

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Elder Sjodahl on the Evidences of the Truths of the Gospel.—Apostle Grant Reminds the Saints of Their Duties and the Necessity of Abiding in the Whole Law of Christ.

Religious services were held in the tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, September 30, 1888, commencing at 2 o'clock p. m., President Angus M. Cannon presiding.

The choir and congregation sang: From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise.

Prayer was offered by Elder Henry G. Bywater.

The choir sang: Again we meet around the board Of Jesus, our redeeming Lord.

The Priesthood of the Twenty-first Ward officiated in the administration of the sacrament.

ELDER J. M. SJODAHL

was requested to address the congregation. He called attention to the subject of the evidences that we have that the claims of revealed religion are true. God, who is an intelligent Being, and having endowed His children with intellectual faculties, does not offer bare statements, but has given abundant evidence of various kinds regarding His truths. Under these circumstances there is no excuse for skepticism, or for rejecting the truth. All the evidences of the divinity of Christianity apply with equal force to the message sent of God in the last days.

Evidences are either external or internal. Such evidences as are supplied by the miracles of our Lord are works which were proof of the divinity of His mission. He healed the sick, made the blind to see, and even raised the dead, and we certainly must acknowledge that one who can do these works is sent of God. His miracles were performed only when God could be glorified and establish His truths; they were not performed in order to gratify curiosity or for selfish purposes. There were many instances where the healing power was not exercised even on the servants of the Lord, when they were sick, because it was not wise in the purposes of the Lord. The same rule applied to all the gifts, and is an evidence of the truth of Christianity. If the question be asked whether the message announced by Joseph the Prophet, was also confirmed by miracles, I answer, Yes; it was. The Apostle Orson Pratt says: "As we have already stated, the Lord, in His great mercy, has condescended to give miraculous evidence to establish the divine authenticity of the great and glorious revelation—the Book of Mormon. It is useless for our enemies to say that there have been no miracles wrought confirmatory of the Book of Mormon, when there are tens of thousands of people who can and do bear testimony as eye witnesses to the contrary."

This statement cannot be refuted because it is true. This kind of evidence is called direct evidence because it appeals directly to our senses. Theologians also speak of retrospective evidence, or the fulfillment of direct predictions recorded in the Bible. This class of evidence is before the people, and applies to the Gospel dispensation today as well as in former periods. The latter-day work is definitely spoken of in the Scriptures. Daniel tells of a great power that should come up and speak great words against the Most High. It is apparent that this refers to a great apostate power in the hands of which the Saints should be worn out for a certain length of time. It is generally conceded that this is the same period John refers to, during which Jerusalem was to be trodden under foot of the Gentiles. The Saints were to be given into the hands of this power, but subsequently dominion was to be given to them. This is as plain as are the prophecies concerning the first and second coming of the Lord.

There is another class of evidence called prospective. This is supplied by the predictions given by our Lord and His Apostles, the fulfillment of which is recorded in secular history, or which are being fulfilled in our own time. Such are the predictions of our Lord concerning the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersion of the Jews. It is the servants of God anciently were endowed to foretell future events, and some of those events have occurred, it is likely that the others will also come to pass. In this century the Prophet Joseph Smith foretold the war of the rebellion twenty-nine years before that war broke out. This is an historical fact that cannot be over-estimated. The first revelation in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants foretells that the sword of the Lord shall go forth among the nations of the earth. The fulfillment of this prophecy is before the eyes of the people continually, and is now being wrought out.

The internal evidences of the divinity of the Gospel are fully as interesting as are the external. The moral precepts of the Gospel are such that no human mind could devise them. They lay great stress on purity, virtue and love. They are of a nature that the human heart would avoid. This is an evidence that the Gospel came from a Higher Source. It is a strong evidence of the truth of the latter-day work, through which man can be saved only by sacrifice and righteousness. In religions of human origin, the great stress is laid on ritualism, personal

nature. But not so with the Gospel. The stress there is laid on principles which enjoin a life of unselfishness and sacrifice.

