

thoughtless and indifferent in regard to the principles of life and salvation, now these principles should be our theme, now we should love them. Where before we sought to lay up treasures on earth, now we should seek to lay up treasures in heaven. Our chief object should be the accomplishment of God's purposes upon the earth. We should not live for the building of railroads and the development of mines and farms, and the building of houses, etc. Whatever we do of this kind should be done with the view of accomplishing the purposes of the Lord in the earth, and for making man happy, and bringing about that joy that was intended in our being upon the earth. As Adam felt that we might come to the earth and obtain tabernacles, so we have come to the earth that we might have joy in the presence of our Father who dwells in heaven. That is the design of our Father and the object of our being. Therefore, our hearts must not be set upon the things of this world. But if we seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, all other things that are necessary for us our Father will add unto us. Though He may not accomplish this year, He will do some of it this year, and some next year, till finally we will inherit all things.

But in order that we may have relief from our sins and come back into the presence of God, it is necessary not only that we should believe and be baptized, but that we should repent also. Following the doctrine of faith in God is the doctrine of repentance, as Peter declared on the day of Pentecost unto those who had slain the Savior or had consented to His death. They were gathered in great numbers, and many were convinced under the instructions of the inspired Apostle of God. They were pricked in their hearts, and said, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Peter answered them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." What a glorious promise that was to the people on that day. If it was the truth in the days of Peter, I say it is the truth today. If it was necessary then that a man should repent of his sins, and should humble himself before the Lord, and enter into the waters of baptism for the remission of sins, and receive the Holy Ghost, in order that he might please God and know His mind and will, I say it is the same today. The Gospel given then is the Gospel given today; for the Gospel revealed to us is that given by Jesus Christ himself. And He has given to us the Holy Ghost, that precious gift that was so valuable in those days and that would remind and bring to the attention of the followers of the Savior all that He had taught them, and show them things to come.

Now, we have these books that were spoken of yesterday—the Bible, the Book of Mormon and the Book of Doctrine and Covenants—and they are very valuable. But I say this Church could not run an hour with all the books that were ever published. It is not possible to run the Church of God with books. It must be by the living oracles of God. It must be by the men who are authorized by the Son of God himself to stand at the head of the people and to teach them. You cannot organize a ward, you cannot organize a quorum, you cannot do one thing in building up the kingdom of God, only by the living

oracles. You must have them all the time. Where a church has not the living oracles; where a church has not men who speak as one having authority, as Jesus spoke, I say that that is not the Church of God. There must be the men of God; there must be the Apostleship; there must be the Priesthood; there must be the organization of the Church in all its perfection and power. That is what God has revealed to us, and it is the reason that this work has prospered. Has it ever grown less? No. If there has ever been a falling away of one, has there not been an addition of a hundred? The Church has increased and grown right straight along, and there are people by tens of thousands in these valleys who know the Gospel is true. If any man has received the Gospel of Jesus Christ and has lived it, he knows the Gospel is true. That knowledge is a part of the work. It is a part of the principles that men should know of the doctrine. You take every assertion of the doctrine laid down by the Son of God and you will find that He makes it positive. On the day of Pentecost, Peter said, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of you sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." He did not say, "you may," or "perhaps you will obtain that precious boon;" but he said, "ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." When the Son of Man himself was questioned by the Jews, who wanted to know why he came to teach them when he was not an educated man and had not been finished in the schools of the day, He said, "My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." Now, I say that the Latter-day Saints have received the doctrine and have done the will of God, and they know of the doctrine. They have gathered together and they have built temples, and are laboring for the salvation of this world today as no other people on this earth are doing, and as no other people can do; for there is no other people that has the Gospel. All of them have some truth. It would be a miserable system of salvation if no truth were in it. But I say if you were to take nine-tenths of the truths and try to make up man's salvation, you would fail. You must have the whole truth or the system is not complete and perfect. I speak with all due respect of the religious denominations of the world. I have the same profound respect for every denomination that I ask them to grant me: for I am pleased to have people Christian in their feeling and to have them believe in Jesus Christ. It is much better than to have them infidel. But when you find the Church that has the authority of God, with whom God is laboring all the time, you will see men who stand up like men with authority and with power, and not as the scribes and pharisees. We do know of what we teach, and we have hundreds of thousands of people today that can bear us witness. Would I dare stand before this congregation if it were not full of people who know that what I say is true? Thousands here would hold up their right hands, and take a solemn oath if it were necessary, that they know this is the Gospel that Jesus has established; that it is His Church and that His purposes are being fulfilled

in the earth. What have we left our homes for? Had we no need to come up here? Only to do the will of the Lord. The spirit of this work gathers the people. We never took up an argument with the people to convince them that they need to come here. Why, in many instances we have to try and quiet their nerves and keep them from gathering, in order that the Church abroad may be strong enough to sustain the Elders in the missionary field. I have thought we have depleted our missions more than we ought to have done. I am not questioning my brethren who preside over me and have directed these affairs; but these have been the sentiments of my heart, that we have allowed the people to gather more rapidly than was wise in view of the desire to spread abroad the principles of eternal truth in the world.

Now, we stand before the world and are willing to be questioned, in private and in public; and we say to the world, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ; repent of your sins, and be baptized for the remission of those sins, and you shall obtain a remission of sins and an entrance into the kingdom of God, and you shall receive the Holy Ghost, and shall know of the doctrine. Then everything will be new to you; for you will see as the world do not see. Although we mingle with the world and the world is among us, do they see, and feel, and understand and believe as we do? No; but there is a magic something about the Latter-day Saints that the world admires. There is a feeling, a spirit and an influence over the country where the Latter-day Saints dwell that wins people and draws their affections and their attention, and they love to be among us. We are possibly the most remarkable people today in the world; only a little handful, but looked upon as an important people in these United States, attracting more attention perhaps than any other section of the country. This is because the Lord is with us. He is overruling and moving among the nations of the earth. It is not what He is accomplishing here alone, by His people; but He is moving upon the spirits of men, softening their hearts and preparing the way for the Gospel to be introduced throughout the world and the people to be gathered from among all nations. Then we say, welcome! What a welcome was given here yesterday, and will be again tonight! What a welcome is always given in this beautiful building! a building erected so many years ago, and yet it is up to the times today, and will be for the next hundred years. And so are our temples, and yet the foundations of these buildings were laid when we were in our infancy and in our poverty, and they have been completed by the power of God upon His people. All His works will be fulfilled and accomplished just the same. We are gaining strength and power, and although there has been a great deal of bitterness towards the Latter-day Saints, the Lord is softening the hearts of the people, and will continue to do so in the future, and make it possible for His Church to be thoroughly established. We are having a breathing spell now. We have spread over all this intermountain region, not only in the United States, out into Canada and into Mexico; and we are going east and west, and spreading in every direction, and gaining strength and power. And these United States