

RELIGIOUS.

Sunday Services.

Religious services were held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, Nov. 10th, 1889, commencing at 2 p. m., Counselor Charles W. Penrose presiding.

The choir sang:

O Thou at whose supreme command
The hosts of darkness fly.

Prayer by Elder James H. Anderson.

The choir sang:

Arise, my soul, arise!
Shake off thy guilty tears.

The Priesthood of the Sixteenth Ward officiated in the administration of the Sacrament.

ELDER JOHN E. CARLISLE

was called to address the congregation. He said that it was characteristic of the Elders of Israel that when they were called to perform any duty they made an earnest effort to respond to the call. The Sunday afternoon meeting is one of the most important the Saints have, as here we renew our covenants by partaking of the emblems of the sacrifice of our Lord. When we reflect that we have gathered together by God's command, that He has restored His Priesthood, and that the sacrament is administered by divine authority, it should fill us with a joy that is indescribable. Our Father has again organized His Church on the earth as it was in ancient days. He has placed in that Church the various offices necessary, and our work is that of preparation for the second coming of our Lord and Savior.

When we compare the prophecies of scripture with the events of today it seems marvelous that these things should have been so clearly manifest to men of old. The Prophets saw the rise of this Church and the gathering of the Saints to these mountains; they saw the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, as Isaiah tells in the 29th chapter; they saw the condition of the world at the time the Gospel was restored by an angel. All these things cause astonishment to the careful student of history and scripture. The world was without the authority to administer in the ordinances of the Gospel when the angel came to Joseph Smith, but when he was given the Priesthood the Church was organized, and in the face of determined opposition from the world, it has grown and increased through the power of God, which rested upon it. If we study the history of the Church from its organization we readily perceive that it is a marvelous work and a wonder. How often have we seen the wise and great of the world brought to naught when they had assailed the work of God? And how great is the strength given to the humble who seek to aid in its progress. The predictions of the ancient Prophets regarding the Book of Mormon have been fulfilled to the very letter, and in its translation and bringing forth to the world, the power of God was manifested and His name glorified.

There is a something strange to the student in the history of God's dealings with His children, and that is, that He has chosen the weak and humble among men to accomplish His purposes. The world seem to have lost sight of this fact; they seem to have forgotten that the worldly wise and proud were not chosen to be His representatives. The Lord has followed the same course in this age that He did anciently. He called Joseph Smith, a humble youth, for His work, and while the opposition to him was fierce, and steadily increased in magnitude, God added to His chosen one strength to meet every issue that came, and by His power He has caused the wisdom of the wise to perish, and brought to naught all efforts to overthrow His people. Had it not been for the efforts of wise men to destroy "Mormonism," we would probably not have reached these valleys. But it was in God's plan and He used the wrath of the wicked to accomplish His great designs. With the Saints, the powers of heaven rested among them and they saw the hand of the Almighty manifest in their deliverance from evil. The fruits of the Gospel are with them today, just as they were with ancient Saints. If we obey the same laws as the former-day Saints we will receive the same blessings. And no matter what our trials may be if we do right, faith will increase among us, and our strength will be competent for every condition that may arise.

It is by the guidance of those inspired of God that the Saints are to be brought to a unity of the faith—by the officers, gifts and powers which our Father has placed in the Church. When we become united in the Holy Spirit; when we receive light from that source, when we follow its promptings in all things, then we will have a unity of the faith. The order and perfection of the organization of the Church cannot fail to attract the attention and receive the admiration of mankind. The fact of men having authority to act in the name of the Lord is as beautiful in practice as in theory. This work depends on no man. When President Young died there were some who thought that the Church would burst asunder; but it did not, nor was it disturbed in its organization or power in the least degree. President Young was a Prophet; but when God called him hence He provided one to continue the work here. Those who hold the Holy Priesthood and magnify it are called of God.

I know that this work, called Mormonism, is the Gospel of Christ, and all those who obey it will receive the same knowledge. Our Father is just as willing to bless His children today as ever He was, and may we so live that we may receive His blessing.

COUNSELOR CHARLES W. PENROSE

said that being requested to speak to the people he desired the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is popularly supposed that "Mormonism"

consists of certain peculiar ideas and practices in regard to marriage. That is a great mistake. I opened a book today, in which an eminent Catholic dignitary enunciates this error, and it is through the promulgation of such mistakes that the world have misunderstood us. It seems very easy for men to make and believe misstatements about the "Mormons," but there is not manifested much willingness to tell the truth about us. The press is open to our enemies but closed against our side of the question. Jesus told His Apostles that when they were falsely accused they should rejoice, for that was the lot of those who taught and practiced righteousness.

"Mormonism" consists of all the principles of the Gospel of Christ, taught by Him and His Apostles and enjoyed by the early Saints. The Latter-day Saints have received some things special to the last dispensation, but there is nothing in "Mormonism" that is at variance with the teachings of Christ and the Prophets; nor is there anything that is not in accordance with purity, honesty, truthfulness and godliness. It tends to exalt mankind and bring them into harmony with God and His Son Jesus, and its object is to prepare men and women to dwell forever in the presence of God. It teaches that faith and works are necessary to salvation. It plants within men and women a Spirit that leads to all that is pure. It gives to them intelligence that enables them to understand and conform to the laws of eternal life. It is a religion of today, that pertains to every condition, that enters into every home and every heart, and teaches men and women how to act in every position. It thus exalts mankind, and they learn that in order to abide the presence of the highest order of intelligences they must obey the laws that will fit them for that condition.

It teaches that every spirit will find its true level, according to that which its labors merit; that we are the children of God, and that Jesus is our elder brother, the first-born of every creature; that our spirits are the offspring of God, and that we have been placed in this earthly condition that we may learn what darkness, pain, trials, tribulation and death are. It teaches that we are here for an education, and that we were born above, and were with the morning stars who sang together and the sons of God who shouted for joy at the birth of a new world so that we might come down and gain a knowledge of earthly things, be tested and tried to bring us nearer perfection. We are the children of God, and as every seed begets its own likeness we are in the image of our Father. All races and nations on earth are the offspring of God in the spirit, and should be obedient to Him in all things because he is their Father. We should live as Jesus did, to do our Father's will in all things. Jesus was obedient in all things and therefore God hath willingly exalted Him. According to our obedi-