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upon the people and preparing the people for eternity. We have come to the earth for that purpose. We have not come here to be like so many animals—to eat, drink and die. That is not the purpose that God had in view in sending us here. We are filled with the aspirations of Deity. We have great and godlike qualities lying latent and undeveloped within us, but they will be developed, for we are the offspring of God, and He wants to make us like Himself. That is why He has sent us here; not merely to eat and drink, but to prepare ourselves for eternity. How shall we live in eternity? I said in the beginning of my remarks that the religious world did not tell us anything about this, for they did not know. Will husband know his wife? Will wife know her husband? Will there be any closer tie between the husband and the wife in eternity than between the husband and a strange woman or the wife and a strange man? "I think not," the religious man will say; "The Savior says there is no marrying or giving in marriage in the resurrection, and I think, therefore, that we will all live separately." Well, how about those delightful associations that we have in this life? How is it that when men are separated from their wives, or when women are separated from their husbands, they frequently die themselves? How is it that mothers, when they lose a loved child, almost feel as though they wanted to die, too, and do sometimes die through grief? Are these affections anything? Are they to be obliterated? Are none of them to survive the resurrection? Are we to be mixed like so many cattle in eternity? Is that the fate which awaits men and women, created in the image of God? Is the procreative power to be lost—that gift which is the greatest that God has given to a human being? Are all these affections that are so delightful and so tender to be crushed out and never have room for expansion? Why, it is the most hideous thought that can be presented to reflecting men and women. No; God has taught us better than this. He has revealed to us that these relationships that are so tender and that make life so delightful will exist beyond the grave. Wife will be united to husband. Children will be united to parents. The family relationship will exist in eternity, and the glory of a man and a woman will be in dwelling in the midst of their posterity and seeing that posterity increase. For after God seemingly had exhausted every blessing that He could give to Abraham, or that human heart could desire, He took him out and showed him the stars of heaven and said to him: "In blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore." That seemed to be the crowning blessing—the blessing of all blessings—that He pronounced upon His faithful servant Abraham, after he had expressed a willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac. And this is the blessing that God has promised to every faithful man and woman—that in the increase of their seed there shall be no end. This will constitute the great glory of eternity—the man presiding over his family, and being lord over them. Thus it is that Jesus is called Lord of Lords. He is Lord of Lords because His brethren will exercise this power and authority over their posterity. And then what? Why, the creative power will be given to men. They will not be sitting upon a cloud, thrumming a harp and singing songs. We will not spend our days throughout the endless ages of eternity in any such monotonous employment as this. It is delightful as a recreation. It is very nice to sing and to have music at intervals; but to follow it up through eternity, and that be our sole occupation, it would be the most dreary prospect that the human mind could conceive of. There was a concert here last night. Would you like to have one tonight, tomorrow night, and the next night, and every night for a week, and have to go there to sing and hear singing? Why, you would get so tired of it that you would not know what to do with yourselves. That is not heaven. It is one of the joys of heaven, but it is not the sole occupation of the redeemed. What will be their occupation? The exercise of that creative power that our Father and God has exercised in preparing this earth as the abode for man. He called together the elements and formed the earth as a habitation for man; and man, if he is faithful, will progress until he will do that very same thing for his posterity. Abraham, standing at the head of an innumerable posterity, will find it necessary to have room. He will want to emigrate after awhile from this earth and find a new habitation, for there will not be room enough on the glorified earth for him and his posterity in the coming eternity. Thus it is that the heavens are bespangled with the glorious orbs that we see at night—the creations of God, peopled by the children of God.

