

Spirit we are just as weak as any other people.

Therefore, we should live so as to have this Spirit with us, then our conduct is a witness to the world that there is something peculiar about this, and that this is indeed the work of God, because the fruits of the Gospel are manifested in the lives of the people who belong to the Church.

I have said that the Latter-day Saints would be the progenitors of a new world. I do not think I state this the least bit too strongly. I firmly believe it. But I have noticed one thing, and I want to call it to the attention of those who are members of the Church. In my experience I have seen hundreds of individuals and families who started out well, as though they were going to endure to the end; but who have fallen by the wayside and are no longer numbered among the people of God. Occasionally, when I visit the different Stakes, and come in contact with old members of the Church whom I have known, and whose associates I have known. I ask them, "Where is so-and-so?" "Oh, he is dead." "Is his wife dead?" "Yes." "Where are their children?" "Oh, their children have gone off somewhere." "Not in the Church?" "No, not in the Church; they have lost the faith." This has impressed me very much. A cleansing process is going on among us. Men and women are losing the faith; their children are losing the faith, and they are leaving the Church of God. God has told us that He will have a pure people. He has assured us from the beginning that no one else can stand in His Church. It is impossible for an impure man to remain connected with this Church for any length of time. People who will not live so as to have the spirit of God with them will be removed from the midst of the people.

That is another sign, another evidence that this is the work of the Lord. I believe that the Latter-day Saints, no matter what their professions may be, who do not keep the commandments of God will lose their standing among the people of God. I have seen this illustrated through all my mature life. The Elders who go forth accompanied by the power of God, if they commit sin and fall into transgression, lose the faith and, unless they repent, they become cold and indifferent, and lose all interest in the work of God; and after a while they lose their standing and become aliens to the Church. And this is not confined to one class; it is the result with all classes. Oliver Cowdery, the man who was ordained with Joseph Smith by angels, and whom you would imagine would of all men in the Church, next to the Prophet himself, been firm and steadfast, left the Church, and the Priesthood, gifts and powers that God gave to him were given to another. If this man could not stand, who can expect to stand in this Church? And all who knew his history knew what the cause was. He indulged in impurity; he was unvirtuous. In consequence of this he lost the Spirit of God and fell into darkness, and was severed from the Church of Christ. And he is not alone. I might mention the names of a number who are distinguished in our history who met with the same fate. The Lord will not tolerate impurity. No matter what a man may know, or what testimony he may have, if he commits sin, unless he repents, the Lord will not bear with him. If he does not repent, the Lord will withdraw His spirit from him, and leave him to himself. Therefore we who are members of the Church today should be careful that we do not grieve the Spirit of God, that we do not commit sin. We should repent every day of our lives. We should beseech the Lord

to show unto us our weaknesses and our faults, that in seeing them we may be kept humble and have the spirit of penitence resting upon us, prompting us to confess our sins, to God and to one another, and live together in love, and not indulge in any feeling that is not of God concerning our brethren and sisters. If we have feelings against any one, we should go to that individual and become reconciled. When we pray we ought to be able to pray for everyone within the range of our acquaintance. If there are some we are not altogether pleased with, pray God in their behalf; ask the Lord to bless them. There is nothing so well calculated to make us love our brethren as to pray for them. Let us ask God to help us see our weaknesses, instead of looking at the weaknesses and faults of our neighbors. Let us pray for our brethren, and ask God to bless them and help them to overcome their weaknesses, and, above all, ask Him to help us to overcome our weaknesses.

I know that the majority of this congregation have embraced this Gospel with the hope that they would endure to the end and eventually enter into the presence of God and the Lamb. You love Jesus; you love the truth; you have been willing to make sacrifices, because of that love. I know there are hundreds in this congregation who have been willing to do everything in their power—yea, if necessary, to lay down their lives—for the truth. They have felt that way, and probably do so now. Then let us live in accordance with the principles we believe in. We believe we must be pure. We cannot expect to dwell in the presence of our Savior if we are not pure. Therefore, we should endeavor to live in conformity with His requirements, and put away from us everything that we would disapprove.

