

of the Spirit of God. Our Father has been pleased to reveal Himself in this age to His children, and has sent forth a flood of divine truth. The principles revealed by Him through Joseph Smith are of more value than all earthly things, and their teaching has been accompanied by the Holy Ghost. It has been truly said that the Prophet Joseph Smith came with authority from God. He taught that which he knew to be true, and that is the keynote to success with all the servants of the Most High. Before an Elder can be successful in making a proper impression when he preaches, there must, upon his own soul, be a proper impression of the truth. Then he can convey that which he knows and understands. In this is the beauty of the religion which we have received: There is no room for doubt in regard to its principles; they are not the opinions of men; they have all been revealed from heaven in the present age. We know our religion is true, and its exponents speak with authority, as our Master did. Many doctrines revealed through Joseph Smith were new to the world in this age, but they can be sustained from the Scriptures. Not one of them has been or can be refuted. This is because they are true and divine. We know this because we have the testimony of the Holy Spirit. There may be some among the young who have not received this testimony in the same way as those who obeyed the Gospel in the world; if there are any who have not received the testimony of the Holy Ghost, they should, by earnest, secret prayer, in faith, seek it from the Lord, and He will bestow it. It may not come by a miraculous display of power, but it will bring knowledge, light and intelligence, so there will be no doubt or uncertainty concerning it. You will know that God lives; that Jesus Christ is His Son; that Joseph Smith was His Prophet; that this work is His work, and that you are accepted of Him through obedience to His Gospel. There is nothing on earth so valuable as this testimony. I can bear witness to you of the truth of these things, for I received that testimony in my youth, and it has never left me. I know that the remarks of President George Q. Cannon this morning concerning the labors of the Elders are true. Before I came to this land I had over ten years of missionary work, and God was with me, and sustained me under every circumstance I have seen the manifestations of His power, and I know that this is His work.

The effects of the Holy Spirit are visible among the people in this Territory. Some ask for a sign, a miracle. Here in Utah is a sign for a whole world. Here are a people, of many nationalities, united in their testimony, and declaring that God has revealed it to them, and who by union of faith and works exhibit the effects of that spirit. If the world reject this witness they will be responsible and must suffer the consequences. Though they persecute the servants of God today, they

will yet rejoice to have one come into their midst and open to them the doors of salvation.

The work of God will prevail. We may be brought into difficulties. Some think we will have to go into bondage in order that we may be led out of it by some one raised up by the Lord for the purpose, and they think the sooner we get in the quicker we will get out. I believe that saying has been fulfilled. We have been in bondage and brought out again several times. We may have trouble; the clouds may gather blackness and threaten to overwhelm us; but they will be dispersed and the sun will shine forth again and God will deliver us, and bring us off triumphant. I do not think we should claim that it is a necessity that we should go into bondage again, and be in a hurry to get there. God says men should not be in bondage one to another, and for the maintenance of freedom he raised up wise men to frame the Constitution of this country; and He has commanded us to maintain the rights and privileges which have thus been given us. We should not give way to anything that would bring us into bondage, but we should stand firm and be united in maintaining our rights and privileges. When we do our part, God will help us.

Sometimes there are divisions among us, but they come from beneath. Unity, and peace, and love, and contentment come from the Lord. His spirit binds together. By that spirit the chaotic elements, at the word of the Lord, were blended and bound together, and form the solid globe on which we dwell. There are harmony and unity in the physical universe because the spirit of God is in it all. We should be united in things temporal, spiritual, social, political and all. No man should do anything that the spirit of God will not approve. It is a spirit of truth, intelligence and power. It brings unison and concord. The spirit of the Evil One divides and breaks down. God organizes and develops life; Satan disorganizes and brings forth death, for he has the power of death. It is the work of Christ to overcome that evil spirit. The spirit of God unites our souls and brings joy, while the other spirit makes division and brings sorrow.

Anything which interferes with the free agency of man is contrary to the Spirit of God. The principle of evil is necessary in its times and for its operations. There are worlds whence evil is banished, because the people have overcome it and advanced beyond the necessity for its presence. I am glad that the time will come when this earth will be delivered from evil and darkness, and those who overcome will dwell in the eternal light of God. But at present evil is necessary, as the opposite of good. There is need for opposition in all things, that we might be proved. Every spirit will find its level, every person will find his own plane, on the principle of his free agency. No matter what may be the force of circumstances, or the influence of our sur-

roundings and natural tendencies, behind it all we have the free will to do right or do wrong as we elect. Each spirit is independent in the sphere in which God has placed it, and because we are free agents, God will judge us according to our actions. That which tends to destroy free agency is not of God. No man has a right to do wrong, but he has the power in his agency to choose either. All should be left free to take their own course, and we should only seek to persuade, guide and direct aright; but we have no right to force anyone to receive anything or do anything against his will.

As to combinations that affect the relations of employer and employee, I see no need of them for members of this Church. Whenever there is a disagreement, it can be settled better, easier, more justly and satisfactorily in the courts of this Church than in any other way. Men may combine for mutual benefit, but when they combine to oppress others, or to force others to combine with them, they do wrong, and interfere with man's agency; they step beyond rightful bounds; and such measures are not of God.

Let us unite as Latter-day Saints and God will be with us. Our true policy is to be one. Let our energies be turned to union, that we may have one purpose in view: to seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness. Then all needful things will be added unto us, and we will come off more than conquerors. I will not say we will not have troubles, difficulties and tribulations, but the Church and kingdom of God will prevail. God has set it up for the last time, and it shall stand forever, and will not be given to another people. The time is coming when many people of influence will unite to build up Zion, and bring their gold and silver and precious things to beautify her and make the place for the feet of the Lord glorious, and she will arise and shine and the glory of God will rest upon her. Zion is to become terrible because of the power and glory of God, and her enemies will fear to go up against her. Let us be humble, faithful and united and God will be with us and guide us in all things, and it will not be a great while, after God's reckoning of time, before Jesus Christ will come to reign among His Saints, and the kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of God, and He will give unto his faithful people the great reward. May the Lord hasten the day and may we be found among the faithful!

BISHOP O. F. WHITNEY said he could hear a testimony similar to that of the previous speaker in relation to the spirit which had inspired the teachings of this day. The spirit of this meeting is one of unity and love. One of the old Prophets says: "God hath made of one blood all the families of the earth." Jesus prior to taking His departure from earth promised to His disciples this spirit of peace and unity, the Comforter, and said: "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another."