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⇒THE LORD IS AT THE HELM. ≈

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Address Delivered at the Seventy - Fourth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Monday Morning, April 4, 1904, by Elder

ABRAHAM O. WOODRUFF.

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Lummer and the second My dear brothers and sisters, I hope that through the blessings of the Lord that through the blessings of the Lord I may be able to make you hear, and I may be able to make you hear able to make you hear able to make you hear able to make you hea

that through the blessings of the Lord had given them. I may be able to make you hear, and be guided by the Spirit of our Heavenbe father in my utterances. I desire to say only those things that the Lord would have me to say. I feel very thankful to the Lord for a testimony of the divinity of this work, for a knowledge that God lives, that Jesus is the Christ, the Redeemer of the world, the Christ, the Redeemer of the world, the Christ, the Redeemer of the world, and that Joseph Smith was divinely commissioned of our Heavenly Father. to establish this work, which has at-tracted the attention and the interest, either for or against it, of so many people. If it were not that God is at the helm, and directing this work, it had as well been abandoned many years ago; but the great assurance which has possessed this people in every hour of trouble, has been that God would deliver them and lead them out of every difficulty, stronger in faith and in numbers than before. That has been the history of our people. Had it and in numbers than before. Init had it been the history of our people. Had it not been for this testimony, that the Lord Himself is the author of this work, the conditions which have arisen in the past would have caused the people's hope to sink within them, and the hope to sink within them, and the outlook would have been very forbid-

FAITHFUL NOT EASILY DISCOUR-AGED.

From time to time we may expect trouble and difficulty, because the Lord has decreed that He would have a tried people; that he would purify the gold in the fire, but that none of the geld should be lost. The dross would be consumed, and the gold should still remain. Such has been the past ex-perience of this latter-day work, which he grow so marvelously under the perience of this latter-day work, which has grown so marvelously under the persecution and the trouble which have best it, ever since it was started by the Lord through the Prophet Joseph Smith. The Latter-day Saints, as a rule, are not easily shaken by condi-tions, however trying they may be. The experience of the past has shown as that the few past has shown us that the few men who have fallen by the wayside, because they were by the wayance, because they were arcse, have signally failed in their efforts to lead others from the Church. The ma-jority of the people of God today are not easily moved nor frightened; their hearts do not sink within them when clouds appear upon our horizon. I believe it is pleasing in the sight of the Lord when His people have suffi-clent faith not to be easily moved, so that when any difficulties arise, or whenever they are beset by the enemies of righteausness, they do not feel that the whole work is going to pleces, and that the Church can no longer make the remarkable progress it has made the remarkable progress it has made up to the present time. Our past history should be a strength unto us, and a hope for the future. It should stimulate our faith God. Indeed, in the minds of those who have a testimony of the ruth, there is no doubt whatever in retruth, there is no doubt whatever in re-gard to the outcome of this work. They know it will triumph over all its adver-saries, no inatter how powerful they may be. Whatever agencies are organized to oppose the work, they know that God is all-powerful, and that He rules the destinies of men and ago, in speaking of that pas-sage which is so familiar to us all relating the conversation of Christ with Nicodemus, brought to my mind a new phase of that part of it where the Savior says, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." In other words, we connect expect a man to see the kingdom nations, and He will bring His work to victory in the end. So the Latter-day Ssints who are doing their duty are Saints who are doing their duty are not easily moved. On the other hand, whenever anything has arisen in the shape of opposition, and whenever the clouds have been dark and threaten-ing, those who were weak, because they were not doing their duty and keeping the commandments of the Lord, have always been the ones who thought the work was going to pieces, and that "the bettom was falling out of Mormonism." Whenever members of the Church have cannot expect a man to see the kingdom of God unless he is born again. I had never thought of it particularly in this light before, but there appears to be some force in it. Notwithstanding the kingdom of God was established by the Redeemer Himself, His enemies could Redeemer Himself, His enemies could not see it because they had not been "born again." It was right among them, yet they were not able to per-ceive it. The same may be said in re-gard to the work which the Lord has established in this day. Notwithstand-ing the Church and kingdom of God is among the people, they see it not, they comprehend it not, because they have not been "born again." According to the words of the Savior, they cannot see the kingdom of God unless they are born again; consequently they do not recognize the fact that the Church of Christ is upon the earth, and the king-dom of God is here in embryo, because they will not receive the light which has come into the world, for they love the darkness of the world better than the light of the Lord. We believe, how-ever, that every trouble and adversity Whenever members of the Church have such feelings within them it is an evi-dence of their own weakness, and of the fact that they are not keeping the com-mandments of God, because of which mandments of God, because of which they have not the assurance regarding the final vietory of this work that a faithful man possesses. We expect there will be opposition, but at the same time we confidently expect that God, in the future as in the past, will deliver us if we will only do our duty. We never intend to so shape our faith and belief that it will please the adversary, or the world. The present chaotic con-dition of Christendom, with its jarring, differing sets, presents a practical ilor the world. The present chaotic con-dition of Christendom, with its jarring, differing sects, presents a practical fl-lustration of what the Gospel would be if it were cut and pruned to suit the wishes of the enemy of all rightcous-ness. This Gospel tree which was planted in the meridian of time by jesus Himself, and which was nurtured by Him and His followers, was shorn of many of its limbs and branches to suit the wishes of the ungodly, until its symmetry was lost. The Friesthood was taken to God, while those who were devout h maintaining the pure principles which God had revealed were put to death in various ways, because they would not recant, and deny the testi-mony which God the Eternal Father had given to them. These faithful sous contended that man must fear God rather than man, that he must ever, that every trouble and adversity which the Latter-day Saints are called to pass through will tend to call the at-tention of the honest in heart to the work of God, and will be the means of bringing salvation to hundreds and thousands. The very agencies which our enemies use to defeat this work will be overruled by God for the benefit of it. It must be very discouraging to the enemics of truth when they take a retrospective view of the history of the God rather than main, that he must fear God rather than main, that he must meet his obligations to God, and in so doing he could not help but be a good clinen of the state. Those who keep the commandments of God are certain to become a beaution as commandments of God are certain to become a benefit to any community in which they live. Most people shiver at the thought of trouble, especially if it come to them individually. They may feel all right if it comes to some one else, but when it strikes home those who are inclined to be weak and doubtful in regard to this work be-come very fearful. For their part they do not want any persecution. All they come very fearful. For their part they do not want any persecution. All they desire is a smooth road, a pathway strewn with roses, where there are no obstacles to meet. But we claim that this work is divine, and if we expect to receive the reward of obedience thereto we may expect to labor hard for it. If we gain the great reward, we shall not be able to shun the fight, but will have to be valiant for the lestimony of Jesus, upholding right-courness, doing our duty to God and to our fellow men in every respect. When I see men, as I do sometimes, who are filled with fear every time there is prospect of trouble, I always think of the Aposides in the meridian of time. I think of how they, rather than deny the testimony of Jesus Christ, were willing to submit to the most ignoralin-

