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CHRIST'S SECOND COMING.

*Discourse Delivered in the Tabernacle,
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[REPORTED BY ARTHUR WINTER.]

In endeavoring to address the congregation this afternoon I desire an interest in your faith and prayers and sympathy, that I may be guided and instructed by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

I can testify, as did the preceding speaker, to the truth of the principles of eternal life, and that the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, as it has been revealed anew in this dispensation of the fulness of times, will lead those that obey it back into the presence of our Father and God, and will in the end regenerate and sanctify the human family, as a'so the earth upon which we dwell, and fit and prepare it as an abiding place for those who have kept all the commandments of God. We have today all the principles of the Gospel that are necessary for the salvation of the whole human family and for the redemption of the earth from under the curse that rests upon it; and if we shall obey these principles and live up to them, the result shall be the triumph of those principles and of those who observe them. Our elder brother, Jesus Christ, has marked out to us very clearly and plainly the path for us to follow; and the laws of the Gospel that we are obeying today are not man-made, but are principles that have emanated from the Source of all light and intelligence, and have been brought to the children of men by the divine inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God.

The plan of salvation was made known to our father Adam and to his children, and they were informed that in the meridian of time there should come a Redeemer to the earth, a Savior, and a Shiloh to Israel; and as typical of His coming and of His death, they offered sacrifices. The Prophets of God who lived in subsequent ages were also informed in relation to this matter, and taught that the time would come when there should come a Savior to the earth, and in very plain and distinct terms they spoke concerning the nature of His coming; they pointed out the land wherein He should be born, even to the village that He should claim as His native place; depicted the trials and the tribulations that He should pass through; pointed out in detail events connected with His career—that His blood should be shed for the salvation of the souls of the children of

men, and that through His death and resurrection there should come a resurrection of the dead—a restoration of the body and the spirit into a living soul. During the time that He sojourned in the midst of the children of men, He laid down in great plainness to His disciples and to those by whom He was surrounded these principles of the Gospel that the Latter-day Saints have embraced. He who came as a forerunner before the face of the Son of Man came as one crying in the wilderness, saying, Repent and be baptized, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Men went into the water and were baptized at the hands of John the Baptist for the remission of their sins. But He told them that there should come one mightier than he, the latchet of whose shoes he was unworthy to unloose, who would baptize them with fire and with the Holy Ghost. In due time the personage of the Savior was made known to the children of men, and He went about among them teaching the principles of eternal life, and His last injunction to His disciples was:

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

After His resurrection and ascension on high, His disciples, following that injunction, called upon the assembled multitude upon the day of Pentecost, to repent of their sins, to be baptized for the remission of them, and to have hands laid upon them for the reception of the Holy Ghost, which, when received, should bring things past to their remembrance and show them things to come. Men obeyed that injunction and went into the waters of baptism, and received the laying on of hands. The result was, the heavens were opened to their vision; light and knowledge came down from on high and illuminated their minds and made known unto them the things of God.

Among other things that were made known to the disciples in those days was the fact of the second coming of Christ. When the Savior ascended into heaven from the Mount of Olives, the disciples were gazing upward, when they beheld two angels standing by them. These angels said unto the disciples:

Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.

As His first coming was foretold by the holy men of God from the days of father Adam, so His second coming has been prophesied of by the servants of

God in all ages. They declared that in the latter times, in the dispensation of the fullness of times, all other dispensations should be gathered into one; that all the gifts, authority, knowledge and light that had been imparted to the children of men from the beginning should also be gathered into the dispensation of the fulness of times; that the earth should be filled with the knowledge of God, and that in due time righteousness should cover the earth as the waters cover the mighty deep; that the heavens and the earth should be brought together, and mercy should come from heaven and righteousness from the earth; and that there should be raised up in the midst of the people Prophets of God to enlighten their minds and to prepare them for the second coming of Christ. When the Savior was upon earth, He said unto the people that the kingdom of heaven was among them, but they perceived it not. So in this age of the world, it has come near unto the world, but they have not recognized it. It is today as it was anciently, "Can any good come out of Nazareth?" Can any good come from such a source as the Latter-day Saints? The enemy of all righteousness hath covered the earth with a flood of lies. The minds of the children of men have been prejudiced as they were anciently. They have been led in darkness, and they have indeed looked through a glass darkly. But the purpose and designs of our Father have not faltered in their course; but as the years have rolled by, His purposes have been fulfilled in the midst of the children of men. His servants have been called forth in this our day, and they have proclaimed the truth to the nations. They have raised a warning voice, and have told the nations of the earth that it was the day of God's judgments. For sixty years have the Elders of Israel been traveling in the midst of the children of men proclaiming these facts and endeavoring to prepare their minds for these great events that are at our doors. One of a family and two of a city have obeyed the warning voice and have gathered from the nations of the earth. Their hearts have been susceptible to the truth. They have sacrificed their all, so far as earthly possessions are concerned, and they have gathered to a strange land and in the midst of strangers, testifying by this act of gathering to the truth of the work in which they were engaged. They have had faith in God and in His Son Jesus Christ; they have repented of their sins; they have gone down into the waters of baptism and have had their sins forgiven them; they have had hands laid upon them for the reception of the Holy Ghost; and God has testified to them,