

RELIGIOUS.

Sunday Services.

Religious services were held at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, Nov. 2nd, 1890, commencing at 2 p. m., Counselor Joseph E. Taylor presiding.

The choir sang the hymn commencing:

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God!

Prayer was offered by Elder D. L. Davis.

The choir next sang the hymn:

Come, thou glorious day of promise,
Come and spread thy cheerful ray.

The Priesthood of the Third Ward officiated in the administering of the Sacrament.

APOSTLE ABRAHAM H. CANNON addressed the congregation. It seems strange, he said, in remarking upon the marvelous work which God has commenced in the earth that so few people are convinced of its divinity. The Latter-day Saints are frequently led to wonder why it is that intelligent men and women do not recognize the hand of God in the affairs which are almost daily transpiring in connection with this work. We can see how wonderfully He has wrought among the nations for the accomplishment of many things which have been predicted concerning Zion; indeed there is no prophecy recorded in holy writ but has had its fulfillment, as far as possible, in the limited period since this Church was organized.

We find that those who receive the Gospel among the various nations have such overwhelming proofs of the divine origin of the work in which we are engaged as to lead them often to feel that their friends and acquaintances should also be able to see and accept that which to themselves is so plain. But the people of the world will not receive the truth; they prefer darkness and wickedness to light and knowledge. Even when our Elders have gone forth bearing the Gospel message, and seeking to establish peace among men they have been mobbed and persecuted and in some instances slain. Nevertheless, it remains a fact that the truth is here, that the Gospel has been restored, that God is directing His people and His work, and will continue to watch over it until everything which has been spoken concerning the latter-days, concerning Zion, His Kingdom, has been fulfilled. The world will yet be compelled to bow the knee and acknowledge the Savior as King of kings and Lord of lords.

After briefly tracing the growth of the Church until it has reached its present proportions, the speaker referred to the remarkable fulfillment of the prediction of the Prophet Joseph in regard to the War of the Rebellion. Years before it actually occurred, the Prophet was led by the Spirit of God not only to predict a great civil war in this land, but to tell the cause which would produce it; and he went so

far, under the inspiration of the Almighty, as to designate the place where the strife would commence.

Speaking of the judgments and calamities which it had been declared should be poured out upon those nations which rejected the word of God, the speaker asked, What do we find in those places where our Elders have been derided, where their testimony has been rejected, meeting with no response in the hearts of the people? Why, that trouble is brewing among them, that their hearts are now filled with a fear of something about to occur, but which they cannot understand. And this kind of fear fills the minds of men in high positions in this nation. In some parts of the Union secret organizations exist which threaten the peace and safety of communities. In the Southern States men are assassinated because they raise their hands against crime, and threatening letters are sent to prominent individuals because they dare to call upon the officers of the law to suppress crime and drive out criminals. In this country, again, we find that wealth is being concentrated in the hands of a few—that a condition prevails here similar to that which exists in Great Britain, where it is said some hundred men own more than half the land. There are found men, too, in this country gathering the titles to the land into their own hands, renting out their property, and deriving a big income from the poor farmer who tills the soil. The statement is made, indeed, that landlordism exists to a far greater extent in these United States than in the British Dominions. These men are not seeking the welfare of the laboring classes, or the people generally. Most of them are unscrupulous, and by unscrupulous means have succeeded in amassing great wealth. The fight between capital and labor is a source of great danger to the people, and the minds of these moneyed ones are filled with apprehensions of anarchy; they fear that the masses will rise up against them and demand what they deem to be their rights.

Latter-day Saints, have your eyes open to the events which are occurring around you and study them by the light of the Holy Ghost, that you may see therein how God is working to fulfil His word and that your faith may be thereby strengthened. In the work among the Latter-day Saints there is a panacea for all those evils which exist in the world. We should always be seeking to know what the will of God is concerning us, so that in the day of trouble, in the day of wars and rumors of wars we may stand in holy places and build a refuge for the oppressed of the nation. When calamities are poured out upon the nation, then will the righteous turn their eyes Zionward and see in these mountains among these humble Latter-day Saints, a people who are at peace with each other and with the world; they will see the place where the Spirit of God dwells; for where He dwells there is no strife, no contention; nothing but peace and goodness.

Do not spend your time in idle folly, to fault finding, in aiming to gather wealth, but seek to diffuse knowledge, to gain wisdom from the source of all light and intelligence. Seek to have the Spirit of God in your hearts, so that whenever you are tried you will see in your trials the hand of God and acknowledge it. Thus you will have peace and safety and finally eternal life.

COUNSELOR CHARLES W. PENROSE

Was the next speaker. He bore his testimony to the remarks of Apostle Cannon, and rejoiced in the fact that, to some extent at least, he could discern the hand of God in the midst of His people; also to see that He was moving among the nations of the earth to accomplish those things which were predicted by the prophets of old, and which had been foretold by the Prophets of God in the latter days.

The Lord, he said, brings about His great purposes by what we call natural means. Things appear supernatural to those who do not understand natural laws. We only comprehend a few of the laws of nature. Things are taking place around us all the time, which we cannot thoroughly comprehend. The speaker, in illustration of his argument, briefly referred to the science of astronomy and other accepted theories, and remarked that certain things occurred day by day of which we took but little notice because they were what we thought natural; though after all they were in one sense miraculous. God works in and through nature, and the laws of nature are the laws of God.

There is a natural yet spiritual principle called faith, and it is the first principle of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, faith in the true and living God. This faith, in one sense, is a principle of power, as we understand it. It is part of our creed.

It was by the power of faith that these worlds were brought forth. Not that God created the material of which they are composed, but He spoke to the pre-existent elementary materials, which always existed, which are without beginning, and which cannot be annihilated in the sense of turning them again into nothing. The elements are eternal. Spirit is eternal and matter is eternal in its elementary particles.

Jesus Christ manifested some portion of this power of faith when among men. He walked upon the water and did not sink. He spoke to the winds and the waves and they obeyed Him; He said to the sick, "Be thou healed," and disease departed; He said to the blind, "Receive thy sight," and they looked upon Him; to the lame, "Leap," and they leapt; and even the tomb could not hold Him when wicked men had slain Him. He came forth from the grave and overcame death and the power of death. This power which was manifested in Jesus Christ was an exercise of the principle of faith which is inherent in everybody; it is part of our existence. It is a spiritual force, and though we may