

cleansed from their pollutions, and gave them an opportunity in the spirit world to hear of these things. It is for us to labor for those that are there, who have or have not erred, who have erred lightly or who have sinned greatly, that we may be able to carry out the plan of salvation as the Savior commenced to establish it, not only for here but hereafter.

Now, my brethren and sisters, we have at one time and another things coming to pass among us that tend to afflict us a little, tend to make us feel anxious—*anxious to keep our word, anxious for our honor.* We want to be like our God—fixed and true, that our word is our bond, and that our declarations and statements are as true and sure as any bond that can be fixed upon us. We want to maintain this character and reputation. Inasmuch as we are true and faithful, if we cannot do it just exactly as we would, the Lord will open the way that we shall do it the best we can; and they around us, they that are over us, will see and know that we are true in the intent of our hearts, true and faithful in the purposes of our souls, and will lift us up and bear us over these tribulations and trials; and it still will be the case that the credit, the character and the honor of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be the brightest, the most potent and untarnished of any power that is in the earth.

These times must not make us to feel discouraged; they must make us to feel glad. Where we have erred, let us do so no more. If we have been wasting the substance that God has given us by living in extravagance or by purchasing and having things about us that were of no use, while millions of the nations around us are perishing and going down into their graves without the knowledge of God, we should repent and realize that it is the duty of all Israel to be sending the Gospel to these nations that President Cannon has been telling us about. We have no right to waste our substance in riotous living, nor to consume our means upon our lusts. It is our duty to make a safe and careful and righteous use of these things, and let our means be spent to gather Israel, to preach the Gospel, to go to the nations of the earth and to win some from among each nation that shall rise up and be witnesses for these nations of the truth of the Son of God, and that shall have a responsibility to carry it to their fellow creatures of their nations and families, as we have been doing to the English-speaking peoples.

These are duties that devolve upon us; but we are too apt to forget. It was always the case with God's people, when they got abundance and began to live in luxury and plenty, and to adorn their persons and habitations, they became proud and lifted up, or unmindful at least of their duties, so that the displeasure of the Lord rested upon them. If he has brought us to see these things and enter more earnestly and honestly, more humbly and powerfully into the work that is upon us, it will be a benefit to us and to the human family. I pray the Lord to pour out this spirit upon us more and more, that we may sense the duty that we owe to the nations that have not been visited and that know nothing of us except by the distant rumblings of reports. As has been the case in all our experience that we have stooped and bowed down to conquer, we shall still stoop to conquer, if we

have to; and if we do not have to, we ought to humble ourselves to that power of God that shall enable us to have strength to overcome the opposing influence in the earth. Yes, brethren and sisters, we should strive for the influence of that spirit in such abundance and such measure that we shall prevail over every influence in the earth that is not ordained of God. This is the way the Presidency feel, the Apostles feel, and are trying to act and to live; and we should endeavor by the experience of these times to profit ourselves, so that we may be established, and so that we never can be caught again in these unpleasant circumstances and conditions.

Let me remind you, my dear brethren, that probably the first sermon you heard from the Elders who brought the truth to you in your nations and countries was that the angel came flying through the midst of heaven having the everlasting Gospel to commit unto men, to every nation, kindred, tongue and people, saying with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgment is come." That was the kernel of the story, Fear God, and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgment is come, and worship him that made the heavens, the earth, and the seas, and the fountains of waters. Too many of us have forgotten that we live in the hour of God's judgment. We build castles in the air, and we arrange for a great many things that we have little idea of the outcome, because the Lord is leading us by a strange path that people have not walked in before. He has said that He would lead us in a strange path—in a path that the eagle's eye hath not seen nor the lion's whelp walked in. It is a path different from what He has led His people in any age of the world since it was created. You cannot find in any of the books an account that depicts our circumstances here, as they have been and as they are likely to be. And it is they who get the Spirit and keep it, and who walk in the commandments of the Lord, that He can mould and change to this and that, and move them as He will—send them to Israel today and to the Gentiles tomorrow. For He will bring to pass His act, His strange act, that a man would not believe, the prophet said, though his neighbor declare it unto him. He has told us that He is going to operate in these times in a peculiar manner. The people of the earth are getting to be fraternal almost the world around. We have a sample of it this year in their coming together at the World's Fair, and it needs greater wisdom to know how to associate with peoples of such varied circumstances and conditions. Where are there men among them that can rise up in the name of the Lord and prescribe the rules of happiness and good order? It is not with them; it is with God's people, and we have reason to rejoice. If we will hearken, the Lord will lead us in the way which He has determined to lead us, and give to us the spirit of Zion. In the Book of Mormon one of the prophets said that they who shall be blessed to build up Zion in the last days must do it by the spirit of Zion. So we must live and keep the spirit of Zion with us, our eyes single to the glory of God, faithful in keeping our covenants and in everything that He requires of us, as far as in us is, that we may be sanctified to His work and get to that position that we can say as the Savior did: "The prince of this world

cometh, and hath nothing in me." We want to feel that we and all that we have influence over are sanctified and holy unto the Lord our God. The Lord is preparing us for a very great and glorious future—and He has shown it to some of the brethren, too. They have seen the people of God blessed greatly, crowned with wisdom, intelligence and glory, and looked up to by the nations. They have seen the people coming from the nations afar off, bringing their treasures with them, wanting to find a place to dwell among us, a place to store their riches, because they will not be safe in the lands where they belong. And He is preparing a people that shall be full of truth, purity, honor, integrity, and all that is excellent and praiseworthy in His sight, that he may make us the repository of the greatness and excellence which He is about to bestow upon His Saints. But He has to train us, to discipline us, and prepare us for these things; else if we had them come upon us, what would we do? How we would monopolize over each other! We have got to learn how to be directed by the Holy Spirit in all things.

I want to say to you that the Lord makes manifest His mighty help to our brethren in their difficult circumstances, and he raises up friends to them from unexpected quarters. And so He will do, if we live as we should and trust in Him. It is vain and futile for us to trust in the arm of the world. We have got to trust in Him, instead of looking to the world for that sustenance and support, that overruling help which shall control and advance the interests of Zion. He is going to have the credit of it himself. He is going to demonstrate the truth of that saying, "Wo unto him that trusteth in man and maketh flesh his arm." I rejoice in the work of today and the experience of today, trying and troublesome as they are to us. The Lord will by our faithfulness bear us off triumphant; and while the world will fall and break up, if we hearken to the word of the Lord, He will make us to endure and to overcome, and prepare us for greater blessings and greater honor and glory in all His works and ways.

I rejoice with you, my brethren and sisters. I would like to be a son of consolation among you; I would like to rejoice in all that the people of God can rejoice in, and share with them in all that they have to try them; that we may go on together; that your people shall be my people, and your God my God, and that we may abide and endure and realize the fulness of the Savior's promise that He made to Peter, that the gates of hell shall not prevail against us, either individually or collectively; but that we shall have power to triumph and overcome.

There is a day coming when many of those now deemed unworthy will see the error of their ways; when the sense of their condition will bow them down in humility, and they will come on their knees and acknowledge that Christ is God, the Lord of the whole earth. The word has gone forth that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess; and they will be glad to do so. The sinners and the unworthy, many of them, will come bowing and bending to Zion; and we ought to be forgiving and exercise all the charity and excellence that our God is willing to bestow; to assist the wayward to repent and turn from the error of their ways unto the living