

upon them the blessings which He had promised. This is not the testimony of one person, family or nation, but it is the testimony coming from every part of the earth to which the Elders have gone.

We, as a people, are bound together by ties stronger than any known among men, and this love will continue to grow and increase until it fills the whole earth.

Latter-day Saints put your trust in God; let us be faithful to Him; let us keep His commandments; let us cherish in our hearts that faith which He has implanted there, and which is sweeter than life itself. The love of Zion should be strong in all our hearts, the love of this great work which God has established. It has lifted us up out of darkness and ignorance and placed us in close connection with our Father. Let us endure patiently the few sorrows, trials, and afflictions which we have to bear, remembering what Christ Himself when on earth endured for our sakes.

APOSTLE JOHN HENRY SMITH.

was the next speaker. He said there is no truth in the world but what is comprehended within the plan of life and salvation. The work in which we are engaged is the work of God. Every principle necessary to the salvation and exaltation of the sons and daughters of men has been given unto us. They are rapidly spreading amongst the people and will continue in the future to lead men to understand even more clearly than in the past the purposes of the Divine One. We should be alive to the duties and responsibilities which rest upon us, true and steadfast in every position of life, and live lives worthy of imitation. My testimony is that that which we have received is the true Gospel of Christ, the power of God unto salvation to all the sons and daughters of men who will obey its principles and walk by its requirements. It has come to stay, and will grow, increase and spread abroad on the earth. I pray God to prosper us in our good work and keep us true and faithful to the end of our days.

The choir sang:

Where the voice of friendship's heard,
Sounding like a sweet-toned bird.

Benediction by Elder Seymour B. Young.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

The choir and congregation sang:

Our God we raise to Thee
Thanks for Thy blessings free.

Prayer by Elder George Goddard.
The choir sang:

How dark and gloomy was the night
When Satan did his powers array.

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

PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

addressed the congregation. I feel thankful that I have the privilege of assembling with the Saints and partaking of the Lord's supper. I look upon this as a great privilege, and I often think that those of us

who are so favored should to live that we may have the privilege of partaking of the great marriage supper of the Lamb with those who have kept His commandments. To be permitted to partake of that supper will certainly be a great blessing.

Any man who is called to preside in any of the higher offices of the Church is just as much dependent upon the Lord as any deacon, teacher or priest. I often think of the injunction of the Savior, to treasure up the words of light and life, that when we are called upon to preach it may be given us at the moment what we may say. I never know, when I arise before a congregation, what I am going to say. I leave that matter entirely to the Lord.

The Lord never had men upon the earth, called to preach His Gospel or labor in His ministry, who were not dependent upon the Holy Spirit. Why? Because the Holy Ghost is a personage of the Godhead, a being of Spirit, and a witness of the Gospel.

God has given to all men in all ages an agency. It was so in the heavens, when there was a war there, and one third of heaven's inhabitants were cast out. Upon this agency you and I are held responsible for the course we take, and the religion we embrace. Joseph Smith once said: "If I were the emperor of the whole world, holding the power of life and death over all men, I would protect all men in the enjoyment of their religion."

These are my sentiments. I do not think it right to coerce any man in respect to his religion, nor to oppress him on account of it.

John the Revelator saw many great events which were to take place upon the earth in the last days. Among other things he saw the Gospel restored by an angel flying through the midst of heaven. As Latter-day Saints we profess to believe that the Everlasting Gospel in its fulness and power has been thus restored, and that Joseph Smith was ordained to the lesser and the greater Priesthoods by ministering angels.

I came to these mountains with President Brigham Young. It was then a barren region. Our history for forty years is before the world. We have survived and still have a work to perform.

There is but one Gospel and never was, so far as this world is concerned. We do not know what may have been taught in other worlds. The Gospel for the redemption of the inhabitants of this world has for its first principle faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The next principle is repentance; the next, baptism for the remission of sins. This was taught by Jesus and His disciples till their death. Jesus was baptized of John, and baptism was taught as a righteous principle by His Apostles. Next came the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, which, when received and cultivated, becomes an inward light for the guidance of the individual in all things.

The Church of Christ, in the days

of Jesus, was organized on a certain plan, and Joseph Smith was commanded to organize this Church on the same model. There has been no change in the Gospel in any age of the world, nor can there be any. Its principles, ordinances and priesthood remain the same. This Gospel is what the Latter-day Saints believe in. Jesus Christ is our High Priest. He held the Priesthood of Melchisedec, which is without beginning of days or end of years. No man has ever had any authority to administer in any ordinance of the Gospel without the priesthood.

It is through and by the power of the eternal Priesthood that men offered sacrifice under the law of Moses and have administered in the ordinances of the Gospel. The Latter-day Saints have received this Priesthood, and but for its power they might have preached till now among the nations and Utah would still have been as barren as it was in 1847. The converts to this Gospel have been gathered here because, under the power of the Priesthood, they received a testimony that it was right for them to gather. If I should ask those of this congregation who have received this testimony to arise, this assembly would rise in a body.

No people in any age ever lived godly in Christ Jesus who did not experience opposition or persecution. It is so today with us. What is the present condition of the Christian world? It seems to me that God has become unpopular. The Bible, His word, has become unpopular, and is being excluded from the schools.

Is it reasonable to suppose that God has created myriads of intelligences who have lived upon the earth, only to pass into oblivion on leaving it? Such a proposition is incredible.

This people have a mission to perform. The Lord has set His hand to establish His work. He had to do what He has done in raising up this people, in order to fulfil the scriptures. Jesus died to take away what is called original sin, and men, by obeying His Gospel, may accomplish the taking away of their own sins. The Saints are called to stand in holy places, while the purposes of God are accomplished among the nations. We are called to warn the nations, and are under condemnation if we fail to do this. In various ages, when God has been preparing to pour out His judgments on a nation, He has first sent prophets to warn them. All that these prophets have said has come to pass. The speaker cited a number of instances from scriptural history to show this.

The Jews are beginning to return to Jerusalem. They will return there and rebuild their city and their temple, I want to say to the Latter-day Saints, we should have faith in God. His promises will be fulfilled. We have a long eternity before us. We are only on a mission here. I may not dwell much longer among this people. I do not know why I should. I know that God has raised up a peo-