

Saints that if their political power were removed from them the Church would be broken to pieces and destroyed, such would not be the case. Although as a people we have been deprived of this power to quite an extent in Idaho, in Ogden, in Summit, and elsewhere, it will be found that the present is one of the largest, if not the largest, Conference ever held here, and that the Saints will continue to increase in numbers and faith.

The work of the Lord in the establishment of His Church stands firm today than ever it has stood before. Its chances are better and the faith of the people is stronger. The brethren who bear the Priesthood, from the first to the last, are better established today in the Gospel, all the experiences, changes and vicissitudes through which they have passed having tended to purify and stimulate them in the Gospel faith. Though sometimes there may be lethargy and carelessness on the part of the Saints, yet when we travel among them from place to place we find that, with all their weaknesses and failings, there is a love for the truth abiding in them; and if the occasion should arise, they would be ready to sacrifice anything in the world in order to sustain the Church and the principles of eternal truth. It is a rare thing to find among the Latter-day Saints one person who will stand out against the truth, who is obstinate and will not yield when shown to be in the wrong.

Apostle Lyman, in conclusion, earnestly exhorted the Saints to be temperate, and to relinquish the use of tobacco and intoxicants, in obedience to the Word of Wisdom. He pointed out the value of example in these respects, and urged the necessity of a strict observance of the Sabbath day.

**Apostle Moses Thatcher**

spoke briefly, in substance as follows: I desire to express my gratitude for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. What has been said is in harmony with my views. I bear testimony to their truth. May the Spirit of God continue to be imparted to us. These conference gatherings are refreshing to the spirit and a delight to the soul. The people have not come together in vain. They will not go away empty. Many thoughts have passed through my mind. Some are of a conflicting nature. I have wondered what would be a proper course for our leaders under the present circumstances surrounding us. If we will follow our file leaders as they follow Christ, our path will grow brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. We must not expect the people to listen to us unless we listen to those who lead us. I am reminded that after his tribulation, Joseph, who was sold into Egypt, obtained wealth and power. While Abraham was comparatively poor and a humble servant of God and obeyed Him in all things, the Lord afterwards made him wealthy. There is no harm in wealth, but there is in the love of it. When the heart is hardened and the

conscience seared, the danger is great. I have thought of the course of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Brigham Young and John Taylor. They did not devote all their time to temporalities, but part of it to spiritualities and a part to temporal things. It is only when we depart from equity and justice that the Holy Spirit leaves us. The danger is not in the possession of wealth, but in oppressing our fellow beings. Z. C. M. I. was not organized by President Young to enable him to accumulate wealth, but for the substantial benefit of the people. So with other enterprises in which he engaged. When I have thought of the financial enterprises with which our leading brethren are associated and the heavy burdens thus placed upon them, I have concluded that we who have been called to be ministers of salvation should not so extensively connect with financial matters. The leading authorities are employed from fifteen to eighteen hours a day, and in giving counsel in ninety-nine out of a hundred real instances it is on temporal matters rather than those that are spiritual. I did not come to these mountains to accumulate wealth, and, for one, I would rejoice to be relieved, from this time on, from temporalities and labor, in future, exclusively in preaching the Gospel of salvation. The spirit of speculation is abroad among us and the people make the excuse for their course that their leaders are operating in the same direction. I am willing to be guided in these matters by those who preside, and trust that I shall endure.

The choir sang:

Come, Spirit, Come.

Adjourned till 2 p.m.

Benediction by Elder G. Reynolds.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Re-assembled at 2 p. m.

Great God, attend while Zion sings  
The joy that from Thy presence springs;  
To spend one day with Thee on earth  
Exceeds a thousand days of mirth.

was sung by the choir.

Prayer was offered by Elder Rudger Clawson.

Singing by the choir:

Joy to the world! The Lord will come  
And earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And - aints and angels sing.

**President Lorenzo Snow**

said, in substance: We have been greatly blessed during this conference. The Spirit of the Lord has been poured out upon the speakers and hearers. I feel my inability to say anything particularly instructive unless by the dictations of the Holy Spirit. I feel also that you cannot anticipate any teachings that will do you good unless you have the same Spirit, which it is your privilege to possess. So far as the past is concerned, since our assembling together, the Lord has been as favorable to us as on any similar occasion. It is wonderful to contemplate the progress of the Church since its organization, sixty years ago tomorrow. Have the Saints made progress as rapidly as that exhibited by those similarly called of God in past ages, during the same length of time? It is interesting to contemplate and

estimate the abilities we have received from the Lord to continue prosperous notwithstanding the opposing forces that have been brought to bear upon us. No external power can prevent us from attaining to the high destiny marked out for us on the condition of faithfulness. We did not lay out the path to salvation for ourselves. It was delineated by God before the earth was organized. The Lord has seen fit to make known the path. It depends upon ourselves as to whether we continue to travel on that road which leads to celestial glory.

We need not trouble about the future. Some people express the opinion that the Saints shall go into captivity, by the process of disfranchisement. I do not know whether this will be the case or not. If the Lord had manifested that this would be so, I would not say anything about it, as it would not be wisdom. If we had been made acquainted with the trials through which we have already passed we would have been discouraged. As it is our experience has increased our faith. So in regard to our future. It is wisely obscured from our view. I know what my trials have been; I know not what they will be. On every emergency the Lord has given me needed succor. For this I feel thankful. I have never seen the day when I was discouraged, as I could always see glorious blessings ahead. When we speak of future troubles of this Church, we may be sure it will never be placed in a condition when the members cannot receive the highest blessings of the Almighty, according to the demands of circumstances.

Six hundred years before Christ the Jews became wicked. Their kings, princes and people were given to idolatry. This offended God, being contrary to his mind and law. They even went so far as to burn their children as offerings. The Lord told them that their city should be destroyed and they be led into captivity to remain in that condition 70 years. But God did not desert them. - He said he would not make an end of them, but they should be punished and an end would be made of those who afflicted them. In their captivity they progressed. They built houses and cultivated the soil. Indeed there never was a time when the Israelites had greater prophets than during their captivity. Note, for instance, the works of the Prophet Daniel and those of the three Hebrew children, whose marvelous deliverance has been handed down to us. As it has been so it shall be. In every situation the Latter-day Saints can approach God and receive blessings until they reach a fulness of glory. One singular feature about the captivity was that King Nebuchadnezzar was converted. He was convinced that there was no God but the God of Israel. After Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had been delivered the King sent forth an edict to the effect that the God of these men should be respected. Those who refused to obey this com-