

came members of the Church. They promised on going down into the waters of baptism to follow Him through good and through evil report. It behooved them then to be ever on the alert to do His bidding and to testify to the world concerning the truth and divinity of the work in which they were engaged. If the Saints would set out in this manner and hold themselves in readiness to obey God and keep His commandments, they would be led, through the spirit, to concentrate their minds on the things of God and to look into the future and see the salvation and glory to which mankind could attain, through walking in the straight and narrow path.

The speaker read the words of Alma in the Book of Mormon, wherein that servant showed unto the people that which was required of them in placing themselves in a position to receive the Father's blessings. The same declaration was made in our day. Mankind must be born again, or of the water and of the Spirit, if they desired to enter into His Kingdom. The birth referred to was the baptism of the water, such as Jesus Christ had administered unto Him by John the Baptist, when the Savior said it should be done to fulfill all righteousness. Following this baptism came the laying on of hands, through which the applicant for heavenly favors received the gift of the Holy Ghost, otherwise known as the Comforter. The receipt of this spirit opened up the way for blessings to those who would apply themselves to the work of the ministry, and seek with sincere hearts to serve God in very deed. It was in this condition that the Saints when assembling together would seek to concentrate their minds on the purposes of God, and thereby call down blessings on their own heads, through the speakers called upon to address them from time to time.

Elder Flashman admonished the Saints to live up to the covenants which they had entered into, that by so doing they might eventually reap the reward promised unto all the faithful.

Elder George Romney was the next speaker. He expressed great surprise at being called upon to address the Saints, but like the preceding speaker he realized that it was his duty to respond to the call. The sound of the everlasting Gospel found the speaker in the old country—Great Britain—and through his yielding obedience to the same, many blessings had been pronounced upon him. The Gospel was calculated to make mankind better able to attend to all duties devolving upon them. It was a Gospel of purity—a Gospel which embraced everything that was good and true; and if the Saints applied themselves thereto with all diligence and full purpose of heart, a membership in the Church of Christ would count for something. Mormonism was not a religion calculated only for Sunday adherence to. No, it was an every-day religion and a religion which exacted from its devotees, strict attention every day of the week, month and year. God was watching the movements of His people and was blessing them according to their just merits. He had placed the proper authorities at the head of His Church and through

them his word flowed unto the Saints from time to time. The path of safety was that which dictated obedience to the Priesthood of God, for the Father would never allow any one man or set of men to lead His people astray.

Elder Romney bore testimony to the divinity of the work of God as engaged in by the Latter-day Saints. He knew that Joseph Smith was a true Prophet of God; that Brigham Young was his legal successor; that John Taylor properly followed him, and that Willford Woodruff was the mouthpiece of God upon the earth today. The Priesthood was on the earth for a purpose and it behooved all mankind to pay deference to it. God Almighty had set His hand on the earth for the last time, and He would see to it that His purposes were accomplished. Blessings had been promised to those who would obey Him and keep His commandments, therefore mankind could not well afford to ignore the word of God and cut themselves off from His favors.

Elder Benjamin Goddard was the closing speaker. He said he rejoiced in the Gospel for he knew it to be the plan of salvation as revealed from heaven. His heart was made to swell with joy when he gazed upon so many of the brethren and sisters, gathered together to worship Him who was the author of so many blessings unto them. The Latter-day Saints had been gathered from afar, to unite with each other in building temples and attend to ordinances for the salvation of the human family as well as to indulge in general worship unto the Father of all.

The hymns sung by the Latter-day Saints, said the speaker, were inspiring and full of meaning. One of them, *How Firm a Foundation*, was especially significant, in that it portrayed the strength of the work and contained resolutions, as it were, to cling to the rod of iron throughout all time and eternity. The foundation of the Church of Christ was indeed firm. It was founded upon a rock as spoken of by Christ to the Apostle Peter. The Gospel had been restored to the earth for the benefit of the human family, God Himself speaking from the heavens and giving instructions unto a mere boy as to the organization of His Church upon the earth for the last time. Israel was now being gathered from the four quarters of the universe and the priesthood of God was asserting itself in blessing on the heads of those who were numbered among His chosen few.

Elder Goddard in conclusion pointed out the manner in which the Saints should live to enjoy the full blessings of the Gospel and testified to his knowledge of the divinity of the work. He had tested it and knew that God was at its head to bless those who yielded obedience.

Choir sang the anthem:

Glory to God our deliverer.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Arthur Winter.

STAKE CONFERENCE AT PARIS.

The quarterly conference of the Bear Lake Stake of Zion was held in the Tabernacle at Paris, Idaho, on Saturday and Sunday, March 13 and

14, 1897. There were present on the stand—Elders Seymour B. Young, of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies, James H. Hart and William L. Rich of the Stake Presidency; President J. U. Stucki of the High Priests' quorum, Patriarch Hugh Findlay, members of the High Council, Bishops of the various wards, and other local authorities.

Saturday was devoted to the giving of reports of the different wards by the Bishops, and discourses by Elders James H. Hart, William Budge and Seymour B. Young in the order named. The reports by the Bishops showed there had been considerable sickness during the winter, and deaths in nearly all the wards. The last meetings, since the change of time in holding them, were reported to be the best meetings held, and were doing much good. The local associations were in excellent condition, generally, and improvement seemed to be the order of the day. The recent visit of the Stake presidency through all the wards was reported to have been productive of much good.

On Sunday morning Elder Wm. L. Rich of the Stake presidency, administered much valuable counsel to the Saints, followed by an excellent discourse by Elder Wm. Budge, president of the Stake, full of fatherly admonitions to parents and replete with timely advice. In the afternoon Elder Seymour B. Young read the address delivered in the Salt Lake Tabernacle March 1, on the occasion of the anniversary of President Woodruff's birthday, and composed by Elder George A. Smith, following it with a discourse on the proper education of the youth of Zion.

Elders Anson C. Call and W. H. Lee of Woodruff also addressed the conference, bearing powerful testimonies to the truth of Mormonism.

Among the Rich county conference visitors whom we had the pleasure of shaking hands with were Patriarch W. H. Lee, Bishops Baxter, McKemion, Kennedy, Price and Calder, and Elders Byron Sessioos, Samuel Weston, Charles South, John Weston, George Peart, Ezekiel Lee, W. H. Anderson and others, the presence of all of whom showed their love for the truth and their desire to hear the word of God as given through His servants.

JAMES H. WALLIS.

DEDICATORY SERVICES.

BRIGHAM CITY, March 22, 1897.—The Brigham City tabernacle was dedicated March 21, 1897. Among those present on the stand were President Geo. C. Cannon, Elders Lorenz Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Bishop Wm. B. Preston, Elders Seymour B. Young, H. B. Clawson, the Presidency and High Council of the Box Elder Stake and the Bishops of the various wards.

At 10 a. m. the building was filled to its utmost capacity and President Clawson called the meeting to order.

Services began by singing. Prayer was offered by Patriarch A. Nichols.

After singing, Elder Rudger Clawson, President of the Stake, said that on February 9th, 1896, the Brigham City tabernacle was consumed by fire and nothing was left of the old building except the walls. After a few