

the prophet was "What can I do to build up Zion?" The prophet had told us never to spend another day to build up an outside city, or a city of the world; for the business of the Latter-day Saints was to build up Zion. When I inquired for work I found plenty who wanted to get work done; but they had nothing to pay for it. The word was, "we can hire you but we cannot pay you the first dollar or sixpence." I did not ask, what can you pay me, but "where is the work that wants to be done? I am here to do it."

Pardon me for this digression; it is just as good an illustration as I can give. I have worked for Zion from that day to this, instead of working for my self. God has given me the means I possess, for I have never sought it. I have paid all attention to the work that the Lord has called me to, and the Lord has made me rich through being obedient in all things instead of half-hearted in His cause.

Let the inquiry be, with the new-comers, instead of what can I get a day for this or that job, what do you want me to do to build up Zion, and let wages, money and means be an after consideration and trust in God if you want to get rich. If you set your hearts on riches you will not obtain them; but if you set your hearts on Zion and on Zion alone, sooner or later you will be rich. This is to the new-comer. An elder of Israel may say, "look here my brother, have you some work you want done? I think you are preaching to get your work done." Yes; the work I want you to do is to build up Zion. I want you to go and offer your services, without wages, not to me or to any one in particular; but when you are willing to build up Zion, it proves that your heart is in the work. You will then show whether your heart is for God or for gain. I want to hear every elder in Israel, every Latter-day Saint, when gathered, say "Brother Brigham, Brother George, or Brother Daniel, or any other in authority, if you want any work done I am here to do it, no matter about the pay, I guess I can get something to eat if the rest have any."

Is this the priesthood? It is the result of the priesthood. Every man who loves the priesthood of the Son of God and the building up of Zion does not set his mind on worldly gain. "How do you know," says one? I know by experience, and that is just as good evidence as I want in my Court. When a person knows by experience he knows it just as it is. "Well what shall we do?" say the old clay and the new clay, the new-comer and those who have been here for years? Go to your bishops and tell them you are here to build up Zion and you want to know how to accomplish most effectually the desires of your hearts. Tell them you have been here and have gained experience, and say, "now what can we do to build up Zion?" You may possibly go to a bishop who has so much worldly care on his mind, and who is so anxious to get rich, that he can not exactly dictate you, and he may stand awhile and finally say, "well, I guess I don't know what to say." When you come across such a bishop, know that he is not in the line of his duty. He is one of those men who look after earthly gain instead of after the welfare of Zion. That bishop says, "the burden of building up the Kingdom of God is on the Presidency and the Twelve and those missionaries who have been called to labor in the vineyard. I have nothing to do with it." I want to say this to the bishops, if you do not devote your whole time and labor to the regulation and dictation of the affairs of your wards, in the end the honor and power of that priesthood which has been conferred upon you will be taken from you and given to another. I want you to hear this, Oh, ye bishops of Israel! I have already said that bishop's require a great amount of patience; this is true. They also require a great amount of wisdom to magnify their holy calling. I will ask a question: Did you ever, when you were honest, and sincere, go to the Father and ask for knowledge, in the name of Jesus Christ, without receiving the light you needed? I can answer the question for you—you never did.

What is the duty of the bishops? If they act as presidents as well as bishops of their Wards they should take charge of, and direct the temporal and spiritual labors of every member of their respective Wards. Do they do it? No, they do not. "Well," says a bishop, "I would be willing to dictate if the people were willing that I should dictate them." I will say to the bishops that if you wish to be successful in dictating and managing your Wards, in all their affairs, in every good word and work, you must lead out yourselves, and set the example. When a bishop is called to dictate and direct home-manufactures and other interests of the ward, he should lead out, and have his own family manufacture their own hats, bonnets and clothing. Perhaps they may say to the First Presidency, "do your families do these things? I will acknowledge that they do not. What is to be done? I do not know but that we shall have to make a Ward by ourselves and introduce home-manufacture and invite all to join us who will covenant to do the same. If I were too close or exacting with my wives they might leave me, and I should be very sorry for that, but perhaps I should be better without them than with them if they would not hearken to me. Of this I leave Israel to judge. I can say, for myself, I would rather be in these mountains with two or three hundred good elders to contend against the prejudices of the whole world, than to have a million who were

half hearted. Like Gideon, when going against the Midianites, I should prefer the few, who would lap water like a dog, if they were of the right kind, than millions of any other kind. We could do more, do it faster, and do it better than we could with multitudes of the wicked, or of those who were half hearted in observing the precepts of the Lord.

