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## THANK GOD FOR ALL.

Thank God for life! Life is not sweet always,  
Hands may be very laden, heart care full,  
Unwelcome nights follow unwelcome days;  
And dreams divine end in awakening dull.  
Still it is life, and life is cause for praise;  
This ache, this restlessness this quickening  
ating,  
Prove me no torpid and inanimate thing.  
Prove me of Him who is of life the spring;  
I am alive—and that is beautiful.

Thank God for love: though love may hurt  
and wound,  
Though set with sharpest thorns its rose  
may be:  
Roses are not of winter, all attuned  
Must be the earth filled with soft air and  
free,  
And warm ere dawns the rose upon its  
tree.  
Fresh currents through my frozen pulses  
run,  
My heart has tasted summer, tasted sun;  
And I thank Thee, Lord, although not one  
Of all the many roses bloom for me.

Thank God for death! Bright thing with  
dreamy name;  
We wrong with mournful flowers her pure,  
still brow,  
We heap her with reproaches and with  
blame;  
Her sweetness and her fitness disallow.  
Questioning on the fitness why and how;  
But calmly 'mid our clamor and surmise  
She touches each in turn, and each grows  
wise,  
Taught by the light in her mysterious eyes,  
I shall be glad, and I am thankful now.  
—Susan Coolidge, in *N. Y. Globe*.

## DISCOURSE

Delivered by President George Q. Cannon, at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, February 23rd, 1890.

Very rarely in my life have I felt more timid in arising to speak than I do this afternoon; and I do arise in the hope that I shall have the faith and prayers of the Latter-day Saints, that I may be able to speak such words as shall be profitable, and as shall be dictated by the Spirit of God. I do not want, neither do I suppose that any servant of God desires to appear, before the congregations of the Saints merely for the purpose of speaking, of being heard; but of being an instrument in the hands of God of giving to the peo-

ple the bread of life, of speaking words that shall be instructive and profitable, and that shall be a source of strength to us in the performance of our duties.

It seems to me there never was a time that I as an individual felt more the need of the guidance and help of the Almighty than I do in these days. It is a very responsible station for a man to stand as an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ, to stand as one upon whom the responsibility rests of counseling the people, of directing them, and of imparting to them such instructions as are needed by them; and I naturally shrink from this responsibility. I never did desire prominence among men. The Lord revealed to me when I was quite young that I at some time would be an Apostle. I never told it to any human being; but on more than one occasion I have gone out and besought the Lord to choose some one else, and to relieve me of that responsibility. I have besought Him earnestly, time and again, that if I could only get my salvation and exaltation without being called to that high and holy responsibility, I would much rather He would choose some other person. These have always been my feelings concerning responsibility in this Church; yet I have endeavored to the best of my ability when responsibility has been placed upon me to bear it off, with the help of God, the best I could. I feel so today. I feel that it is one of the greatest blessings a human being can have bestowed upon him to be chosen a servant of Jesus Christ, and to enjoy the power and the gifts and the blessings that ought to rest upon those who are thus chosen. And there is this to comfort all those upon whom this authority is bestowed—the Lord is always able and always willing to sustain His servants in the performance of all the labors and duties which He assigns unto them. He does not leave men to themselves when He calls them to office; but He gives them gifts and graces and qualifications, and the Spirit suited to the duties devolving upon them, and the labors which they may have to perform. And notwithstanding my own weakness and the realization of my own incapability, I can testify to you this day that the Lord has al-

ways, throughout my life and my varied labors, blessed me beyond what I, in many respects, could have expected. And I have seen that this has been the case with my fellow servants; He has been exceedingly kind to them. He has bestowed His Spirit upon them, and He has given unto them knowledge and wisdom, revelation and counsel to impart unto the people, and to guide them in the performance of the various labors that have devolved upon them. So it has been with this entire people. If this work had depended upon us; if it had been the duty of the Latter-day Saints to provide for it and to take care of it, to control it and manage its affairs, it would have been an utter failure. This is a great consolation to me at least, and certainly it is to all of you. In the midst of trials, and the difficulties that we have to contend with, and the afflictions we have to bear, the testimony constantly is that this is God's work, that He is caring for it, that it does not depend upon us to manage it with our short-sighted wisdom; but that He, with His supreme wisdom and with His Almighty power, and with His eternal providence, is caring for all its interests, is watching over every detail, and is controlling all the labors of His people, the counsels and instructions of His servants, and even the acts of the wicked themselves, for the accomplishment of His purposes and the fulfilling of His great designs. This is a constant consolation which God gives unto His people. And how comforting and sustaining it is! What comfort it has brought to many, yea, to all hearts, in times that are past, as it will do to all hearts in times yet to come.

I am thankful this day, my brethren and sisters, to have a standing in your midst; to be a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I am thankful every minute of my life to have the fellowship of this people who are members of this Church, and regard it as one of the greatest of blessings. When I go out and mingle among other people and see that which is going on in the world, my heart swells with thanksgiving and joy to think that my lot is thus cast; that in the kind providences of