And all this God promises to us, if we are faithful. He says, "You shall be kings, you shall be queens, you shall sit upon thrones, you shall sway sceptres, and you shall have power and dominion, if you prove yourselves faithful and true to me, and you shall be my heirs, and joint heirs with my beloved Son, Jesus Christ, your Redeemer." We have built temples that within their sacred walls these holy ordinances can be administered and these promises given and sealed upon the heads of the children of men. We have not commenced to do many things that will yet be done in temples. But we have made a beginning. We have begun to seal, by the authority of the Holy Priesthood, wife to husband, and where children are not born in the covenant, children to parents, or where they cannot be sealed to their parents, adopted to others as parents, for be it known, there must be a connecting link between every generation and dispensation from our father Adam down to the present. And that will have to be done in the temples of God. The marriages of our fathers and mothers—that is, those of them who were married before God restored the Priesthood—were not eternal marriages. They married until death should them part. It was a covenant that they entered into. The priest that married them had no more authority from the Lord to marry them than a justice of the peace has. These marriages were recognized by the laws of the land as legal, but they did not extend beyond this time; they were only until death should them part. Now they have died, and the covenant that they made with each other terminated with death; it was no longer binding. How shall they be united for eternity? If the family relationship be the true relationship that shall exist in eternity between the sexes, how shall those who have died be united one to the other in eternity? God has commanded temples to be built in order that that ordinance may be attended to therein. Jesus died for us. He made a vicarious offering for us. He died in our stead, and through His death we are redeemed. In like manner, we can be saviors, to a certain extent. We can act vicariously for our dead. If my grandfather and grandmother died before they had the opportunity of being married by the authority which God recognizes, and which would make their marriage binding for time and eternity, I, as their heir, can go forward in the temple of God, with the heiress, my sister, who may represent the female branch of the family, and we can be united for and in their behalf, acting for them in this vicarious manner. Thus the family relationship that existed and that was dissolved with death, can be re-created and made perpetual and binding throughout all eternity. Thus children can be sealed to their parents, and one generation to another, until the whole family of man shall be re-united and bound together, all being the children of God. Hence it is as the Savior said, that there will be no marrying nor giving in marriage in the resurrection, because this ordinance will be attended to upon the earth in this manner.

These will be some of the labors that we shall have to perform in the millennium, during the thousand years of peace on the earth, when Satan will be bound. We shall build temples, and we shall go forth in peace and in righteousness, doing the works of redemption that have to be done for those that have died in ignorance of the Gospel and without receiving these saving ordinances. We shall find plenty of employment during the thousand years in doing these works, and the earth will be cleansed from sin. Satan will be bound, and he will not have power to tempt the nations of the earth, and we shall dwell in peace and righteousness. There will be no war, for swords will be beaten into plowshares, and spears into pruning hooks, and there shall be peace from one end of the earth to the other. And this is the beginning of it here in these mountains. Already we have a foretaste of that spirit which, when it spreads throughout the earth, will bring about that happy consummation, that glorious period of which the Prophets and Apostles have spoken. Already that spirit has been poured upon us, to a certain extent, and we enjoy it, and when we live according to that spirit, there is no quarreling, there is no contention, there is no disposition to fight, but we are filled with love. This, my brethren and sisters, as I have said, is a foretaste of that which is to come; and though it may seem to you that it is a long delayed day, it nevertheless is near at hand. All we have to do is to bear patiently the trials and the afflictions that we have to contend with, for the hour of our deliverance is near at hand. The Lord is mighty, and this wickedness that now afflicts men and that is so sorrowful to contemplate, will be banished from the face of the earth; for there will be calamities, and scourges and judgments go forth to remove the wicked; and there will be but few men left, the Prophet says. We are required to prepare ourselves for these things. God has not forgotten us, and will not forget us. He is with this people, and is overruling all things for our good, and if we are faithful He will deliver us.

