DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1906.



Address by ELDER HYRUM M. SMITH.

At the Seventy-Sixth Annual Conference of the Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, April 8, 1906.

I have rejoiced in the testimonies that | throughout the civilized or Christian ave teen borne by the brethren who ave spoken in the sessions of the conference which have already passed. I also that the editors of influential newspapers throughout the whole t the opening of the conference by at the optimise is a seried of prosperity, unity and grown characterized the Latter-day saints during the last six months. I re-mon" Elders, it is marvelous in our eyes. In splite of all this, in splite of all this is a splite of all this in splite of all this is a splite of all this in splite of all this is a splite of all this and splite of proce when I contemplate the great work that is being accomplished in the earth for the salvation of the chil-the earth for the salvation of the chil-gritual sulvation; for the gospel con-templates the saving of men both tem-templates the saving of men both templates the saving of th crally and spiritually, the advancing them to higher planes in mortality immortality. I am thankful for ork that is being done among the I am thankful for of the Latter-day Saints. The ousands of little ones, born covenant, are being instructvarious organizations of the n the ways of the Lord. We illustration yesterday of some ich is being done among the grand indeed, and the full value They are learning to sing the n, and these songs breathe i of the Gospel, and within, contained the truth. The prisciples and doctrines of the Church are often embodied in the hymns which are sung by both young and old among the Latter-day Saints; and this, very ogether with the instructions they receive in the Religion Classes, the Pri-mary Associations, the Sabbath schools many associations, the salibath schools into up the whole bether world, with and the Mulual Improvement Associations, will assist to develop them into men and women thoroughly indocurinated in the principles of the Gospel, and the thinking, a little prayer, a little charity, the exercise of a little common sense on the part of intelligent way to making their calling and electors. ion sure. They are in that path which a narrow, and their faces are directed ewards the straight gate which leads not life eternal. The other organizamong the adults or grown people likewise are doing a good work, and we see in this congregation an evie of great faith in the hearts of the le concerning the work of the Lord. missionaries are laboring earnestly and, us we have heard, most unselfishit the people of the world may the truth and be brought to a knowledge of the Gospel, that they may know the truth, that they may mow good from evil, that they may hdetermine right from wrong; is our prayer that the people he so moved upon by the Spirit of Lord that they will receive this d as it is carried to them by the Elders of the Church. Last year near-ly 2,409 men and women were added

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter.

work that has been performed by

ay Saints by baptism. Now, at first light that does not appear to be a very

the Elders; but that is really only a very small part of the work. They have traversed tens of thousands of miles

world so-called ministers of the Gos-pel have warned the people against the Elders of the Church of Christ and country have filled the world, as it were, with falsehoods and lies, delugbrethren and sisters, that the Elders have been able to reach the cars of intelligent men and women to number of thousands who have been converted, and tens of thousands who are to a greater or less degree investigating the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. When you think too that governors of states and mayors of itles have folned the enemy and banished the Elders from certain locali-tics; when ministers, as we heard yesterday, have incited the populace to mob violence, whipping of the Elders, burning meeting houses, threatening those who even listen to them with the destruction of their homes and perhaps the sacrifice of their lives, the wonder increases. But it is God's work. The Elders are His servants. They are divinely called. They are also divine-ly clothed upon by the Holy Ghost. Though the whole nether world, with pause to consider carefully and thoughtfully the message brought to pause them, and the lives and conduct of th messengers who bring it, and compare these with the character and conducof those who are fighting the work of God, to convince them of the truth. The Lord's work is going on. We read from time to time statistics from the various denominations of Christen-

dom, giving the numbers of thousands who have been converted to Christianity within certain periods; and if one takes the trouble to investigate he may find that year after year the same thousands are converted over and over again and called converts to Christianity. The Christian world hold what they call revival meetings, world at which the people gather in large numbers-the Christian people who have wandered away, who are given more or less to sin, and who have been only slightly interested in religion. Their time and attention have been oc. cupied in worldly pursuits. They hear men preach to them the Gospel, with great fervor and eloquence, and they very small part of the work. They have traversod tens of thousands of miles preaching the Gospel to the people in their cities, towns and villages. They have distributed among the people of the world millions of tracts explaining the plan of life and salvation. They have entered the homes of many thou-sands who, prior to their coming, had hever heard about the restoration of the Gospel of Christ, or of the dispensation of the fulness of times; and unto these are moved upon, they are touched, they

Hot weather is enervating to most anyone. Those feel it least who use



following after their own wills, and they forget that they must do the will of God to be saved. They forget that he that goeth not in at the door o he sheepfold, but seeketh to climb ut ome other way, is a thief and a rob er." It may be said that this kine doctrine preached from the pulpits the fatherhood of Gel and the broth bood of man. People havesmade catch phrases of the fatherhood of God an brotherhood of man. The Apost John said of the Savior, "He came an to His own, and His own received Him not; but to as many as received Him to them gave He power to become the sons of God -- not to those who did not receive Him. The Savior told soor of the people at one time that they wer children of their father the devil, wh was the father of lies. Way? they would not receive Christ, but rather received the evil and preferred refuge of lies. Now then, if that oadmindedness, it is the broadmind that broad way may meander, and cir-cle, and waltz as they please, but they will never find the straight gars, but will enter the wide gates to destruc-tion. If it is narrowminded to say that "straight is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life few there he that find it." It is not my Jesus Christ, the Hedeemer of the But what about this marrow way? Why, brethren and sisters, it is wide enough to contain the whole world, if the people of the world would but enter it and march forward with their attention set upon the gate which is straight. They could walk many thousands abreast, too, without difficulty. It is the path of duty, and of obe-dience to the things the Savier taught, for He said:

"Whospever hearsth these sayings of mine, and doubt them, 1 will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house And the rains descended, and the

floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. "And everyone that heareth these say-

ings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand; "And the rains descended, and the floods cause, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell; and great was the fall of it."

