

baptized about seven thousand that year, opened doors throughout England and Scotland, and laid a foundation for the work which has been fulfilled up to the present time. I will refer to one circumstance connected with that mission. I was in the potteries in Staffordshire, having gone there when I got to England. I was doing a good work there, baptizing almost every night. One night I went to Hanley to hold a meeting, and there was a very full house. Before I got up to speak, the Spirit of God came upon me and told me that that was the last meeting I should hold with that people for many days. I had appointments out for two weeks in that region of the country. After I got through preaching that night, I told them it was the last meeting I should hold with them. I went down into the water and baptized quite a number, and in the morning I went before the Lord and asked what He wanted of me. He told me to go to the south. I got into the stage and rode eighty miles south. I went into Herefordshire, and the first man's house I stopped at was John Benbow's. In one hour after I arrived at his house I learned why the Lord had sent me there. I name this because it is in the line of what I was speaking of. Here I found a company of men and women, some six hundred, who had banded together under the name of United Brethren, and were laboring for the ancient order of things. They wanted the Gospel as taught by the prophets and apostles, as I did in my youth. Well, without dwelling upon this, I will say that the first thirty days after I arrived in Herefordshire I baptized forty-five preachers and several hundred members, and I had in my hands all the chapels or houses licensed for worship according to law. We brought in two thousand in about eight months' labor. Many of these people had been looking and praying for this very work, and they were praying for it when I went there. I took no honor to myself with regard to this matter, I never felt that I could. All we have to do is to follow the dictation of the Spirit of the Lord, and give God the honor and the glory of it. We did a good work there and God blessed us. From there we went to London. Brothers Heber C. Kimball and George A. Smith and myself preached and established the first branch of the Church in the city of London. I rejoiced very much in my labors in Herefordshire, Gloucestershire and Worcestershire, and thousands of those that were baptized there are in Utah. We had quite a number of Bishops in this Territory that I baptized at that time. The youngest I baptized there was Brother Rowberry, who was a bishop of Tooele. He was only a boy at that time.

I want to refer to one circumstance that took place while in that mission and I do it as an example of the Lord's dealings with us in matters pertaining to temporal matters. John Benbow was a noble man. He was like an English lord; as rich a man, I suppose as ever came into the Church. He had not been baptized a month, I do not think, when he came into a little sitting room with his wife, and he probably spent three quarters of an hour in telling me that he had been reading in the New Testament how in the days of the Apostles they sold all their possessions and laid them at the Apostles' feet, and he said he felt it was his duty to fulfill

that law and he wanted to do it. I listened to him patiently and when he got through it took me perhaps half an hour to tell him the difference between our position today and the position of the Apostles in that day. I gave him to understand that God had not sent me to England to take care of his gold, his horses, his cows and his property; He had sent me there to preach the Gospel. I told him, however, that the Lord would accept of his sacrifice, and that whenever he could do good, he should do it; he should assist the poor, help publish the Book of Mormon, etc. Now, what would have been the result if I had taken the other course, and said, "Yes give me your property and I will take care of it?" Why, he would probably have apostatized. Not only that, but there would have been one foolish Apostle, who would have been a suitable candidate for apostasy also. But was that any temptation to me? No, it was not. It would not have been to any Elder who had enough of the Spirit of God to know the difference between a hundred thousand pounds of money and a part in the first resurrection, with power to pass by the angels and the gods to exaltation and glory, and stand in the presence of God and the Lamb forever and forever.

I name these things to show that there was a people prepared for this work. Go where you would and you would find spirits of this kind. That is why this people have come up here from the various nations of the earth. We have the Gospel of Christ abroad in all nations today as far as we have opportunity, and we have got to continue this work. The Lord is going to cut His work short in righteousness; and as I have said before, however insignificant this people may be in the eyes of the world, the God of heaven holds us responsible for preaching this Gospel to every nation under heaven, and we have it to do or we will be damned. We cannot avoid this. Why? Because, as Paul says, "Woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel." There is but one Gospel; never has been but one, and never will be; and Paul says, "But though we, or an angel from heaven preach any other Gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." That Gospel, ye saints of the living God, and the world, is in our hands, sent to us by the ministrations of angels—the same Gospel that was taught from Adam to Christ, and from Christ down to our day and generation, when God has had a people on the earth. I have a great desire myself for the welfare of the Latter-day Saints. We have a great work to perform.

Before I close, I want to say a few words to the Apostles and to the Saints of God. I want to say something about the devil. The devil, in the days of the Savior, got one Apostle to deny his Lord and sell Him for thirty pieces of silver. But when Judas' eyes were opened to see what he had done, he did not prize those thirty pieces of silver, but went out and hung himself. Is that devil dead? Has Lucifer, the son of the morning, gone out of existence? No; he is here today. He is in the midst of this people; and if there are any people under heaven that Lucifer with all the fallen angels that dwell on the earth are laboring to destroy, they are these Latter-day Saints. It was so anciently; it will be so until He who holds the keys of death and hell shall bind

Satan and shut him up. Until that hour he will labor for our destruction. I want to say to these Apostles that I have seen days of trouble with the quorum of the Twelve. I have referred many times to the days in Kirtland, and my heart has had a great deal of pain over those affairs. There the devil labored with the Apostles and caused a good share of them to apostatize. One half of them apostatized, and some of the others came pretty near it. The signers or witnesses to the Book of Mormon—Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer and Martin Harris—all apostatized from the Church of Jesus Christ, though they never denied the Book of Mormon. In the darkest day, neither one of them ever denied that, but always maintained it to the day of his death. But I want to say to my brethren that if the devil could get one of these Apostles—yes, one of them—to believe that the Presidency of this Church were working against him, and that we did not have his welfare at heart, or if he could get a Seventy or any man in this Church to believe it, he would labor to do so. If the devil could have got the Savior to have followed him, he would have overthrown the whole plan of salvation. But he did not do it. Jesus said, "Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." So I say to these Apostles before me, if the devil could make one of you believe that we would not give you right counsel, he would do it. But he will not do it. I thank God for that. I feel I can prophesy that before God and angels. The Apostles, as a body, are united, and God has laid His Spirit upon them, and they will be true and faithful to this work until they get through with it. Those are my feelings. I rejoice in this. I trust I shall never pass through any more of those scenes that I witnessed in the days that are past and gone.

Brethren and sisters, God bless you. Now, do not be afraid that the Presidency and Apostles of this Church will give you any wrong counsel. We have learned better than to do that. We shall never do it while we dwell in the flesh. The salvation of the sons of men is of far more worth than all the honor that the human family can give upon our heads. Give me salvation; give me a part in the first resurrection; give me the privilege of standing in the morning of the first resurrection with the resurrected dead—with my father's house and with the prophets and apostles who have lived in my day and generation; give me power to be exalted with them in the eternal worlds in the kingdom of our God. That is all I ask. And it is my privilege and yours. It is the privilege of this people to receive these blessings at the hands of God. I have confidence in my brethren. I rejoice with them in the union that dwells today in the house of Israel, and with the Presidency and Twelve Apostles. We love one another. We understand something of the work of God in our day and time. We have labored together. Here are my counselors; they have spent years and years upon the islands of the sea, where they have had to live upon coconuts and poi and food of that character, and they did it to save the souls of men. God has blessed them in all their labors. He will bless them. He will bless this people.

I believe this is all I want to say to you this morning. I felt sick when I