

the Holy Spirit and they could not easily be deceived. They readily detected evil and false teaching, and those men who lived according to the laws of the Gospel had influence among them. In order to have the Spirit of Truth we must serve God and not have our hearts set too much upon the things of the world. We must labor to improve the condition of mankind, morally and every other way, and thus promote righteousness. Men were to be judged according as they treat their fellow men. The source of all happiness, according to the scriptures, was the favor of God. This was not upon us when we did wrong, but it was with us when we did right. Experience had taught all of us that this was true. We had been taught to do right by the exponents of truth, and by the light of conscience, which was the Spirit of God acting within us. All had the power to serve God to the extent of their understanding. The Saints believed in God as their Father, that they were indebted to Him for life, that He desired that they should return to His presence and enjoy eternal felicity. They understood that God gave His Son to save the world; also the reason for the fall, through which came the resurrection by Christ's atonement. All who had received a mortal body will, after death, receive it again, this being the redemption wrought out by the Savior of the world. All these things had been made plain to us through the revelations of the Lord. Hence we should seek to lay up treasures in heaven, and not act as if our mortal lives were perpetual. If we did this all other things would be added to us, according to promise. We must not only believe, repent, be baptized for the remission of sins, and receive the Holy Ghost, but continue to live a godly life. The holy power might rest upon a man and yet not remain with him. This would depend upon the course he pursued.

We had the written word of God, but we had likewise the living authority, without whom the Church could not exist. It is through the living oracles that the work of the Father is carried forward. We had the testimony of Jesus, because we had done the will of the Father. This witness was promised by Jesus in His ministry. When the true Church had an existence on the earth, those who composed it could declare that they knew that Jesus was the Christ, and that they were engaged in the divine work of human redemption. We stood before the world today and proclaimed the same principles that were taught by the ancient Apostles and promised that all who obeyed should receive a living individual testimony of the truth.

We were becoming a famous people and were growing in influence among the nations. While many did not believe that we were in possession of the Gospel of Christ, large numbers could see that there was something peculiarly attractive about this community. This recognition of the status of this people would increase. Notable people in different countries were becoming possessed of an intention of coming to Utah to make their homes here, under the belief that their families

would be more secure from the evils existing in the world than they would elsewhere. All such will be heartily welcomed. The speaker concluded by expressing great hopes as to the future of the Saints.

#### ELDER BRIGHAM YOUNG

was the second speaker. He recognized in the events of the present the fulfillment of prophecies, both ancient and modern. Though few in number and in many respects not so wise in their day as the children of the world, the Latter-day Saints possessed a depth of purpose and a spirit of union not equaled by any other people. They had accepted the revelations of God, and the re-establishment of the ancient Church, producing a people unique from all others on earth. Though a bold thing to say, he felt to declare that the Latter-day Saints were more perfect in their religious organization than the rest of the world, and this in preparation for the second coming of Jesus Christ. It with all the light they had received, the people of God could permit for a moment the spirit of infidelity to enter their hearts, how much more powerful must that spirit be in the world. Yet the people had, in some instances, permitted it to enter.

To be one with the world would deter the people of God from their great destiny, for it would imply the acceptance of the vices of the world, with all their debasing effects. To the man who had received the Spirit of God, the thought of the necessity of these evils could not come without lessening his communion with God. They should be looked upon as exorcences upon the body mortal, fit to be rooted out for the propagation and preservation of the children of God in the earth.

The speaker read from section 45 of the Doctrine and Covenants, page 183, with reference to the gathering time and the preparation for the second coming of Christ, with the scourges which should characterize that time. The Latter-day Saints, being the only people looking forward to these evils, should be the only ones prepared to avoid and resist them. This was the object of the gathering, by which the Saints, standing in holy places, might escape the wrath of God. Those who would dabble in the things of the world with the spirit of the world were declared to be in great danger of being separated from the people of God. It behooved the Latter-day Saints to gain a grace sufficient to their day, that they might be able to stand in holy places and provide a refuge for those of the world who should show an unwillingness to take up arms against their brethren.

The speaker closed with an earnest prayer for the wellbeing of all the honest inhabitants of the earth.

#### ELDER FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS

addressed the Conference. The following is a very brief outline of his discourse: He incidentally referred to the musical festival in this city, and expressed pleasure at seeing so many good people who had been attracted here by the occasion. If honest testimony had always been accepted unceasingly, the Gospel would now have reached the ends of the earth. Such was the testimony of both Brigham Young and Willford Woodruff. The

deplorable condition of the Christian world, depending, as it did, upon their interpretation of the written word, was clearly portrayed, the necessity of the Priesthood and its authority, being emphasized. The "Golden Bible" had been a stumbling block in the door of the world's faith, though the stories of its imposition upon the people had been fully refuted. The speaker thought it unreasonable that so full an account of the people of the Asiatic continent being given, the inhabitants of the western part of the world should have been neglected. A brief review of the Bible and the Book of Mormon was given, showing their unity of purpose, and especially the fulfillment by the latter of many of the prophecies contained in the former. Particular reference was made to the visit of Jesus to this continent and His promise of a visit to the lost tribes of Israel. The miraculous preservation and giving forth of the golden plates containing this record, were related. All these considerations would entitle the Book of Mormon to be called the Bible of the western hemisphere. The account of the early visions of Joseph Smith was given, with a statement of the work of the Prophet in translating the records of the Book of Mormon establishing God's work on the earth, and receiving from John the Baptist and Peter, James and John, the keys of the Priesthood. The power of performing all the ordinances of the Church of Christ having thus been received, it was no longer necessary to depend upon the records of the past for authority to minister in the things of God; this had come direct from Him. The visits of Elijah and other servants of God, bestowing upon the latter-day Prophet the keys of the work of God, were fully detailed, as also the blessings which await the faithful.

The speaker closed with a strong testimony of the Gospel and an exhortation to continued faithfulness.

The choir sang:

Light and Truth.

Benediction by Elder George Reynolds.

#### Afternoon Session.

Singing by the choir:

All hail the glorious day,  
By prophets long foretold.

Prayer by Elder Abram Hatch, of Wasatch Stake.

How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word.

was sung by the choir and congregation.

#### ELDER ABRAHAM H. CANNON.

addressed the assemblage. That which we had heard during this conference was as valuable to us as was the written word. Some young people in the community entertained wrong ideas about independence. They thought it proper to disregard the advice of their parents and that of those whose duty it was to counsel and direct them. Disobedience to proper authority always resulted disastrously to those who indulged in it. Attention to the requirements of parents was a legal requirement in some countries—notably China. It was deemed to be true that children who were undutiful to parents were dangerous to the welfare of the state