

RELIGIOUS.

Sunday Services.

Religious services were held in the Tabernacle, Sunday, June 30th, 1889, commencing at 2 p. m., President Angus M. Cannon presiding.

The choir and congregation sang:

Arise, O glorious Zion,
Thou joy of latter days.

Prayer by Elder Charles W. Stayner.

The choir sang:

Sweetly may the blessed Spirit
On each faithful bosom shine.

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

ELDER JOS. W. SUMMERHAYS

was called to address the congregation. He said it might seem peculiar to strangers to see a person called from among the congregation to address the people. But the Latter-day Saints are a peculiar people. This is because they rely upon the Lord for guidance. They are frequently misunderstood by the world. This misunderstanding is being gradually removed, and many of the world now believe that the Latter-day Saints have faith in God, and that they believe in the Gospel principles taught in the Bible. The Latter-day Saints, like the rest of the human family, have their failings, and are surrounded by temptation. But the principles which they have espoused are perfect, having been revealed from their Father. Whatever the Saints are today in regard to that which is good, the Gospel has made them. If they are more virtuous, true and upright than others, it is because they have rendered obedience to the Gospel. That makes virtuous, upright, truthful and God-fearing people. Those who are not such a people are the ones who have not kept the laws of the Gospel; they fail because of the non-observance of the principles of truth. The mission of the Gospel is to elevate humanity to a higher and better plane of existence. Thus those who obey it learn from what they have been delivered by that obedience. Every man and woman can believe and worship as he or she pleases, and force should not be used to change that condition, but if we can persuade men to come to the truth, we are justified and blessed.

When the Saints conformed to the first principles of the Gospel, they received a testimony of the truth. They became better than they were before, because they obtained a knowledge of how to improve and purify their lives. In doing this they have been called to endure many unpleasant things, in the way of persecution, which has been waged against them, sometimes even to the death.

We are also called peculiar because of the union that exists among us. Would to God that we were more united. We have room to im-

prove in this very regard. When our Lord was on the earth, He was called peculiar and was persecuted, though he did naught but good. The Saints can understand how this was, for they have also experienced persecution for righteousness sake. But the day will come when all will be judged of God, and we will receive reparation for every wrong we have suffered. The human family are the children of our Father. It is for us to do right, and leave the rest in the hands of an all-wise God. Justice will not be robbed. The Messiah came to the Jews, and was slain, and His Apostles and Saints were also killed; but the vengeance of a just God rested upon the Jewish nation. If, today, men seek to destroy God's anointed, retribution will surely follow.

The Saints always have submitted to every righteous law and always will. But when they are oppressed, and the Almighty says it is enough, He will interpose His power in their behalf. These who have the love of Christ in their breasts will seek the welfare of their fellowmen. May our Father continue to bless us; may we be still more united, walk in the paths of righteousness, and eventually be saved in the kingdom of God.

ELDER CHAS. W. STAYNER

also addressed the congregation. He said if there was one thing more beautiful than another in the Church of Christ, it was the fact that we have to be living exemplars of the doctrine in which we believe. Another beautiful feature is that we shall not be fanatical, though we may be earnest, or even enthusiastic, for the cause of God. This, indeed, is eminently proper, and according to divine revelation. To live practically the principles of divine truth we must build up a symmetrical character, living harmoniously with the various principles which are established in the Church as the code of morals.

The great error into which some people fall, and which has been caused more through tradition than anything else, is the taking up of one solitary doctrine or principle of truth and making their lives simply an embodiment thereof. To this we may attribute the many-sided sects to be found in Christendom today. Different persons have taken a certain truth from scripture and established a religion upon it. They have founded a faith upon one or two principles which in the reading of scripture have impressed them most strongly, totally neglecting many others of equal importance simply because they did not so favorably strike them. We have now upon the earth some six or seven hundred different religious sects or denominations, each referring to the Old or New Testament for the foundation of their faith, and each proving the doctrine which they themselves believe by the divine record.

The Gospel bouquet is composed of many kinds of flowers; no weeds are permitted to form part of it. Its construction is of the purest and best. Every flower of truth has

been revealed direct from heaven; but if a person chooses one flower in particular he must not think that he has received the full bouquet.

In order to be a true Christian a man must endeavor to follow the example and teachings of the Founder of Christianity—the Lord Jesus Christ. He must possess the principles of the Gospel, its ordinances, ceremonies, and light. He must be founded upon these four stones if he would raise a superstructure symmetrical and beautiful, and fully carry out the theories of divinity. No Latter-day Saint should lay down one principle to take up another.

The Gospel involves faith and repentance which is afterwards followed by a divine ordinance—baptism for the remission of sins. To make, however, a perfect Latter-day Saint it is necessary that the spiritual and temporal should be combined. It is not sufficient for us to go to those having authority for the mere laying on of hands. There must be a preparation of the spirit and of the mind, a cleansing of the heart and the body, and a baptism by water before we are worthy to receive the baptism of fire and of the Holy Ghost.

Some persons cannot fully understand how the gifts of the Gospel are bestowed and how they operate in the Church; consequently, a great deal of ignorance has been manifested by people abroad when our Elders have gone forth to preach to them. They fail to comprehend that these gifts are bestowed according to their necessities, and in accordance with the great principles of common sense.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ, as revealed through the Prophet Joseph, is assuredly the most common sense religion ever given to man. It is strictly in accordance with the Gospel as revealed to the Son of God Himself when upon the earth. Let our lives be in keeping with the principles of righteousness, truth, virtue and honesty, working for the glory of God, acknowledging His hand in our daily experience, checking our passions, overcoming the spirit of vindictiveness, encouraging that great feeling of charity which is enjoined upon us by the Apostle.

It is for us, as the Saints of God, to inculcate this spirit in our daily life—in our business relationships, and in our associations with all men, realizing that we are all children of the same God, bound together by the common bond of brotherhood.

The choir sang the anthem:

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness.

Benediction by Patriarch John Smith.

Parowan Stake Conference.

The quarterly conference of this Stake was held in Parowan meeting house, Sunday and Monday, June 23rd and 24th, 1889.

Present of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: Francis M. Lyman and John Henry Smith; President Thomas J. Jones, and Counselor Morgan Richards, Jr., of the Stake Presidency, members of the