

DUTIES AND CALLING OF THE SEVENTIES.

Address by

ELDER J. GOLDEN KIMBALL,

At the Seventy-Sixth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Friday, April 6, 1906.

In the few minutes I occupy I desire to talk about the Lord's army. You know the Lord has an army. "Soldiers of the Cross," just as the United States has a regular standing army. The Church of Latter-day Saints has an army of soldiers numbered approximately 8,000. They are minute men, so-called. It is their duty to preach the Gospel, continuously, to the children of men. They belong to the regular army of the church; they are not volunteers, they are expected to be ready and prepared to go. This army of the Lord's soldiers go out and battle against the kingdom of evil, which Brother Roberts has been talking about. Now, my experience has taught me that the kingdom of evil is not going to lie down and be kicked. It is going to fight. You quietly find that enemy quail ready for a fight.

Whenever these witnesses are moved upon by the Spirit of the Lord to testify that Jesus is the Christ, and Joseph Smith is a Prophet of God, then trouble begins. They need not attack the religions of other churches. I promise every Elder who is called by divine authority to preach the Gospel, if he will testify to those truths he will have all the trouble he can stand. Furthermore, the Elders must now have a little money while traveling their country. I am informed that laws have been passed in cities of the Southern States, where thousands of our Elders formerly traveled without purse or scrip, so that if any of them are now found in cities asking for entertainment, they are placed in prison. I believe that some of our Elders might go to prison, as the Lord sometimes manifests His power in behalf of imprisoned Elders, and strengthens their testimonies.

I am very much interested in this army of the Lord, and in order to preface my remarks, I read some statements made at our last conference. Following is a quotation from the closing address delivered by President Joseph F. Smith, Oct. 8, 1905:

"I feel like blessing the quorums of the Priesthood, every one of them, from the High Priests to the Deacons. I pray God, my Heavenly Father, to remember them in their organizations, to help them, that they may magnify the Priesthood they hold, and do the will of the Father; that they may be minute men, instant in season and out of season, ready and willing to respond to the calls that are made upon them to go and reach the Gospel to the world. Gather in from the Elders' quorums those who have proven themselves worthy and who have gained experience, and make Seventies of them, so that the quorums of the Seventies may be replenished; and aged ones, whose physical condition will not permit them any longer to do missionary duty in the world, let them be ordained High Priests and Patriarchs, to bless the people and to minister at home. Gather in the strong, the vigorous, the young, the able-bodied who have the spirit of the Gospel in their hearts, to fill the ranks of the Seventies, that we may have ministers to preach the Gospel to the world. They are needed. We cannot now meet the demand."

That is the word of the Lord to the Seventies, and to the Presidents of States and Nations. If we are to do this, we should search among our young people carefully and advance the worthy ones in the Priesthood, so that we can replenish the Seventies' quorums with good, able-bodied men who are willing to perform the arduous labors connected with preaching the Gospel. This labor is difficult; it is hard upon the Seventies and Elders, for they are sent into all the climates of the earth. They go to the islands of the sea, to malarial districts, or to high altitudes, and unless they are strong and able-bodied, they break down physically. To illustrate, if you send an Elder to Australia, at a cost perhaps of \$120, and he is sick with rheumatism or other ailments, and has to return home, all that money is expended and very little accomplished. I think President Smith has told me, personally, that to send men out in the missionary field who are broken down physically,

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and under their administration the repentant believer is baptized, receives the remission of sins, and the Holy Ghost is conferred by the laying on of hands. The arm of the Lord is not shortened. These boys are sent out in His service and He has told them to think not of the morrow, of what they shall eat, or what they shall drink, or whereof they shall be clothed, for He is simply able to take care of them. There is no great mystery in this. The Church so carefully looked after, and their lives so well preserved, as are the Elders who preach the Gospel in the world. I am in favor of the Priesthood, and I think that if we have proper places, and if they do not do it, they ought to be ashamed of themselves, for they have the power and intelligence, and they hold the authority. It puts me in mind of a story, the only one I can think of just now to fit the condition. It may not be just suitable, but I will tell it anyhow:

A negro had a mule which balked, and he could not get it to move, so he went into a drug store and asked the druggist if he had anything that he thought would start the mule. The druggist came out and injected something in the neck of the mule, and immediately thereafter the mule saw a streak of dust and the animal flying over the hill. He went back to the druggist and said, "How much is this?" "Twenty-five cents," said he. "Just put fifty cents worth in me, so I can catch the mule." (Laughter.)

RETURNED MISSIONARIES.

Elder Abraham Dalebort of the Sixth ward, Salt Lake City, returned April 22, from the Netherlands mission, for which he was set apart Feb. 23, 1904. The Amsterdam conference was his field of labor.

Elder William J. Yard of the Sixteenth ward, Salt Lake City, returned May 11, from the British mission, for which he was set apart April 19, 1904. The Birmingham conference was his field of labor.

Elder Walter G. Paul of the First ward, Rexburg, Fremont Co., Idaho, passed through this city May 11, on his return from the British mission, for which he was set apart March 22, 1904. The Newcastle conference was his field of labor.

