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REMARKS:

Made by Apostle Francis M. Lyman, on Sunday morning, October 9, 1892, at the General Conference, held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah.

[REPORTED BY ARTHUR WINTER]

I think we should be very grateful to the Lord, who has strengthened President Woodruff and enabled him to speak to us this morning. He has endeavored to portray to us the importance of the work that is entrusted to us as Latter-day Saints. We are required to preach the Gospel, and we are all preachers of the Gospel; and as we heard from President Cannon, no other religious body has such a large percentage of ministers. Every man who has a wife is a minister of the Gospel, and is just as subject to be called upon to preach the Gospel at home and abroad as the Apostles. The Priests and Teachers, of the Lesser Priesthood, are also ministers of the Gospel. They are required to labor in the midst of gathered Israel, to teach them concerning the principles of life, to see that there is no iniquity in the Church, and that all the members of the Church do their duty.

The Latter-day Saints are expected to be a peculiar people, because of their lives and examples; and they are expected to preach the Gospel by example, if they are not always called upon to preach by precept. Every person who has named the name of Jesus Christ should feel the vital importance of preaching the Gospel by example, and it will have much more effect, it will be much more telling, than anything that can be said; for if we be all preachers of the Gospel and theorize beautifully, and yet are not workers and devoted followers of the Savior, our preaching will be in vain. The strength of the testimony of our President, and of his Counselors and the Elders who stand up from time to time to preach the Gospel, is in the presence of the Holy Ghost and by its power, and that is only enjoyed in answer to our devotion and to their correct lives.

Latter-day Saints should be peculiar because of their temperance. They should be peculiar because of their prayerfulness. They should be remarkable because of their obedience to the requirements of the Lord; and there is an opportunity just before us now to emphasize our obedience and our willingness to answer to the

requirements of the Lord, and that is in building the Salt Lake Temple—the greatest temple that has been built in this generation, and one that has become world-renowned. There is perhaps not a building in the world today that excited greater curiosity in the minds of the people of the world than does this Temple standing upon this block. Last April, when it was decided by the people to put forth all the effort and means necessary to complete that Temple by the 6th of April next, it was thought that it could be completed with about one hundred thousand dollars, or a little more; but that action was taken by the Conference without previously obtaining correct estimates in regard to the amount that was necessary for its completion, and instead of requiring one hundred thousand dollars to finish the work, it has been found to require about three hundred thousand dollars. It will take a stupendous effort upon the part of the Latter-day Saints to finish that work and have it so that it may be dedicated without any indebtedness hanging over it. No doubt the Latter-day Saints are able to do it if they are determined in their own minds what each person ought to give for that purpose, and what each can afford to give. I am impressed that Israel will have to make apparently a little sacrifice in order to accomplish that work. For it will be very pleasing to President Woodruff, who has been preserved all these years, to participate in the dedication of that building. Every man should take stock of his ability, and then should be generous in judging himself; for if we judge ourselves rightly and perform the part that can justly be required of us, we will not be judged; but we will be judged if we do not judge ourselves in regard to these things. Times are somewhat close in money matters; but I believe, with the good crop that the Lord has blessed the people with this year, that if the farmers, the mechanics and the merchants will only put forth a generous hand, the hands of Bishop Winder will be fortified with means to meet his obligations. I know that the very first week after the April Conference he was in straits for money, and has been measurably so, I presume, ever since, although some has been coming in. We will always feel the blessings of the Lord upon us for the efforts that we make in this direction. Temple building is one of the choicest works

that has ever been required of the Saints, and this of all temples that have been built in our generation. It seems to me that it will bring us great credit to have it beautiful and well finished, and then there is the privilege that will be granted to us to go into that house at its dedication. A meeting was held of the Presidency and Apostles a short time ago, and it was decided that the dedicatory services of that Temple should be so conducted that every Latter-day Saint found worthy to go into that Temple should have the privilege of participating in those exercises, and that they should be held from day to day until all Israel shall have a chance to enter into those sacred walls and partake of the spirit and blessing of God that shall attend the dedication of that great building. When we go in there, I believe that we will feel freer in our spirits if we have finished and paid for the building, and every one who steps into that house to participate in the services will feel that he or she has done something towards the accomplishment of that work. But I wonder if there will not be Latter-day Saints who will come up here very anxious (and possibly the foremost of all) to get into that building who have done nothing. It ought not to be. Everyone who has a desire to participate in the dedication of that building, and afterwards in the labors that will be allowed therein for our salvation and for the salvation of our kindred, should feel that he has done something that is worthy of him, according to his ability, for the accomplishment of that important work. I speak of this in the presence of assembled Israel, for I feel that it is necessary. I know that throughout Zion there is a widespread feeling of anxiety to go into that house and to participate in its dedication, and the feeling should be just as widespread—and wider possibly than our ability to come to the dedication—for the completion of that building, that there shall be nothing in the way of its acceptance by the Lord.

Not only should we have this feeling in relation to its completion, but also as to our preparation to go into that house, so that when we go there we will have settled all our quarrels, all our difficulties, all our hardness of heart, bitterness, jealousy and heartburnings, and that we may never do another evil thing in our lives after we have gone through that building. That is the condition the