

hooves the Elders and Saints to be true and faithful and warn the inhabitants of the earth of judgments soon to come. If we do this our reward is sure. There is a great work to be performed in the nations; also among the Saints at home. The labors of a teacher are very important. They should build up the Saints. Some of the people complain that they are neglected by the teachers, because they are devoted to temporal matters of a personal nature. It will be well for the Teacher in the ward or Sunday school to attend to his duties. If he do them he shall reap joy and rejoicing. So with the missionaries to foreign lands. They have received freely, freely should they give, testifying that God has again revealed the true Gospel. This active work creates in the hearts of those who engage in it an abiding love for the souls of men. There should be no division among the Saints. They should see eye to eye, and not be narrowed down in their feelings, reaching out after the honest in heart and seeking after those who grope in the dark, that they may be brought into the light of truth. All malice and evil-speaking should be eschewed. We should sustain and uphold, in their labors among the people, those who have been called of God to preside over his Church. If we are faithful to our trusts all will be well with us.

Elder B. M. Roberts,

Of the Presidency of the Seventies, said in substance: I have always accounted myself blessed to be associated with the work of God in this dispensation, and have greatly rejoiced that I have been brought in contact with the Gospel, called by the world, "Mormonism." I can understand the feelings of gratitude that pervade the hearts of the Saints regarding this work, but it is no wonder that the world regard it with astonishment. The initial announcements connected with it were calculated to startle the religious world. In the first vision of Joseph Smith, the Prophet was informed by Christ that there were none of the sects right, but all had gone out of the way. So bold a declaration by the youthful Prophet was calculated to astonish the world. But this does not argue that there are not thousands of people in the world whom God loves. The significance of the opening announcement in this dispensation was merely that men had departed from the right way, and that they should be informed of the fact, that the way might be prepared for the re-establishment of the true Church of Christ. What Joseph declared is predicted in the scriptures, in which the Christians profess to believe. John, while on the Isle of Patmos, predicted the restoration of the Gospel in its fulness in the latter days, through the medium of an angel. This was to occur in "the hour of God's judgment." Had the inhabitants of the earth been in possession of the Gospel as it is in Christ, this predicted restoration would have been supererogatory.

Connected with this prophecy of John it is clearly stated that the inhabitants of the earth should be called upon to worship the true God, indicating that their worship at that time would not be directed toward that Great Being. A portion of the fulfillment of that prediction was the bringing forth of the record called the Book of Mormon, adding for Christ, the testimony of the Prophets who existed on this continent, they being thus united with that of those on the eastern hemisphere. Gradually the rich treasures of heaven have been developed, and the work of God has progressed, preparing the way for the coming of Christ, who shall establish a reign of righteousness and peace. He shall take the government into His own hands, and we have the glorious privilege of increasing faith on the earth, that a people may be ready to receive the Lord when he shall come. Before another General Conference shall be reached we shall have entered upon the year 1891. The speaker here read from Sec. 130 of the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, which relates to the coming of the Son of Man, and referred to some remarks made by the Prophet February 14th, 1835, at a meeting wherein certain Elders were told that they were called to go forth and prune the vineyard for the time, before the coming of Christ, even 56 years should wind up the scene. Continuing, Elder Roberts said, that these circumstances have called the Saints to believe that some great epoch will open at that time—the year following the present. My faith in the matter is that whatever the Lord has in mind to accomplish in that year will be performed. It may be something, however, that would scarcely create a ripple. The organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was one of the greatest events of the history of the world. It was organized with six members, and but little was known concerning it even in the neighborhood where it occurred, at the time. Yet behold to what proportions the work then begun has grown. It may be that the greatness of what shall occur in 1891 will not be comprehended until succeeding years.

President Woodruff

Said: I do not think anyone can tell the hour of the coming of the Son of Man. I think those things have been sufficiently revealed to us; so that we need not look for the time of that event to be made known. I will say here that in my dreams I have had a great many visits from the Prophet Joseph since his death. The last time I met him was in the spirit world. I met him at the Temple. He spoke to me. Calling me by name, he said, "I cannot stop to talk to you, for I am in a hurry." I met Father Smith. He, too, said to me, "I am in a hurry." I met a great many of the Apostles and others who are in the spirit world, and they all seemed to be in a hurry. I marveled at this, and wondered

very greatly in my mind why anybody should be in a hurry in the Paradise of God.

I had an interview with the Prophet Joseph afterwards and asked him the question, "Why are you all in such a hurry here?" I said, "I have always been in a hurry in the world since I was born, but I thought there would be no occasion for it when I died and entered the spirit world." He replied, "Well, I will tell you: The Prophets and Apostles in this dispensation have had no time nor opportunity to prepare themselves to go to the earth with the great bridegroom when He goes to meet the bride, the Lamb's wife. We in this dispensation have not had time. We have first as much work to perform, to prepare ourselves, as in other dispensations." He said the time was at hand for the coming of the Son of Man, for Christ to go forth in fulfillment of revelation and prophecy, to meet the bride, the Lamb's wife, the Church and Kingdom of God upon the earth. Says He, "That is not revealed to us, nor never will be until the hour comes; but we have much work to do to prepare ourselves for the event."

I have always believed from the revelations that we never would know the exact time of the coming of the Son of man; and I am more convinced of this from what the Prophet said to me in my dreams.

I have had a many interviews with President Young since he died, a great many teachings from him, and from others who held important positions here in the flesh, but who have gone into the spirit world, and seem, in a measure, to have an interest and watch-care over the Church and Kingdom of God though they have passed to the other side of the veil.

President Lorenzo Snow

Quoted from I Samuel, 12 chap. 22 verse:

"For the Lord will not forsake His people for His great name's sake; because it has pleased the Lord to make you His people."

Also from the 37th chapter of Matthew, beginning at the 38th verse, which relates the incidents of the crucifixion of our Lord. Brother Snow then said in substance: The Lord has called us from the world to be His people and to sustain and support us as such. In the quotation read from Samuel, the statement it embodies was made to the Jewish people. What may be said in that connection in reference to a community may be said regarding individuals whom God approves. In the history of a people of God, it is always a matter of experience that the Lord will seem at times as if He had forsaken them as a community and as individuals. I declare that God has not, and will never forsake the Latter-day Saints. Abraham was placed in peculiar circumstances. It required the utmost faith for him to believe that God was with him. So with Job, who had, until apparently left to himself, been greatly blessed. There were times in his life that were very distressing,