of death. He was resurrected, and remained forty days with His disciples. Before He left them He commanded them to tarry at Jerusalem till they were endowed with power from on high. These Apostles had been His personal associates, and had witnessed His mighty power. Notwithstanding all of their experience they were not permitted to go forth and officiate in all the ordinances of life and salvation till they were endowed with power from on high.

If the Saints have in this age gone forth simply with what they have read in the scriptures, and without power from on high, they have assumed authority which does not belong to them. If any announce to us that they are ministers of salvation, we are consistent if we inquire whether they are called of God. The disciples tarried, as Jesus commanded them, till the power He promised was bestowed upon them, as "cloven tongues of fire." Having received the baptism of fire on the day of Pentecost, Peter preached Christ

and Him crucified. His hearers witnessed that the Gospel was preached so that the various nationalities each heard it in their own language. Peter said that that Spirit was in fulfillment of Joel's prophecy—that it was the same Spirit and power that in the last days should be poured out on all flesh. Those who heard and saw what occurred on the day of Pentecost believed the teachings of the Apostle Peter, and asked what they should do to be saved. He answered them—an answer that is good in every age. He told them that they should repent of their sins. True repentance is turning away from those things which are contrary to the laws of life.

Peter further directed them to be baptized for the remission of sins, and promised that those who did so would receive the Holy Ghost. He said "the promise is unto you, and unto your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." This was not limited to any class or age of the world. This is the announcement made by the Prophet Joseph Smith.

When Jesus ascended to heaven His return was promised, as was also a restitution of all things. If this is to be, then the doctrine of revelation must be among those which are restored. Do you blame me for believing that no one has the Gospel unless he has the gifts and powers connected therewith? The Scriptures say, "To the law and to the testimony, and if they speak not according to this there is no light in them." When John was on the Isle of Patmos, his brethren having been slain by those who had dead forms of religion, he was shown certain things which should come to pass; and I verily believe that those things will come. Among other things he saw the restoration of the Gospel by an angel. I bear my testimony that that angel came to Joseph Smith and restored the Gospel, and all who will have faith in God, repent of their sins and be baptized by one having authority, will receive this same testimony. This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I feel well in doing my humble duty in helping in the practical labor of building up the Kingdom of God. If our system will not withstand opposition it is not much account. But it has stood firm, and it cannot be shaken. It never will be overthrown, for it is founded on the truth of God. The only way out of difficulty is straight onward. Our true course is straightforward. We must be tried if we would enjoy the glories of the celestial kingdom. Did Jesus have a pleasant walk in this life? No, indeed. When He brought salvation to men, His motives were impugned. He was called a wine-bibber and a glutton; because John the Baptist fasted he was accused of having a devil. We cannot please those who are opposed to the truth, and it is folly to try; it is contrary to the law of God. Our course is to set an example that is worthy of emulation, and trust in God, who will accomplish His holy work.

ELDER CHAS. W. PENROSE

said: I know that the principles taught this afternoon are true, because I have received a witness from God concerning them. This is the experience of the great body of Latter-day Saints. They believe that God spake through His Prophets in ancient times; through His Son Jesus Christ and through the Apostles whom He sent forth endowed with power from on high. They have also received communications from God in this age, through those called by divine authority. But in addition to this, the same Spirit that was given to the former-day Saints has been bestowed upon the Latter-day Saints, through their obedience to the same Gospel. The promise of the Holy Ghost was and is to all who obey the Gospel. The light and testimony of this Spirit is as free spiritually, as is the light of the sun is naturally, to all who will receive it. The promise uttered by Peter and referred to by Brother Cowley was not confined to one age or people, but was universal to all generations, to all who would accept the conditions.

The Latter-day Saints, like the former-day Saints, have received the Spirit which rested upon the Prophets by which they wrote and spake. This is not because they claim superiority to other people but because they have received and obeyed the Gospel; and their mission is to proclaim this Gospel to every creature. None are exempt; all are called upon to repent and be baptized, and all are promised that if they will do this they will receive the Holy Ghost. The Latter-day Saints in these valleys have come from various nations, and having realized this promise, having come to a knowledge of the truth, they have gathered here in one as commanded of the Lord. They know that God lives; they know that Jesus is the Christ; they know that Joseph Smith was called of God, they know that they have obeyed the truth, and they know that if they continue in the way of the Lord they will receive of His fulness. The promise of the Holy Ghost to those who would repent and be baptized for the remission of sins was made by Peter to all whom the Lord our God should call. The time has come when the call of God is to all men. Jesus promised as one of the signs of His second coming: "And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come." (Matthew xxiv: 14.)

When the Apostles whom Jesus sent forth had filled their mission, having preached the Gospel as commanded, they were put to death, as were many of their followers. The lights which God had kindled in the midst of the darkness of this world to lighten the children of men were put out by the hands of the wicked. There ensued a gradual and general apostasy. John the Revelator received a message for the seven churches in Asia—there were only seven considered worthy of a divine revelation, and they had become so