Elder Christian P. Larsen of Centersburg, Sanpete Co., reached this city May 11, on his way home from the Scandinavian mission, where he was set apart March 1904. The Aalborg conference was his field of labor.

Elder Edward M. Rowe of Spanish Fork, Utah Co., returned April 22, from the British mission, for which he was set apart April 12, 1904. The North West Virginia conference was his field of labor. Elder Ward reports that since August last the Elders and Saints of the North West Virginia conference have succeeded in erecting a meetinghouse in Pendleton Co., on Smith's Creek, West Virginia, the first one erected in that conference, and second in the state. His companions, Elders A. H. Casperson and Geo. W. Sorenson, and he had the erection of same in charge.

Elder Carl E. Ernst of Granger, Salt Lake Co., returned May 11, from the Northern States mission, where, since Nov. 8, 1904, he has been laboring in the Wisconsin conference.

Elder Geo. M. Bahr of Salem, Utah Co., passed through this city May 11, on his return from the German mission, for which he was set apart May 25, 1904. The Hamburg conference was his field of labor.

Elder Geo. C. Sorenson of Mt. Pleasant, Sanpete Co., passed through this city May 15, on his return from the Scandinavian mission, for which he was set apart March 2, 1904. The Aalborg conference, Denmark, was his field of labor.

Elder Ephraim Blackburn of Fremont, Wayne Co., passed through this city May 14, on his return from the Eastern States mission, where he has been laboring since Oct. 18, 1904, in the Brooklyn South West Virginia conference. He presided over the last named since last September. He returns now on account of sickness.

Elder Charles R. Wilson of Oakley, Cassia Co., Idaho, passed through this city May 14, on his return from the Southern States mission, to which he was assigned Nov. 1, 1904. The South West Virginia conference was his field of labor. He was released at this time to return home with Elder Blackburn, and because he was not in the best of health himself.

Elder Arthur D. Price of Paris, Bear Lake Co., Idaho, passed through this city May 14, on his return from the Eastern States mission, for which he was set apart March 24, 1904. The South West Virginia conference was his field of labor.

Elder Michael Beus of Ogden City, Weber Co., returned May 14, from the Swiss and German mission, for which he was set apart May 24, 1904. The French, Lausanne, Neuchâtel, Geneva, conferences were his field of labor.

Elder Delbert E. Wilcox of Farmington, Davis Co., returned on the 18th of May, from the Netherlands mission, for which he was set apart March 30, 1904. The Arnhem and Rotterdam (Holland), conferences were his field of labor.

Elder Hyrum L. Fox of the Fourteenth ward, Salt Lake City, returned May 17, 1906, from the Southern States mission, where, since April 1, 1904, he has been laboring in the Georgia conference.

Elder Joseph H. Walton, Jr., of Auburn, Wyo., passed through this city May 18, on his way home from the Southern States mission, for which he was set apart March 22, 1904. The Tennessee and Georgia conferences were his field of labor.

All the Elders make very flattering reports of the progress of the Gospel work, all sections represented. They were as a rule well treated and courteously heard by the people to whom they were sent. In all fields the all-round test for more Elders to carry on the great work, in Germany and some other districts

the Elders are traveling alone, as there are not enough to fill all the demands for going in pairs. Many are traveling without purse or scrip and are doing well.

WAS WASTING AWAY.

"I had been troubled with kidney disease for the last five years," writes Robert R. Wiles, of Safford, Mo. "I lost sleep and never felt well and decorated with leading physicians and tried all remedies suggested without relief. Finally I tried Foley's Kidney Cure and less than two bottles completely cured me and I am now sound and well." During the summer kidney irregularities are often caused by excessive drinking or being overworked. Attend to the kidneys at once by using Foley's Kidney Cure. For sale by F. J. Hill Drug Co.

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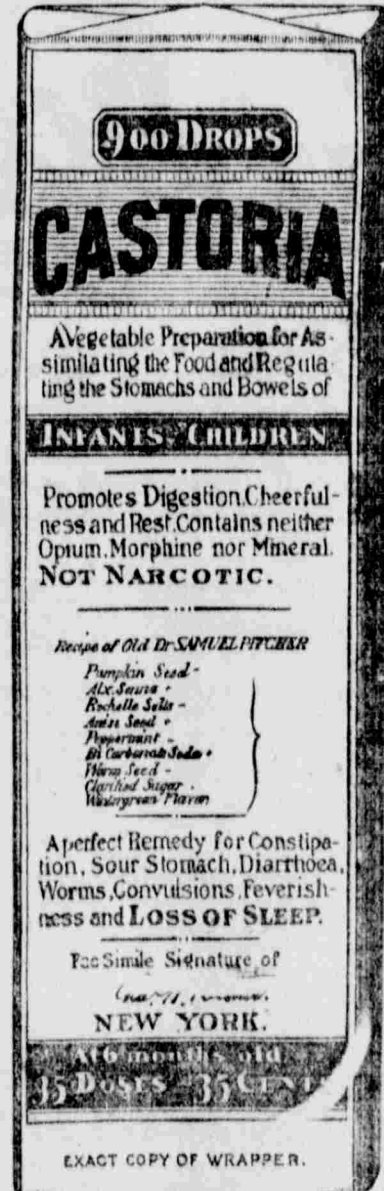
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