It is folly to suppose that you can gain a salvation in the kingdom of God while you are breaking the command-ments of God. It is folly to suppose that the broad way, and those roads that meander and curve, and turn away from the straight and narrow path will lead to that gate which entereth int life. You Latter-day Saints under-stand this. These are the things we are trying to convince the world of. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," are the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, and must be added to those other snyings of His, viz. that "God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosever should believe on Him should have eter-nal life," etc. We must take all the words of the Savior; live by every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God,

breakers, false accusers, incontinent, "Traitors, haise accesses, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, "Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; "Having a form of Godliness, but de-nying the power thereof; from such

"For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive slily wo-men laden with sins, led away with livers lusts."

A better description of the present lition of the world could scarcely be ten. Whether or not this predicon had reference to a former or a tier day, we see a remarkable fulfillment of it in out own time. There are many who answer well this description, and it is this sort of men who have been prominent in persecuting the Saints, and who, in the last year or two, have crept into houses and led captive several millions of stilly women

"But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

My brethren and sisters the kingdom of God will triamph in spite of it all Therefore, follow in the way of life follow the directions of the servants of keep your feet in the straight and you shall be saved, and the world cannot prevent it. At the same time do your best to persuade, by love kindness, consideration and instruction, all men to enter with you. God bless the Saints, in the name of Jesus, Amon

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the fulness of times; and unto these thousands, aye, and hundreds of thousands of people, the Gospel has been preached, the message has been carried, and the doctrines and princi-ples of the Gospel have been explained, I presume millions of people in the last year have heard the Elders of the Church as they have lifted their voices on the street and market places of the populated districts of the world. "This cospel of the kingdom shall be preach-ed in all the world, for a witness before the end shall come;" and this work is being done. We cannot help it if many will not accept the Gospel. We acquit ourselves of the obligation and the responsibility God has placed up-the responsibility God has placed up-the responsibility God has placed up-the responsibility for the obligation and the the responsibility for the obligation and the responsibility for the obligation and the the responsibility for the obligation and the responsibility for the obligation and the the responsibility for the responsibility fo on us when we cry repentance unto the children of men. They then are transition from obedience to truth, from a condition of faith in God, from ieft to themselves, to obey or reject as they will, and they will receive the consequence of disobedience or re-wards of obedience to the words of divinity thus spoken. Nevertheless, 2,400 intelligent men and women con-verted by these teachings, and haptized by immersion for the remission of their sins by authorized servants of God is, after all, under the circum-stances. A marvelous work They have not been converted by methods of revivalism. I presume in the ma-jority of cases it has taken weeks and months, and perhaps years, to convert some of those who were baptized. CONVERSIONS NOT INSTANTA-NEOUS.

Conversion from a condition of sin and Conversion from a condition of sin and unbelief to one of understanding and faith is not brought about instantane-ously. We were told yesterday that upon hearing the Gospel some in-dividuals were convinced of its truth and immediately made application for haptism; but if these cases were ex-amined, we would find they compare very nearly with that instance of the haptism: but if these cases were ex-amined, we would find they compare very nearly with that instance of the conversion of Cornellus, also mention-ed yesterday. They are men and wo-men who have for some time, perhaps years, been dissatisfied with what the world offered them as the Gospel. They are people that have been seek-ing the truth, looking for light, who have been praying unto God for a knowledge of the truth, and thereby have prepared themselves for the mes-sage when they heard it, and are ready to receive if immediately upon hearing it, and desire bantism. Usually we so among the people who are Chris-tians who do believe or profess to be-lieve, and in which they have been reared, it has a tremendous effect, it is a revolution, and it takes time, much it takes prayer, it takes instruction. a revolution, and it takes time, much time, for them to become convinced. It takes prayer, it takes instruction, and much labor on the part of the eachers of the Gospel to show these molyiduals that they have been the teachers of the Gospel to show these individuals that they have been in er-tor, and that their religious advisers have also been in error, and to con-vince them of the truth which is brought to them by the true shepherds of Jesus Christ. Consequently, the conversion of these people has re-gate which leadeth to destruction, and



again stir them up to repentance and faith. Not so with those who are converted to the Gospel of Christ. As have said, the transition from wicked ness and from worldly love to that of self-sacrifice, and faith in God, and obedience to the principles of the Gos-pel of Jesus Christ has never been ac. complished instantaneously. But these with whom we have labored long and diligently, have prepared themselves, and they are secure. They have a livgood, virtuans, honorable, upright lives, to that of sin, apostasy and wicked-ness, is never instantaneous. No man who today is in full fellowship in the Church, who is receiving the approbation of God, and has the witness of the truth in his heart, who is keeping the commandments of the Lord, who is commandments of the Lord, who is faithful, pure, virtuous and chaste, will tomorrow be cut off from the Church for adultery, for apostasy, or for wickedness and corruption. I have never known such a case; changes of this kind are brought about gradually, and take time.

THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW PATH,

Now, my brethren and sisters, you are acquainted with the Gospel of the

and salvation; and it is nonsense for men to take as text "I am the way, the truth, and the life," and then, be-fore they have finished, declars to the

and no man cometh to the Father but by me." Because of such teachings by me." Because of such teachings as this, men go astray; they imagine to themselves that they are secure in





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