

DISCOURSE

BY

PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR

OF THE

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

OF THE LATTER DAYS

DELIVERED AT

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

ON SATURDAY EVENING,

AUGUST 7, 1880.

THE TOPIC OF THE DISCOURSE

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CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

bishop or anybody else, you are free

from all responsibility afterwards of

sustaining that man. And until

the proper course has been taken

and such a person should be

very careful what course we pursue

in relation to this kind of thing, so

that we do not violate our covenants.

There is an uneasy feeling existing

among some people; they can see

plenty of wrong all around if they

have a mind to; and some will ap-

parently because somebody else has

done wrong. What a foolish course

is to pursue! If we follow God's

plan we can bring the sin right

home to the man who has done the

wrong; and if he did not repent of it,

he would have to be cut off from the

church. Would there were more

of this kind! He would first influ-

ence a number of the people to do

wrong, and then he would try to get

the others to leave the Church be-

cause some of the members were do-

ing wrong. That however would be

foolish, and contrary to the order of

God.

The Lord has placed in his Church

Seventies, Elders, etc., what for?

For the perfecting of the Saints. Are

these various offices for the perfect-

ing of the Saints? What else? For

the work of the ministry; that men

might be qualified and informed

and be full of intelligence, wisdom

and light, and learn to proclaim the

principles of eternal truth and to

bring out from the treasury of God

things new and old, things calculated

to promote the welfare of the people.

Now, then, these offices have been

placed in the Church, every man

ought to be respected in his office.

I know some of you think we can

respect some, and some we cannot

respect. And we can respect some of

the prominent authorities—I do not

know who they are, do you? You

remember when Jesus was upon the

earth, some of his followers were con-

fessing, as to who was the greatest,

and he took a little child and placed

it in his midst, he said, "He that

can be like this little child, is the

greatest in the kingdom of

heaven." And will you tell me more

than that, that the teachers, or de-

acons, that fulfill his duties is a great

deal more honorable than a presi-

dent or any of the twelve that do

nothing? And will you tell me more

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acons, that fulfill his duties is a great

deal more honorable than a presi-

erate within the limits and authority

of the various offices of the priest-

hood to which they are called and

ordained—an Elder to perform the

office of a Priest to perform the

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