friend of mine, a few days A speaking

Only by Abedient,

The pride of the Latter-day Saints in regard to this work is that it is true, revealed from God to man, and that, unlike the various man-made orfor lt ganizations, there has been no necessito call a convention for the revision of its creed, to suit the will and wishes of mankind. This fact has been one of the main features which has stimof mankind. ulated the Saints through all the trou-bies and trials which have come to them, and one of the things they have cherished most. As Latter-day Saints we have great reason to rejoice in the goodness of the Lord. He has never forsaken us; and has never torsaken us; and while I do not think that we ought to tempt Providence, or do unwise things that would bring trouble upon us. I have no fear in re-gard to the outcome of this work, if every man in the Church does his duty to God and to his fellow man. The fear to God and to his fellow man. The fear is, if we have any in regard to our selves individually, can we keep the faith? Can we trust in God in times of trouble and adversity as well as in times of peace? For my part, I relotes that the Lord is still at the helm. I oftimes think of the experience of the Savior, after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, and was then tempted of the devil. He was shown the king-doms of this world, and was promised ing the doms of this world, and was promised dominion over all of them if He would dominion over all of them if He would but fail down and worship Satan. What was the answer of Jesus? "Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." Then He was taken upon a pinnacle of the tem-ple and told by Satan to east himself down; "for it is written, He shall give His angels charge concerning Thee; and in their hands they shall bear Thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot

lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." The Savior answered him, "It is written again, thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." Now, I feel that, as Latter-day Saints, we have no right to, figuratively, cast ourselves from the pinnacle of the temple. God from the pinnacle of the temple. God expects us to use the wisdom He has given us and not to tempt Him. Then if trouble comes upon us, according to the will of God, we will be strong to meet it. It is not always those who ap-pear anxious to get into a fight who are the bravest when the battle is on. More frequently those who are the most refrequently those who are the most re-luctant to enter the combat are the ones

field.

illness

who show the best qualities under fire. As a people we have never had any de-As a people we have never had any de-sire for trouble. We only desire to serve God and keep His commandments, and then to leave the result with Him. By doing this we will be justified in the eyes of God as well as in the eyes of all good men. We never expect the wicked or the ungodly to be pleased with the plan of life and salvation which the Lord has revealed, but we do hope that the honest in heart will be able to see the kingdom of God as it has been established. has been established

MUST BE BORN AGAIN TO SEE THE KINGDOM.

1. We believe in God, the Eter-nal Father, and in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.

3. We believe that, through the atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gos-

per. 4. We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: First, faith in the Lor? Jesus Christ: second, re-pencince; third, baptism by im-meralon for the remission of sins, fourth, laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.

5. We believe that a man must be called of God, by "prophecy, and by the laying on of hands," by these who are in authority, to preach the gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.

We believe in the same or-ganization that existed in the primitive church, namely, Apos-ties, Prophets, Pastors, Teachers, Evenesities, at a start, Teachers,

7. We believe in the gift of tonguos, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of

8. We believe the Bible to be the word of God, as far as it is translated correctly; we also be-

Evangelists, etc.

tongues, etc.

pel.

of that pas-

to labor in the German mission, and returned Aug. 2. He labored first in the Koenigsberg conference and later as president of the Dresden conference. Although the Elders are working under nany new investigators.

nan mission, where he has been labor prosperous condition.

at home

Portland conferences were his fields of work. The mission is in a prosperous condition but not many converts are be-

onlected statistics on value of beams prehards and presented results in a pa-per before the Western New York Hort-cultural society about 1900. Some of the best orchards were paying interest on value of \$1,200 to \$1,500 per acre. Our expecting the apple orchard to pay for the farm once more. The Georgia and Missouri method is to approximate production capacity of one tree: this mul-tiplied by trees per acre gives (?) value per acre. Orchards can be purchased cheaper than we can grow them, would advise buying the cheaper lands Orchards can be purchased

aim must be to meet an existing de





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23