The personal character of the messengers of God supply another kind of moral evidence. In the last days of Christ, according to the record, those were men who were willing to surrender all for the sake of promulgating the truth. When they were commanded to cease proclaiming the Gospel, they replied that they could not do so. Persecution of every description failed to turn them from their purpose. The advocates of the Gospel proclaimed it, even though it cost them their lives. This is an evidence that must not be overlooked, and in this age the prophets of God have also given their lives for their testimony. That blood on this land has not yet been blotted out, and it will mingle with the blood of the ancient martyrs till God shall hear the prayers of the martyred Saints and answer them in righteousness.

The evidence of latter-day revelation is as strong as it is of former day revelation. This being so, should we not rejoice as did the ancients, when they saw the glorious work to be established in our day. In this glorious work let us be faithful. Let me say to the aged Saints, stand up and let it be seen that in your old age you glorify God; and to the young, stand up and devote yourselves to God's cause. If the world hate and malign you, they also did Him who was slain on Calvary's hill. They condemned Him to death because they said He was a blasphemer. They said of the early Christians that they envied their own children. This was because the Christians partook of the Sacrament. But because the world said these things it did not follow that they were true. If the former-day Saints were persecuted, it would be a surprising miracle if the Latter-day Saints were not. The powers of hell are stirred up when God goes forth. Where the Gospel from heaven is proclaimed, the powers of darkness develop their strength. My brethren and sisters, stand up and prepare yourselves for the great event to come, when the cry shall go forth, Behold, the Bridegroom cometh. You who not yet received the Gospel, with eternity before you consider well the great responsibility that rests upon you, before you reject the great truths laid before you for your salvation.

A quartette was sung by Brothers Wm. H. Foster, M. J. Thomas, Miss Lizzie Thomas and Mrs. E. S. Grow.

APOSTLE H. J. GRANT

was the next speaker. He desired to say those things that would strengthen the faith of the Saints, and encourage them to press forward in the service of God. I realize that in exhorting others to faithfulness we gain strength ourselves. The oftener we bear testimony to the truth, the stronger is that testimony. The more we do to elevate the sufferings of others, the more power we have in that labor. When I see the suffering that prevails, I sometimes think that some of us are as careful never to perform an act of kindness as if we had but one act within our power. I realize that this Gospel is one of sacrifice. I realize that it was the sacrifice of those who left all for the truth's sake that gave to them their testimony. The Lord has promised blessings to those who love and serve Him. If we, having received the testimony of the Gospel, were to live as Saints and be true to God, the testimony of our lives would speak louder to the world than all our words. There are many who testify of the truth, but a comparison with their lives gives no confidence in them. We should live so that our good deeds will cause men to glorify God. Many of us are becoming careless. If we kept the commandments of God we would have more power than we now possess. What if the world deride us? The only path for a true man or woman is the path of duty. We must walk in the narrow path if we would have the blessing of the Lord.

I realize that we are weak and need strength from on high. I know that the pressures of life are apt to lead us away. But he who keeps the commandments of God receives a joy that cannot come through any other channel. There is no labor that will bring a reward like unto the service of God. While the world rejects our testimony, it should make no difference to us. If we will keep the commands of the Almighty there will be no danger for us. He has promised us a testimony, but that promise is realized only by those who keep its conditions. And if we do not live up to the light we have, our testimony will leave us, and our light will be changed to darkness. Of those who have received great light, great things will be required.

I regret that there are many Saints who neglect their duties and yet justify themselves. We should go to meeting to learn; we should ask God to strengthen us to overcome evil. I find that where a man is strong in keeping one law only, he thinks that obedience to that law is all-important. But the other laws cannot be disregarded. A perfect building is perfect in all its parts. What do we think of a man who boasts of keeping one law yet violates others? Why do we sometimes say, we are sick of hearing of the word of wisdom? Because we do not keep that word. Those who do keep it are never sick of hearing it. So it is with the law of tithing. Those who do not pay tithing are the only ones who do not wish to hear of it. The testimony of those

upon them blessings they can hardly contain. They rejoice to hear of the principle of tithing. Those who receive the sweet influences of the Gospel will go to the end of the world to proclaim it, because they have realized its blessings. But the man who is neglectful is seldom desirous of hearing his faults pointed out.

