

remarked that the speakers in this Church did not prepare their discourses beforehand, but depended upon the Spirit and inspiration of the Lord for what they might say. Every one bearing the holy Priesthood was expected to bear his share of the burden in the work of the Lord. We had undertaken to build up God's kingdom and accomplish His purposes, and every man bearing the Priesthood who failed to do his duty was under reproach. It was a reproach to teachers when they were unsuccessful in the performance of their duties; so were individual members of the Church when they failed to properly regulate their own affairs and those of their families; and the same might be said of the Bishops when they fell short of their duty towards those who looked up to them for guidance. So also with the High Councils of the Stakes. When we, as a people, failed to obey the Word of Wisdom, which had been given us for our temporal good, and neglected to keep the Lord's commandments, it was a reproach to us. Our sins would be forgiven if we were genuinely repentant, which was eternal repentance, and none other could possibly be effectual. We covenanted to serve the Lord when we went into the waters of baptism, and if a man would be saved hereafter he must resolve upon final reformation. There was a spirit of carelessness today among the people not only in regard to the law of tithing, but in other matters.

Our fast-day offerings were but nominal, whereas the Saints should always remember the wants of the poor. This was what the Lord required of us. In how many of the fast meetings in Zion today, he asked, were prayers offered as extensively as they should be? He believed there were many things which might be accomplished by fasting and prayer which could not be carried out and attained by individual effort. The Saints were unfortunately too apt to lose sight of this. The speaker condemned an excessive love of pleasure, and deprecated card playing, drinking and other evils practiced by the young in Zion. The subject of faith was briefly dwelt upon, and the importance of daily prayer urged upon the Saints. Some among the Latter-day Saints were excusing themselves, for one reason and another, from paying their tithing, but He who provided for us should receive as our offerings the choicest gifts that we could bestow in that direction. When the Lord had so abundantly blessed us we should remember the poor. We had had a bountiful harvest, and hence out of our store should give liberally to those of our brethren who were placed in less fortunate positions. There was joy, happiness and salvation in doing the will of God and in the faithful carrying out of the duties required of us. In conclusion Elder Lyman invoked the blessing of God upon President Woodruff, whose life he prayed might be prolonged for years yet to come, that he might remain at the head of this people.

ELDER JOHN HENRY SMITH, of the quorum of the Twelve Apostles, was the succeeding speaker. He said here were a great many subjects

which might be advantageously dwelt upon at this conference. The theme of those who had spoken thus far on the present occasion had been a reformation of our individual lives, and on this head some excellent counsel had been given. Each and everyone of us could look into our own souls and seek wisdom, prudence and judgment to guide us aright. Elder Smith spoke of the obligation resting upon the Latter-day Saints of constant and earnest prayer, in the family circle and in secret as well as in our public meetings. He was fearful, however, that in the midst of the excitement and cares of the day many of us became unmindful of the responsibilities which attached to us in this respect. He believed that among many of the duties which we neglected was the expression of our thanks to God for having in His providence preserved us and our families amid the surrounding temptations of life, and which beset us on every hand. He wondered sometimes whether, in the midst of present experiences, our sisters were as mindful in this regard of their responsibilities as they were wont to be in the days that are past—now that they are more largely endowed with the comforts and blessings of life. There was no doubt as to the correctness of this latter-day work, for God himself was at its head. The road to repentance was ever open to the Saints, and let them see to it that their lives were so directed that hereafter they would attain celestial glory. May the Lord bless us with a proper comprehension of the doctrines we have espoused and in our daily life continue to watch over and protect His people.

The anthem, "O come, let us sing unto the Lord," was sung by the choir. Benediction by Elder Seymour B. Young.

SECOND DAY.

Morning Session, October 6th.

Singing by the choir and congregation:

Redeemer of Israel,
Our only delight
On whom for a blessing we call:
Our shadow by day,
And our pillar by night,
Our King, our Deliverer, our all!

Prayer was offered by Elder Jesse N. Smith.

The choir sang:

All hail the glorious day!
By Prophets long foretold.

ELDER MOSES THATCHER,

of the quorum of the Apostles, was the first speaker. He said he had been very much edified with the instructions given at this Conference and he prayed that the same Spirit and power which had been manifested thus far would remain with them to the end. The only source of happiness lay in walking in the strait and narrow path which leadeth unto life eternal. We should ever remember the covenants we had made with the Lord and with each other. New obligations might devolve upon us from time to time, but we should never forget the cause which we had espoused—that of the Lord Jesus Christ, and nothing should swerve us from it. The Lord expected us to be governed by prin-

ciple, to be true to Him and each other.

A variety of subjects had already been touched upon, all for the edification of those who had listened to the remarks made by the brethren. If we kept the commandments of God all would be well with us; on the other hand, if we had been weak and changeable and partook of the spirit of the world we were on the wrong path. We had partaken of that spirit in many ways and had not always been prudent in our acts. Nothing, in his opinion, had done more to weaken the faith of some among us than the wider introduction and consideration of state matters in our midst. This had engendered in some quarters a spirit of which we had no reason to be proud. The theory of state government was wholly different from that of the Church, the latter being governed only by the law of God, through the constituted authorities of His Church. Could it be said that the Gospel of the Son of God had failed to make us charitable, generous and broad? While when administrations changed the dominant party might feel it its duty to change the workers in the municipalities, states and in the national government, for a man in this Church to carry his politics so far, if he were a Republican, that he felt he could not employ a Democrat, or vice versa, showed a narrowness of mind of which, he thought, we ought to get rid. If he himself had employment to give, he never asked a man what his politics or his religion was. That made no difference to him so long as the man was a good workman; and he could truthfully say that some of his dearest friends in the world were those who did not see eye to eye with him politically. He said this much because he had seen a spirit in the midst of the Latter-day Saints that was not commendable, broad and generous, and not equal to the example set to us by our outside friends. He trusted that hereafter we should look better to these things and manage them upon the broad and not the narrow gauge. The speaker also addressed himself to the youth of Zion, expressing the hope that those who were over them would watch vigilantly that their steps were directed aright, in order that they might be kept aloof from the sins of the world which in these days beset them on every hand.

ELDER GEORGE TEASDALE,

of the quorum of the Apostles, next addressed the Conference. He spoke of the Mexican mission. It was going along with fair success. More help was wanted, in the shape of men of endurance and courage, to build up the settlements and establish new ones. Sonora needed aid in getting out water to enable the people to redeem the land. The mission had all the organizations for the progress of advancement of the Saints in the truth of the Gospel that existed in other divisions of the Church. These associations were in good operating condition. Repentance was the next subject dwelt upon, the speaker insisting that it was needed among the Saints. It was more noble to overcome bad habits in youth than to do so later in life. The lives of the people should be uniformly good throughout. There