The question may be asked, is this included in the priesthood? Yes, it is; this is the effect of the priesthood. The priesthood of the Son of God is eternal. It fills immensity and governs all things. This priesthood has been revealed from heaven, to the children of men, by the Almighty, though in a small degree, and its effects are beginning to manifest themselves.

What is the greatest miracle that can be wrought before God, our Savior, angels, the inhabitants of the earth or the inhabitants of the infernal regions? Is it raising the dead or healing the sick? No, it is not. It is in bringing a people to a strict obedience to the rule of the priesthood. This is the greatest of all miracles and the greatest testimony to God, to all the heavenly host, to the devils in hell and to the inhabitants of the earth that the Latter-day Saints are the people of God. The greatest miracle that can be wrought on the face of the earth is for the power of the priesthood to make the people one, and this tremendous labor devolves in a great measure upon the home ministry, which includes the bishops, priests, teachers and deacons. By virtue of their high-priesthood bishops act as Presidents in their Wards as well as in the bishopric; but if we had the literal descendants of Aaron to act as bishops we should then be under the necessity of appointing high priests to preside in the Wards and settlements. I am ready to help them, and am doing it all the time. The first Presidency are co-workers with you, in God, to sanctify the whole people and bring them to a knowledge of the truth, and to reveal to them the mind and will of God, and to lead them along step by step until the officers of this people officiate commendably before the heavens.

Some may say "if the Presidency does not set the example how can we follow?" We shall, if it is absolutely necessary, take another step in this direction, and call upon the elders of Israel to know who will build up Zion, and no other kingdom or influence on the face of the earth. This would draw the line, and this book, (the Bible) says the kingdom of God in the latter days, is to be like a net cast into the sea, which would gather of all kinds,—good and bad. This net is now circumscribing the whole world, and we expect the good and bad will be gathered together, and it is not exactly time yet to draw this line of distinction between those who are wholly devoted to the kingdom of God, and those who are devoted to it only in part. If we were to draw this line now it would not be according to the design of Heaven. The Elders of Israel are casting the good seed of the word of God among the people, and that that does not fall among the rocks and become parched, or dried up, or choked, takes root and brings forth, some thirty, some sixty and some an hundred fold. There are a great many tares in this field. What shall we do, pull up the tares? No, if we do we shall pull up some of the wheat, so we must let them grow together until the time of separation comes. When men apostatize from the church, we must, of course, cut them off; but when they are striving to do right, we must bear with them.

The great work of going to all the world to tell the people what to do is for the Presidency and the Twelve. When we gather together we appoint Bishops and Presidents. What for? For the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the ministry and the edifying of the body of Christ until we all come to the unity of the faith. You all know that, from first to last, I have found a great deal of fault with the bishops. I do not know that I ever found fault with or chastened them more than they deserved; and we can find fault with the rest of the people with the same propriety that we can with the bishops.

To explain the facts as they are in this Priesthood—let the people of any Ward be united in God to build up His Kingdom on the earth, and they have a bishop who is dilatory, slothful, negligent, lazy and destitute of the spirit of his office, if the members of that Ward will be united in their faith and works as one man, they will remove this bishop out of the way so quickly that they will hardly know how it is done. This is the privilege of the people, so there is something required of them as well as of the bishops. They are not to sit down and say the bishop will dictate me; the bishops are not to sit down and say the Twelve will dictate us; the Twelve are not to sit down and say the First Presidency is to dictate us, and the First Presidency cannot sit down and say, let the Lord do it; but, as one man, they should all reach forth, in the power and strength of God, to build up His Kingdom and overcome the power of Satan on the earth.