There are some who say they will not go to meeting because they know just who will talk and what they will say. I realize that such persons are becoming indifferent to the spiritual things of the kingdom. I know people who, in the old world, would go many miles to a meeting because they were in love with the Gospel; they will not cross the street now, because they have lost that love. Just as surely as failing to eat will cause our physical frames to shrink and die, just so sure neglect to supply our spiritual natures will bring death to them. Does any man or woman in love with the Gospel feel nauseated when they hear that Gospel? No. The more faithful we are in keeping the commandments of God, the more will we enjoy our meetings, and the more diligent will we be in living so that we may return to His presence. The people should study the Gospel, but the greatest testimony we can receive is that of the voice of revelation—the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. No one can get this without living for it.

I rejoice in bearing a testimony of the truth. I rejoice in realizing that it is a straight and narrow path that leads to life eternal. I regret that there are so few that receive the Gospel, but am thankful that we are among that few. The world may not believe my testimony, but I cannot help that. I may not be able to explain it, because it comes from God. If you will, do His will you will receive the testimony. I have proved the truth of this promise. I cannot communicate my experience to you; but I do proclaim to you the knowledge that experience brings. When I say that I know that God has revealed His will whether the world believes it or not, I know it is so. It matters not to me when a man says I have not seen the manifestations of God's power, I know that I have seen them.

I know as I know that I live that I am engaged in the work of God. The only way I can keep that knowledge is by living in accord with His commandments. If we are not pure and honest the Spirit of God will not dwell with us. May we live so that if necessary we will go to the end of the world, or even sacrifice our lives, for the Gospel's sake, that we may inherit eternal life.

The choir sang the anthem, Daughter of Zion.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Henry P. Richards.

UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE.

Utians on a Train that Meets with a Smash.

NEW YORK, Sept. 10.

Editor Deseret News:

Your correspondent and family in company with H. W. Richards, Geo. E. Ellerbeck, D. K. and C. A. Darling, all of whom came east to study, were joined at Kansas City by S. H. Allen, a fellow student, and H. Ricks, W. He-wager, W. J. Miller and E. D. Hay-mour, missionaries to England and the Southern States.

The three last named brethren left the party at Chattanooga to commence their labors in searching out the honest.

Although we had the privilege of stopping over a day here to take in the places of historic interest, such as Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and the cemetery where the thousands of brave men, on both sides, who fell fighting in a terribly suicidal struggle, lie buried, we decided to continue our journey, especially as it was raining at the time. It would have been as well for us had we remained over, for we had not proceeded many miles when we came to a stand, and, upon inquiry, learned that a train in advance of us had been wrecked by a land slide, occasioned by the heavy rains of the last few days.

After a wait of nine hours, we found ourselves speeding along at a forty-mile rate, when suddenly we felt a jolting that told every one in the car we were off the track. Some of the ladies screamed and nearly all sprang to their feet and held on to the seats. Faces blanched and a scene of the utmost confusion ensued, when the train ceased to move and the excitement subsided almost as quickly as it had arisen.

Some began asking if any one was hurt, others thought only of their baggage and wondered if it had escaped.

An investigation showed, the engine on its side with the tender on the top. The mail car was standing nearly on end leaning against the embankment on one side, and the baggage car occupied a similar position on the opposite side. A passenger coach was badly smashed and turned partly over. The rest of the train, consisting of another passenger coach and a Pullman remained on the tracks. The baggage man and mail agent were but slightly hurt, although the ends of both cars were knocked completely out (or rather in). The accident happened in a narrow cut and was occasioned by a land slide, caused by recent heavy rains.

when the track was again cleared and the trains began running as usual. Reached Norfolk, Va., in time for the Richmond, of the Old Dominion line of steamers for New York. Here the party separated, Allen going to Baltimore, Ellerbeck and the Darling boys to Philadelphia, Richards and myself remain in New York, and Ricks goes to England. C. F. W.

