

of doing anything to hinder them in their labors by way of establishing themselves among us; on the other hand, we have opened our doors to them; they have occupied our public stands until they have had meeting houses of their own. We have never had a fear that our people or our children would be captivated by their doctrine or converted to their religion; if they have a single truth which we have not, we want it, for it is truth we are after. This Church has been organized now nearly sixty years. It certainly has been like the little stone cut out of the mountain without hands. It has withstood all the opposition that has been aimed against it; and it will remain firm and immovable, fulfilling the destiny marked out for it, until the winding up scene. Zion will arise, clothed with the glory of God, no matter what we may have to pass through. We are in the hands of God, and so are all men and nations; and if this is the work of God—and we say it is—He will bear it off triumphant.

Brother George Q. Cannon in his discourse this morning referred to the different laws which govern man, and the different glories that attend their observance. And I would say, show me a nation or people and I will tell you their future condition by the laws which govern them. All the creations of God are governed by law; and all blessings are predicated upon the observance of law. Opposition to the laws of God commenced in the councils of heaven at the time one-third of the heavenly hosts were cast out; and they are here upon the earth still opposing the work of God. They are without tabernacles; they never had bodies, and that is the curse visited upon them. Those who did not rebel were permitted to take tabernacles. The war that commenced at that time is still being waged, and the struggle will continue until Christ shall come to assume the reigns of government. There have been very few people in any age of the world ready to receive the Gospel when presented to them. In the days of Noah only eight souls believed on him, although he and his sons preached to the anti-deluvian world a hundred and twenty years. In consequence of their having become ripened in iniquity, the Lord determined to destroy them from the face of the earth. Enoch appeared in his day as the representative of God, and succeeded in raising up a Church who so far perfected themselves in the ways of the Lord as to be worthy of translation. They, we are told, will return to the earth with Christ and the Church of the First Born, when His Saints upon the earth shall be prepared to meet Him. In the days of Jesus and the Apostles, comparatively few believed on them, and the opposition was so strong against them that they were all, excepting one, put to death. That was a day of sacrifice; the time had not then arrived for the Lord to establish His Kingdom. The consequence was that the Church fled to the wilderness, and

the Priesthood was taken home to the Paradise of God, where it remained until the restoration through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

We have at present about two hundred thousand people in these mountains who have received the Gospel, out of the millions that now inhabit the earth, and it seems, in consequence of the unpopularity of the Gospel, that we are under the necessity of passing through more or less persecution. We have these things to meet, as other men have met them. In ancient times the Apostles were ready to lay down their lives for the truth's sake. They knew that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, and that they had been called to and endowed with the Priesthood of heaven. Are we any better than they? Are the Apostles of this day any better than those of former days? If God were to require it at our hands that our testimony be sealed by our blood, I believe there is not a single member of the Council of the Twelve but what would be ready to make the sacrifice. Why? Because we, like the former day Apostles, know for ourselves that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and that we are His servants. Whatever sacrifices the Lord may require at the hands of this people, will be met by the people. But ours is not a day of sacrifice. Our special calling is to build up Zion, and prepare the people to stand in holy places while the judgments of the Lord are being poured out upon the wicked. And whatever may be before us we must meet in the fear of our God, believing that He will deliver us in His own due time. The Lord, for our encouragement, has told us that Zion shall not be moved out of her place. But if we do not do our part, as the brethren have said who have preached to us during this Conference, we shall be chastised. This is my testimony to the Latter-day Saints.

In reflecting upon these things I have a great deal of sympathy for those who array themselves against us, as I have for the Jews who opposed the Savior and His Apostles. When upon the cross suffering the agonies of a cruel death, Christ exclaimed, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Why did the Savior feel thus towards those who opposed him? Because He had clearly before his mind the results of their acts; that they were only heaping coals of fire upon their own heads; that all He had predicted concerning them would sooner or later overtake them; which certainly has been the case.

The Lord is again calling upon the human family to repent of their sins. And while in the pursuit of their calling some of our brethren have been called upon to lay down their lives for the work of God. What will be the result of the rejection of the Gospel by this generation? The answer has been written by St. John, by Isaiah and has been reiterated by the revelations of God through the Prophet Joseph. Woe unto them, says the Lord, that fight against Zion; woe unto all nations

that continue in their iniquities; they have reason to weep for themselves and their posterity.

To the Latter-day Saints I would say, be ye faithful in keeping the commandments of God the little time we have to remain here. We are as much upon a mission to this generation, as the Prophets which have preceded us were to the generations in which they lived. We have our day; they had theirs. As they have gone to render an account of their stewardship, so we shall follow, and will be held to answer for the deeds done in the body, and the manner in which we shall have used the talents entrusted to us. Brethren and sisters, be true and faithful, and keep inviolate the covenants you have entered into, that we may be worthy of eternal life, the greatest of all the gifts of God to man.

I rejoice in meeting with so many of the Latter-day Saints in Conference; and I have rejoiced in listening to the testimonies of the Elders. I have often said in my boyhood, I wished I could see an Apostle or some one that was able to teach me the same Gospel I had read of in the New Testament. But I could never find no man that could teach those doctrines; it was said they have been done away. They were done away, it is true, but through the unbelief of the children of men. But they are with us. The Kingdom of God is here, and the Lord will sustain it. And I can bear record as my brethren have, that this kingdom will stand; and that the Zion of God will remain upon the earth until Jesus shall come to receive us unto himself. And my prayer is that you and I, and all this people, may be true and faithful, working with an eye single to the glory of God, for the building up of Zion, and the establishing of His kingdom upon the earth; and when we go to the other side of the veil, we can there assemble with all those who have kept the celestial law, and honored the Holy Priesthood, from Father Adam down to our day, and with them receive our inheritance, and have part in the morning of the first resurrection, with our wives and children, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, each in the family organization in the Celestial World. Amen.

#### AMONG THE MORMONS.

The Receiver of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a pleasant-faced, frank-spoken gentleman. When he laughs he shows his teeth as if he knew no reason why he should conceal his amusement. This gentleman has got a bank account of \$268,000. He holds, as Receiver, \$80,000 worth of gas stock and \$20,000 worth of telegraph stock. He is the custodian of a farm worth \$400,000, of coal lands valued at \$20,000, of other real estate which would sell today for \$250,000. And finally he is responsible for the well-being of 30,000 head of sheep now scattered upon a thousand hills of Utah, New Mexico and Idaho. The cash, the stocks,