A few words more to the bishops; and I wish them to hearken and give ear to this: In all your dealing, doing, counselling and sitting in judgment in your Wards, it is your imperative duty, and is required of you by the authorities of this Kingdom, by God and angels, to have enough of the Spirit of the Lord to enable you to judge righteously and to give judgment to each

and every one without a feeling of partiality one way or the other; and when you have chastened a man let your feelings towards him be just the same as before, and live, continually, so that you can chasten a child, a family or your entire Ward without any feeling of animosity. If you do not live in this way you live beneath your calling and duty. I want you to lend your ears to this. From this time forth I never want to have anybody come to me and say, a bishop, presiding officer or high council has decided partially or in a one-sided manner. All who sit to preside or judge should hear both sides of the question—listen diligently, learn everything, then, if you have the Spirit of the Lord you can judge righteously. If the bishops will take this course they will have influence in their Wards. Sometimes a bishop will complain of having no influence. When such is the case it is because he lives beneath his privileges, and not because God is negligent. All such bishops live so that the justice, judgment, loving kindness and mercy of God cannot get to their hearts, or they would be filled with the spirit of revelation, knowledge, wisdom, judgment and decision and they would judge righteous judgment.

These remarks are not only applicable to Bishops but to Presidents, High Councilors and all who sit in judgment in the midst of Israel. Live so that you can judge by the revelations of the Lord Jesus, then you will render righteous judgments, the wicked will not have power to contend against you, the innocent will be satisfied and justified, and will rejoice in the midst of Israel.

I will now go a little further with my remarks. If I live upon the earth until the Latter-day Saints walk up to their duties and privileges I shall see the time when I can say to a Bishop, we want this canal dug, we want that field made, or that factory built in your Ward; or we want your Ward to have so many sheep, or so many cattle, or to raise so much sugarcane, or so much flax or hemp; make this railroad, build your school house or meetinghouse; go to work on the Temple or Tabernacle, improve here or improve there and give to the poor so that none need go hungry; and it will only have to be said to be done, and done promptly; there will be no more words about it. If I live in the flesh to see this people as they ought to be, I shall see all this and much more.

I frequently think of a little circumstance that has transpired this season, in building our railroad from Ogden to this city. All who know anything about my work on the Union Pacific road, know that the money for doing that work has not yet been paid. We are getting iron in lieu of money, and we are going to place it where it will do us good. The grading on our home-line is very light, and is being done chiefly by the Wards lying between this city and the Central road. Brother West took hold and did manfully and well. A great many individuals have run to the Superintendent asking for a job here or there, and requesting this or that for their pay. When we came to Kayville, Bishop Christopher Layton said "I and my Ward will do so much of the work," and from the time the work commenced until the present, our Superintendent tells me that no member of that Ward has said one word about it. They said they would do so much and they have done it. This is the only Ward in Israel that I know of that has done as they were counseled. What is the cause of this? Is it because Brother Layton is peculiarly adapted for acquiring influence? I do not know that it is; but he takes the right course and leads out. He is honest, upright, merciful and forgiving, and his loving-kindness is extended to all. He knows what to do; he is a good business man. He says we will do so and so, and there is not a word said about it by any member of his Ward. I will give him the praise of this.

There are many of our Elders who do not apply their minds to the building up of Zion; it is all self,—my little self. I have my circle, and I can not walk out of it. Instead of their minds expanding and reaching over, they are contracting. Again to the Bishops, there are some of them who do not treat the members of their Wards like the members of one family, they are treated like strangers, who, in their business transactions, mean to cheat each other.

I expect to live to see the time when men will cease being so greedy. I am pretty well convinced that our Co-operative system here, in our wholesale store, touches our merchants to the quick; I am convinced that some of them are so sore that if you were to lay the weight of your finger on them it would hurt them. Many of them, however, have done well in yielding up their former system of carrying on business; yet there are those who, if they could, would grab up the means to-day, every dime of it, and make the people pay twenty-five or thirty cents for a yard of calico. The movement now inaugurated amongst us for the destruction of monopoly, although working so advantageously, is not something that has been got up in a day or a year. I have been striving for it ever since I have been in these valleys, and during the whole of the time have labored, toiled, preached, guided and counselled for its accomplishment.