CONFERENCE IN VIRGINIA.

Elders and Saints Enjoy a Pleasant Reunion.

Editor Deseret News:

The regular annual conference of Virginia was held at Brother J. G. Knight's, near Nortonville, Greene County, commencing at 2:15 p. m., Sept. 8.

It was called to order by Elder Samuel H. Roundy, President of the conference. Singing. Opening prayer by President Roundy.

Besides about 80 Saints and friends, there were present from Utah and Idaho Elder Wm. Spry, President of the Southern States Mission; traveling Elders Samuel H. Roundy, Homer Wolf, Ammon Mercer, Eugene T. Woolley, David Cheney and B. S. Dudley. Elder J. B. Ririe, who was poorly to attend, and Elder Moroni Gerber remained at Amherst County to care for the latter.

President Roundy arose and told the assembly, in a brief manner, what the object of the conference was.

Elder Cheney being called upon, addressed the assembly. He spoke for some time on repentance, defining and explaining what it is. He also spoke for a few moments on the Kingdom of God, showing that there is but one Gospel.

Elder Homer Wolf, being the next speaker, referred briefly to the number of denominations on earth, all claiming to be right; and advised all to study their Bibles; and find out who is right.

President Spry arose and said that he had been edified with the remarks of the Elders. He spoke at some length.

Singing. Benediction was pronounced by Elder Eugene T. Woolley. Conference adjourned to meet at 10 a. m. Sunday, Sept. 9th.

September 9th, 10 a. m. President Roundy called the conference to order, about 100 being present. Singing. Opening prayer by Elder Homer Wolf. Singing.

Elder B. S. Dudley was the first speaker. Referring to the persecution that the Elders and Saints receive, he stated that it tended greatly to strengthen them in their faith.

Elder Ammon Mercer was the next speaker. He said that if he himself or any other man preached any other than the true Gospel he would have to suffer for that incorrect teaching.

President Spry addressed the conference again; referred to the conditions under which Elders are placed in leaving their homes, paying their own expenses, and in some instances receiving the scoffs of the people, and even mob violence. He dwelt upon a variety of subjects.

President Roundy notified the people that there would be another meeting, to begin at 2:30 p. m., at the same place; as it was raining and had been most of the time for three days, and the arbor in the woods, which had been prepared, would be of no use.

Singing. Benediction by Elder B. S. Dudley.

2:30 p. m. Singing. Prayer by Elder David Cheney. Singing.

Elder Eugene T. Woolley arose and stated that if we would always yield obedience to any call or requirement made of us by those having authority greater blessings would be the result. He dwelt at some length on various principles.

President S. H. Roundy addressed the assembly, stating if those present did not heed the instructions the Elders had given, they would be no benefit to them. He treated upon various subjects at some length.

President William Spry again addressed the Conference; bore testimony to what the former speakers had said and dwelt for some time on the gathering and other principles of the Gospel.

President Roundy thanked the Conference for their attention and asked God's blessing to be with all. There were about 150 present.

The conference as a whole was a success, a good spirit prevailing and no disturbance, though the attendance would have been greatly increased had the weather permitted.

During the conference there were four council meetings held, in which the Elders received much valued and important instructions from President William Spry. Nearly all the Elders were released from their former fields of labor and assigned to other fields; that is, changed to labor with other companions. Respectfully,

EUGENE T. WOOLLEY, Clerk of Conference.

The 'Exposition Universelle d'art Culinaire' awarded the highest honors to Augustus Bitters as the most efficacious stimulant to excite the appetite and to keep the digestive organs in good order. Ask for the genuine article, manufactured by Dr. J. G. B. Siebert & Sons, and beware of imitations.

