

hood should avoid even the appearance of evil and use their influence in turning the people away from evil habits and in avoiding evil places; but we cannot accomplish much in this direction unless we are free from evil doing ourselves.

The slight attendance at the meetings yesterday has been referred to. Many of the Saints were no doubt engaged in duties that necessarily prevented them from attending. Such absentees are not to blame. But there is a spirit of neglect which makes itself manifest in many respects, and against this the people must be warned. Many think that, having come to this country and received the various ordinances of the Church, they are secure; but they should be reminded that, in the world to come, each one will be valued for exactly what he is, and will occupy that position for which he has fitted himself. We must therefore do our duty in everything, if we would become great in the eternal world and be clothed with power and glory. If a person habitually stays away from the meetings of the people of God, he will certainly lose the Spirit. If anybody habitually abstains from taking food he will fall away and become physically weak. So with our spiritual nature. It needs nourishment. If we neglect to take spiritual food, and to exercise our spiritual faculties, it will soon become apparent before the Lord and before our brethren. Neglect of our duties will end in eternal loss. Everyone will be placed where he belongs. There is a place for each one of God's children, but if we want to wear a crown in the celestial kingdom, we must live for it, and prove ourselves worthy of it. Some of our duties may appear to be small, but they are all nevertheless important, and if we attend to them in their season we shall be strengthened in our work, and make that advancement which is essential to fit us for the presence and glory of God.

The choir sang the anthem,
Light and Truth.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder E. Beasley.

Conference adjourned till 2 o'clock p. m.

Afternoon Service

Commenced at 2 o'clock and there was a very large congregation, the galleries being filled.

The choir sang the hymn:

We're not ashamed to own our Lord,
And worship Him on earth.

Prayer was offered by Elder Andrew Jensen.

The choir and congregation next sang the hymn beginning:

We thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet,
To guide us in these latter-days.

The Priesthood of the Nineteenth Ward officiated in the administration of the Sacrament.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON

first addressed the congregation. He commenced by reading a number of passages from Christ's Sermon on the Mount, as recorded in the 5th, 6th and 7th chapters of St. Matthew. The words which he had read, he remarked, formed only a part of that most beautiful discourse which the Savior of men delivered unto the multitude. He himself had been

much impressed of late concerning these teachings, feeling that they should be taught everywhere among our people, especially in these days when there were so many temptations in opposition to them. The Latter-day Saints had been gathered out from various lands, and the great object that God had in view, according to His word to us, was to make us a different people from others—to give us the opportunity of carrying into practical effect the principles of the everlasting Gospel of the Son of God—something we could not do in a scattered condition. It would be an impossibility almost for any people to carry out these teachings in the world as it is now organized. On that account we had been frequently told that they were impracticable as society was at present constituted—that whoever carried out literally these teachings of the Son of God would be imposed upon, either as individuals or communities, as the case may be. Yet the Lord himself, in speaking of these things said: "Therefore whoso heareth these sayings of Mine and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man who built his house upon a rock, and the rain descended and the floods came and beat upon that house and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock." Having drawn the opposite picture to this, in example of Christ's words, the speaker expressed his belief that unless the Latter-day Saints carried out these principles practically in their daily life they would never reach the place where God and Christ dwell, and obtain the fullness of the blessings promised. President Cannon pointed out how different was the doctrine set forth by Jesus on this particular occasion from that contained in the law of Moses, and on many points from that to which the Jews had been accustomed. The promises to the poor in spirit who would come unto Him, to those who hungered and thirsted after righteousness, to the merciful, to the pure in heart, and even the persecuted for His name's sake, were quoted by the speaker among others. Every disciple was encouraged by these promises who believed in the divinity of Jesus, who bore persecution as long as that persecution was for His name's sake. Those who were reviled and against whom all manner of evil was spoken falsely for the sake of Jesus were to be blessed. They were told that they should have exceeding joy, and that their reward in heaven should be great. Referring to the command of the Son of God, "Thou shalt not look upon a woman to lust after her; for whoso doeth this hath committed adultery already in his heart," the speaker said the word of the Lord had been to us, as a people, exceedingly explicit. In two revelations that this Church had received He had expressly said that "He who doeth this shall deny the faith." Could they wonder that men lost their standing in this Church so frequently when this law of God was so strict? Could they wonder that the Spirit of God withdrew itself from those who ought to be His servants when God had spoken so plainly and emphatically upon this? God required purity of the Latter-day Saints far greater than that required under the law

of Moses. When we are smitten we are told not to smite again. This might seem a hard thing; but he firmly believed that the man who would endure insult without resentment was a braver and a higher type of man in every respect than he who took the opposite course and followed the instincts of fallen human nature. It was better to suffer wrong than to do wrong, and if we submitted to wrong there would be a victory in doing so. We should love our enemies, and we were told that if a man cursed us, we must not curse him again. I want My disciples, said Jesus, to show the world a better example: "Bless them that curse you." It was heavenly doctrine to do good to those that hated us, and to pray for those who despitely used and persecuted us. If we hated those who hated us, how much better were we than they? The Gospel of Jesus Christ should effect an entire change in human kind. Men were thereby to be "born again." How many of the Latter-day Saints lived up to this law of God? Let each one ask himself or herself: "If I am injured, do I feel to return that injury, or do I submit to it in the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ?"

We were commanded to dwell together in unity—not to contend and indulge in strife. He believed that the Latter-day Saints, as a people, had striven to carry out this law. They had borne witness to the world that they were willing to submit to wrong rather than do wrong, and they had suffered considerably in many directions because of their adherence to this principle. Notwithstanding this, however, there were many things in which they were not perfect. They were still far from coming up to the standard which God had raised for them. It was not, we were told, the one who saith "Lord, Lord," who made mere professions, who offered long prayers, wore a sanctimonious countenance, and who walked among his fellows as though he were holier than they who would "enter in the Kingdom of heaven," but "he who doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

He would not give anything for a religion that could not be carried into the workshop, into the office, the field, or the residences of the people and their associations, and which applied to Sunday only. Some men assumed their Sunday countenance, took their prayer books and Bibles under their arms, and walked with the greatest appearance of sanctity through the streets to church, seemingly afraid to look to the right or the left for fear of doing something wrong; yet, perhaps, on Monday the same men would cheat their fellows; if they had the chance, or take advantage of them. Such a religion was no religion at all. The religion of the Lord Jesus Christ should make us more honest and induce us to deal better with our brother—make us kinder and more merciful toward him, and if we found him in a tight place, instead of refusing him our help or trying to exact from him oururious interest, we should seek to help him out of his difficulty. If he were hungry we should feed him, if naked clothe him,