I have said many times that I can tell any people, if they will follow my counsel, how to get rich. I have been telling you how to do so this afternoon. If you will build up Zion, you will get rich. If some of our

merchants had had their way for the past six or eight months, they would have drawn from the means of the Latter-day Saints living in these mountains from five to eight hundred thousand dollars, which they now have to dispose of in some other way; through the mercies of God and the teachings of His servants this amount has been saved to the people. But who knows or thinks about it? Very few ever give a thought to it. This shows the ignorance of the people, in not giving credit to where it belongs. I recollect hearing the Prophet Joseph say, many times in his day, that no greater sin was ever committed on this earth than the sin of ingratitude, except the shedding of innocent blood.

If the bishops would lead out in all things, a great many of the people would follow them in every good word and work, and there would be a good many who would not follow them. Well, let the wheat and the tares grow together,—the murderer, slanderer, adulterer and thief with the best that live on the face of the earth. We have to submit to it until the people learn better.

I repeat that if the bishops should lead out in every good word and work,—if they were prepared to do so, the people are not all prepared to go with them; but many would. The bishops are far behind, however, in their duties and callings as well as the rest of us. They must wake up and lead out, and have influence enough over their Wards to go and do as they are told. You will hear a bishop say, occasionally: "The First Presidency has told my Ward to do so and so, and I suppose we must go to and do it because they have said so." I suppose no such thing, and the bishop who looks at it in this light is full of darkness, and we want any men who have acted on that principle to cease doing so, or give up papers and cease holding the bishopric. You have not got light and knowledge; you are not pulling on the right thread, and do not understand your business and calling. When required by the First Presidency to perform any work, instead of doing it because they tell you to do it, do it because your minds are open and quick, and the spirit of truth manifests to you that that is what should be done. Do it because it ought to be done, and not because anybody says so. Is not this correct? It is, and every Saint knows it, and we should all live so that we may enjoy the revelations of the Holy Spirit, then we should understand things past, present and to come, for it is the office of the Holy Ghost to reveal these things to the minds of those who possess it, and to bring all things to their remembrance that are necessary for them to understand.

Bishops, never do another thing because anybody says "do it." When you do as you are required, let it be because you are prompted and dictated by the Holy Ghost and the revelations of the Lord Jesus Christ. Although many men live, not possessing the full amount of inspiration they might enjoy, they will say "brethren" we never knew you to be mistaken; taking your counsel has always proved the best for us." I say to the elders of Israel when you are counseled to take a certain course, or to do certain things, act in accordance with that counsel. If you do not see it exactly, go to with your might until the revelations of God reveal it to you. You can all do as much as Colonel Little did on one occasion, when Marshal of the city. He was told to do a certain thing. Said he, "I know it is true, but I do not believe a word of it." He could not believe it, reach it and grasp the spirit of it, and say, yes I can see the result of it; but his judgement said "I know it is right."

Now brethren, bishops, when we ask you to do anything, no matter what it is, go to and do it, for the simple reason that we never ask you to do anything only what you ought to do, and, we are at the defiance of the inhabitants of the earth or the regions below to prove to the contrary. If you have not enough of the spirit of God to see its propriety and to understand all the workings of it, and to know its utility, go to with your might, with faith in God, until you get the revelations of Jesus upon you, then you will know for yourselves.

I have only said a little; I should like to say more to the brethren and sisters, but I shall defer my remarks to a future occasion. God bless you. Amen.

ESTRAY.

I HAVE in my possession one Dark Bay 7-year old HORSE, bald face, black mane and tail, three white feet, white on nose and lip, with saddle marks; branded H. on left thigh. He is a very chunky made Horse. The owner will please apply for him, or he will be sold to defray expenses.

GEORGE ATKIN,

Tooele County Estray Poundkeeper.
Tooele City, Nov. 27, 1869. d8-2w441

EIGHTH QUORUM OF SEVENTIES.

REGULAR Meetings of the above Quorum are now held at the City Hall, every First and Third Saturday in the Month, at 7 o'clock p. m. Members residing in the City are requested to attend punctually, and those residing in the country as often as they can make it convenient; if unable to attend within one month from date, they are requested to communicate their present residence and standing, otherwise they may be dropped and their places filled with live members.

JOHN SHOLDEBRAND
Clerk of the Quorum.

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