Of late, in traveling among the conferences, I have felt led to read and try to impress upon the people some of the words of the Savior in what is called the sermon on the mount. The Book of Mormon has it also, a little different from the Bible, but plainer, because it was translated by the power of God. There are requirements made for us in that discourse that we should endeavor to carry out. The Lord has attached great promises to them, and I think it would be a good thing for us to read them. We would not have litigation among us then; for the Lord says, "If any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also." Some think that is a hard requirement. Men say they must defend their rights. But we can leave our rights to the Lord to defend a great deal more than we do, and not be always ready to rush into litigation and strife and think we must do this in order to defend our manhood and our independence. I believe that many people will be found in the place of darkness through being so anxious to vindicate their rights and show their independence. The Lord Jesus has set us the example. He had the power to call legions of angels to His rescue, but He did not do it. They smote Him; they spit upon Him; they crowned Him with thorns; they heaped upon Him indignities; but He breathed the spirit of forgiveness. "Father, forgive them; they know not what they do." As a people, we have had that spirit to a very great extent. We have submitted to wrong when we might have defended ourselves. We have submitted to outrages that we might perhaps have resisted. But, speaking of us as a whole, we have had the disposition, given to us of the Lord, to suffer wrong rather than do wrong. And I believe the Lord loves us for this. But individually we are not so, for we violate the commandments of

God in this respect, and we should repent of it and cultivate a different spirit. If any difficulty arises with our brethren and we cannot settle it, let us say to our brother, "the Lord judge between me and thee," and leave it that way; leave it with the Lord, and He will vindicate everyone who does so, if they are in the right.

My brethren and sisters, let me urge upon you all to remember this prayer of our Savior from which I have read. Let us love one another. Let us be one with our brethren, and one with the Lord, as He is one with the Father. This would be a grand achievement for us. Think how perfectly and gloriously the Father and the Son are united! Yet the Savior prays that we might have that spirit of oneness and love also. I pray God that this spirit may increase among us as Latter-day Saints; that fathers and mothers may cultivate it; that parents may cultivate it with their children; children with each other; husband and wife live together in love and union, and in peace, and have peace in the family. Let us teach the children this principle, and we will be doing good in the earth, and preparing the way for the coming of the Lord Jesus. If we do not do this, think of the consequences. The most frightful thought that ever entered into my mind has been the fear that I should do something that would grieve the Spirit of God and cause me to lose the faith and my standing in the Church. When I was young and entering upon manhood, being without parents to talk to me and guide me, the words of the Lord which I had read respecting the consequences of lust would cause me to chill at the very idea of indulging in such thoughts; for that the Lord had said would result in the loss of the faith. I cannot think of anything so horrible as to lose my standing in the Church. Death is nothing compared with it. And I want that spirit to rest down upon my children, that they may love righteousness and love God, so that they will rather die than commit sin that would bring the loss of the Spirit of God. Of course, we are all human, mortal, subject to temptation, and we have to struggle as best we can; but there ought to be a love for the Gospel implanted in the hearts of our children, a love for their standing in this Church, that they would not do anything to endanger it; they would rather die. I pray that that spirit may rest upon us all, that we may be filled with a love for the Gospel and everything that cometh from God, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

IN THE EUROPEAN MISSION.

[Millennial Star, Nov. 4, 1897.]

Arrivals.—The following named Elders from Zion arrived in Liverpool October 29, 1897, per American Line steamer *Belgenland*: For the British mission—Andrew A. Gibbons, St. John, Arizona; George A. Mills, Salt Lake City; William E. Morse, Samaria Idaho, Nels Nelson, Riverton. For the Scandinavian mission—James N. Skousen Jr., Colonia Juarez, Mexico; Parley P. Jensen, Salt Lake City; N. J. Valentine, Brigham City; John E. Bolstad, Ogden; Jens N. Hansen, Show Low, Arizona; Alfred Hanson, Charles Jensen, Logan; Hyrum J. Hanson, Bear River City. For the Swiss and German mission—Ernest F. Schettler, Walter Romney, Salt Lake City; E. C. Eyring, Colonia Juarez, Mexico.

The following named missionaries from Zion arrived in Liverpool on November 4, 1897, per American Line steamer *Pennland*: For the British mission—Charles Henry Davies, Joseph Howard, Vernal; Edward Sutton, Paris, Idaho. For the Scandinavian mission—Peter James Sandberg, Wes-