But I want you, my brethren and sisters, to realize if you can—I want to realize it myself—that which God has done for us. How different are all our thoughts and all our anticipations from those that our fathers had who had not the Gospel. We look at things differently. God has thrown a flood of light upon the principles of the Gospel. He has shown unto us that we lived with Him before we came here. We can understand why our Savior should be born as He was, because through the revelations that God has given to us we know that we were born in like manner. We know that we existed in the spirit world before we came here, and that we are really the offspring of our Father in heaven, and that He desired us to come here and receive tabernacles of flesh, that we might be tempted, tried and proved, to see whether we would be true to Him or not. The scenes through which we pass have for their express purpose this testing of our integrity. I tell you that Latter-day Saints ought to be a people of the strongest friendships. We ought to be a people that are bound together by ties that are far stronger than death. We ought to have a love for one another that would be like the love of angels. How can I be true to my Father in heaven if I am not true to my brethren? As the Apostle John says, "He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" A man that is not true to his brother cannot be trusted. A woman that is not true to her husband and to her children cannot be trusted. Such people God will not trust, and sooner or later they lose the Spirit of God and go out of the Church. And this spirit of divorce that is so prevalent in the world is not of God. There is too much of it among Latter-day Saints. I tell you that where that spirit prevails the spirit of God does not prevail. God intends to have a people who will not break their covenants; a people who will suffer death rather than do this. If they have a friendship they will not break that friendship. If they have a brother, they will be true to that brother. They would rather lay down their lives than be untrue. They will not speak lightly about their brethren. They will not belittle their brethren, nor disparage them. Neither will sisters disparage their sisters, nor speak lightly of them, nor backbite them. God is going to have a people of this kind. You remember what the Prophet Joseph said: "O ye Twelve! and all Saints! profit by this important key—that in all your trials, troubles, temptations, afflictions, bonds, imprisonments and death, see to it that you do not betray heaven; that you do not betray Jesus Christ; that you do not betray the brethren; that you do not betray the revelations of God. * * * Yes, in all your kicking and floundering, see to it that you do not this thing." We are now in the midst of politics and all sorts of things, and I think we are going to be tried, or are being tried, as we never were tried; and a good many, if they are not careful, will forfeit their integrity. We have got to be watchful, for I tell you God has sent us here to test us and to prove us. We were true in keeping our first estate. The people that are here today stood loyally by God and by Jesus, and they did not flinch. If you had flinched then, you would not be here with the Priesthood upon you. The evidence that you were loyal, that you were true, and that you did not waver, is to be found in the fact that you have received the Gospel and the everlasting Priesthood. Now you are in your second estate, and you are going to be tested again. Will you be true and loyal to God with the curtain drawn between you and Him, shut out from His presence, and in the midst of darkness and temptation, with Satan and his invisible hosts all around you, bringing all manner of evil influences to bear upon you? The men and the women that will be loyal under these circumstances God will exalt, because it will be the highest test to which they can be subjected. It is not as it was before. We were then in the presence of God. Now there is a veil between us and our Father, and we are left to ourselves, to a certain extent. We are left to be governed by the influences that we invite, and there are any number of evil influences around us, whispering into our ears and hearts all manner of things. If we will open our hearts to receive them, or allow them to enter our hearts, we will think evil of our brethren and of our sisters; we will have malice towards them; we will envy them, and we will say bad things about them. God will test us in all this. I have always thanked God, since I was old enough to understand principle, that I was among a people like the Latter-day Saints. The Lord has helped me to stand anything that the world can do. I have been made perfectly bullet proof, it seems to me, so far as the world is concerned. But it has always been a great source of grief to me to have anything occur between my brethren and myself. I do not want to have any feeling in my heart towards my brethren, or say or do anything that will give them pain. I know there is more integrity among the Latter-day Saints than among any other people on the face of the earth. They are true to each other; they love each other; and many of them would die for each other. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Brethren and sisters, I would like us to keep before us the grand promises that God has made to us and the glorious prospects that are open before us. We may have our trials and afflictions here. But let our eyes look forward with faith to that glorious future that God has prepared for us, and the great reward that He will bestow upon us. For we shall have crowns; we shall have thrones; we shall have dominion; we shall have power. God will give all this to us just as fast as we are prepared for it; and if we enter into these holy temples and receive there the ordinances that He has commanded His servants to give, these promises will be fulfilled to the very letter, if we are faithful. Not one will fail. How was it when you were baptized by one having authority? Did you not have the testimony that your sins were remitted? God accepted the offering. He accepted the administration of the ordinance. He accepted the laying on of hands, and He gave the Holy Ghost to those upon whom hands were laid. And when you come to the altar, and the servant of God says, I seal upon you the blessings of the holy resurrection, with power to come forth in the morning of the first resurrection, clothed with glory, immortality and eternal lives; and I seal upon you the blessings of kingdoms, thrones, principalities, powers, dominions and exaltations, the blessings of Abraham, [illegible] of Isaac and of Jacob—when the servant of God pronounces these words upon those who come to the altar, and he seals the wife to the husband, just as sure as God lives, just as sure as the heavens are above our heads and the earth beneath our feet, so sure will these words be fulfilled upon the heads of those upon whom they are pronounced, if they are faithful to the covenants which they make, and they will come forth in the morning of the first resurrection, clothed with glory, immortality and eternal lives. When we lay down our dead, after having received these holy ordinances—our husbands, our wives, our children, our fathers, our mothers—we lay them down without a shadow of doubt in our hearts as to the future. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Under such circumstances as these, death has lost its sting; the grave has lost its victory. It is robbed of its terrors by the glorious promises that God has made unto His servants and His children. Others may fear death. Others may dread the future. Others may think that it is a leap in the dark. But not so the Latter-day Saints! The future is illumined by the glory of God and the promises that He has made to us; and when the time comes for us to lay down these mortal lives, we will do so just as we do when we go on missions and the time comes for us to return home—we will go home, with regrets of course for those we leave behind, but with gladness and joy to think that our missions are ended and that we have been faithful, and we will be welcomed by our brothers and sisters and our families. We will look forward with joyful anticipation to the delightful reunion that we will have with those whom we have left, who have been our fellow-laborers and companions in the afflictions of this life, and it will be a heavenly time. Therefore, I say that death has lost its terrors, and the grave no longer triumphs over people who have received such blessings as these.