Is Consumption Incurable?

Read the following: Mr. C. H. Morris, Newark, Ark., says: "Was down with Abscess of Lungs, and friends and physicians pronounced me an incurable Consumptive. Began taking Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, am now on my third bottle, and able to oversee the work on my farm. It is the finest medicine ever made."

Jesse Middlewart, Decatur, Ohio, says: "Had it not been for Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption I would have died of Lung Troubles. Was given up by doctors. Am now in best of health." Try it. Sample bottles free at A. C. Smith & Co's Drug Store. (5)

Electric Bitters.

This remedy is becoming so well known and so popular as to need no special mention. All who have used Electric Bitters sing the same song of praise.—A purer medicine does not exist and it is guaranteed to do all that is claimed. Electric Bitters will cure all diseases of the Liver and Kidneys, will remove Pimples, Boils, Salt Rheum and other affections caused by impure blood. Will drive Malaria from the system and prevent as well as cure all Malarial fevers.—For cure of Headache, Constipation and Indigestion try Electric Bitters.—Entire satisfaction guaranteed, or money refunded.—Price 50cts, and \$1.00 per bottle at A. C. Smith & Co's Drug Store. (5)

DOCTORS' BILLS.

Nearly all diseases originate from infection of the liver, and this is especially the case with chills and fever, intermittent fevers and malarial diseases. To save doctors' bills and ward off disease take Simmons' Liver Regulator, a medicine that increases in popularity every year, and has become the most popular and best endorsed medicine in the market for the cure of liver or bowel diseases.—Telegraph, Dubuque, Iowa.

In 1850 'Brown's Bronchial Troches' were introduced, and their success as a cure for Colds, Coughs, Asthma and Bronchitis has been unparalleled.

STRAYED.

FROM THREE MILE CREEK RANGE, one black yearling COLT, branded P on left thigh. Any person will be liberally rewarded by giving information of its whereabouts to DAVID PETERS, Brigham City.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One small bay HORSE, 3 years old, one white hind foot, saddle marked, branded JS on left thigh.

It not taken away within 15 days from date, will be sold to the highest bidder, at 10 o'clock a. m. Monday, October 15, 1888, at Herriman estray pound.

J. J. FREEMAN, Poundkeeper.

Dated this the 1st day of October, 1888.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One small white MARE, about 10 years old, branded M on left thigh.

One black HORSE, about 2 years old, no brands.

One bay MARE, star in forehead, left hind foot white, saddle marked, shod all round, branded P on right thigh.

If not claimed, they will be sold on Wednesday, October 17, 1888, at 10 a. m.

JAMES R. MILLER, Precinct Poundkeeper.

South Cottonwood, October 2nd, 1888.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Estate of Levi E. Riter, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE undersigned, Administrators of the Estate of Levi E. Riter, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, to exhibit them with the necessary vouchers, within ten months after the first publication of this notice, to W. W. Riter, at No. 346, Fourth East, Salt Lake City, in the County of Salt Lake.

W. W. RITER, LEVI E. RITER, Administrators of the Estate of Levi E. Riter, deceased. Dated Salt Lake City, Aug. 8, 1888. wiv

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One old brown Mare MULE, some scars, collar marks, etc., but no brands visible. Which, if not claimed and taken away before Wednesday, October 17th, at 10 o'clock a. m., will be sold to the highest responsible bidder.

J. M. FISHER, Jr., Poundkeeper.

East Mill Creek, Salt Lake County, October 2, 1888.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One red HEIFER, about 2 years old, white under belly, bush of tail white, underbit in each ear, no brands visible.

If damage and costs on said animal be not paid within 15 days from date of this notice, she will be sold to the highest cash bidder, at Enterprise estray pound, at 1 o'clock p. m. on the 20th day of October, 1888.

Dated at Peterson Precinct, Morgan Co., Utah, this 5th day of October, 1888.

J. W. OVARD