PART 2

DESERET EVENING NEWS.

9 TO 12

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1894. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

DISCOURSE

Delivered at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, November 11, 1894, by

ELDER ANGUS M. CANNON.

[REPORTED BY ARTHUR WINTER.]

I desire to have you, my brethren and sisters, pray unto the Lord, that what I may say may be dictated of Him. I have no desire to speak of myself; for I know that I am weak and frail, and one that stands before this people to speak in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ should be inspired by the Holy Ghost. The Apostles of Jesus Christ were commissioned of Him to go forth and preach the Gospel throughout the land, and He said unto them, "He that receiveth you receiveth Me, and he that receiveth Me receiveth Him that sent Me." They went forth, they ministered, and returned rejoicing that the sick were healed, devils were cast out, the lame were made to walk, the eyes of the blind to see, and the poor rejoiced in the preaching of the Gospel. Jesus charged them that they should not rejoice in that these powers were given unto them, but that their names were written in the Lamb's book of life. These same men who were thus commissioned and delegated with authority by Jesus, after His resurrection, were charged of Him that they should not undertake to preach the Gospel until they were endowed with power from on high. He explained that He must needs go away, and when He was gone He would send the Comforter unto them who should bring things past to their remembrance and show them things that were to come. They were to tarry in Jerusalem until they were endowed with this power from on high. In the 16th chapter of the gospel according to Mark, commencing at the 15th verse, it says:

> Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.
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> And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
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> He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
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> And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
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> They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.
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> So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.
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> And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

This is the testimony of Mark as it is transmitted to us. What Gospel was this that they were to preach to all the world? It was the truth that Jesus revealed unto His disciples. It was the Gospel that Saul, who persecuted the Saints, was converted unto. It was the Gospel that was ministered by those commissioned to bear the Holy Priesthood. It was the Gospel that Cornelius was taught. He prayed unto the Lord and gave alms to the poor, insomuch that the heavens were moved in answer to his prayers, and an angel descended to the earth from the regions of glory, and told Cornelius that his prayers had been heard, his alms had been accepted, and God had sent him to tell him where he might find men who should teach him the principles of eternal truth. It was this Gospel that justified God in showing unto Peter in a trance that which he received on the housetop at the residence of Simon, a tanner, who dwelt in Joppa, by the sea side. In that vision he saw a sheet lowered wherein were all manner of four-footed beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. He was commanded to slay and eat. But Peter declined. He could not feel that he was justified in partaking of things that were forbidden by the law of Moses. A voice spake unto Peter and said, "What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common." While Peter was pondering on this vision, "the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. Arise, therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them." This commission given unto Peter was so sacred as that given unto him by his Divine Master when He ascended on high. The messengers guided him unto Cornelius' house, and there Peter beheld that God had cleansed that which he called