Oh! my brethren and sisters, what is there that should tempt us to waver in our devotion to the work of God? Shall we hesitate with our means in building temples and in carrying forward this glorious work? God forbid. Let us devote ourselves with every energy of our souls and with all the means that God has placed within our reach, to the advancement of the cause of righteousness. Let us teach our children to do the same. For the day of righteousness is approaching, and we should do all in our power to bring about that happy period, when sin shall be banished from the face of the earth. I feel as though there is nothing on the earth that I have that I would hesitate to give for this great and glorious cause. God has made my life a constant joy. He has clothed my days with peace and happiness, and has blessed me in every direction, and shall I not worship Him? Shall I not serve Him? Shall I not do all in my power for Him and for His cause? I try to do so. I certainly want to do so, and I want to see my brethren and sisters do so. I want to stir them up to diligence. I want to present before them the glorious Gospel that God has revealed, the glorious promises that He has made to us, and the glorious future that He has assured us of, that we will remember them, and that we will teach our children, and not be led away by the paltry baubles of the world, and by the spirit of the world. God forbid that men and women who have made such covenants as we have, and who [illegible] been blessed as we have, should do this! God has given everything to us that we could ask for in righteousness. Is there any knowledge that would be of use to you that God has not given you? He has clothed the past with light. He has illumined the present with glory; and the future—it is beyond the power of human tongue to describe that which God has revealed concerning the future. We may occasionally get a glimpse of it in the vision; but we cannot describe it, nor fully comprehend it.

I am desirous to see this Temple finished. I am desirous that when we go away from this conference we will go with a determination to do all in our power to furnish the necessary means. And not only this Temple, but everything else. For God will reward us abundantly. He will multiply us upon the right hand and upon the left. I can testify of this to you in the name of the Lord, for I know it; and I know that God will bless His people if they are devoted to Him and their eyes are single to His glory.

I pray God, the Eternal Father, to bless you. Oh! this is a glorious Conference. I wish you could stay here a week. I feel as though we were near the gates of heaven. I pray God to fill you with His Holy Spirit. Above all things, be firm in the truth, and steadfast even unto the end, that we may receive the glorious reward that He has promised unto us. Amen.

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