

testimony or evidence of a resurrection and immortality beyond the grave. All that they have given to them is the exercise of a certain faith that lasts them through this life. But the Gospel of the Latter-day Saints, which is the Gospel of the former day Saints, as we call it, is different from any believed in by any other people as to all these things, and people who believe in the real Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Gospel that He instituted, have something more and better and beyond what any other portion of the human family have to look to.

The great Captain of our salvation went into the grave with marks in His hands and in His feet and in His side, and He came forth out of that grave in three days, and He did not go away without being seen. He made Himself known, communicated with them, associated with them, in fact, and gave them a certain knowledge of the truth of the sayings he uttered Himself to Moses a good many years before, on the mountain. He said to Moses: "This is My work and My glory, to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man." This is His great work. The human family had, through transgression, come under the law of sin and death, and He had come to restore that which was lost, and to bring to pass the resurrection, to open the prison doors to the spirits in prison, them that were bound, and declared the acceptable day of the Lord, and bestowed gifts to men. This is the kind of a Captain of our salvation that we have, one who has revealed this knowledge. Said He, "As the Father hath power in Himself to lay down His life and take it again, so hath He given unto the Son power to lay down His life and to take it again," and He did so. Now where is there another among those strange religions that do not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Redeemer that entertain any such knowledge and understanding of eternal life and of the resurrection of the dead? That He has obtained these, we have abundant testimony. Stephen said he saw Him sitting at the right hand of God, while he, Stephen, was being persecuted and stoned to death; and Paul said he had seen and heard things not lawful for a man to utter. And the Savior, after He had done those wonderful works in His own land, came over here to America, and there was here no chance for deception, because He showed them the wounds in His hands and in His feet. He was the same person that went down into the grave and came out triumphant over the grave. Now, if any of these other religions have had any man that has gone through the grave and risen again, they certainly have been very lacking in kindness not to come and show their fellow worshippers of that knowledge and that power and that great attainment. But the Lord Jesus has shown unto the Saints composing His Church in the different parts of the world, the gifts and blessings of immortality and eternal life which He came and brought to light. The Apostles understood the same thing. Paul, in writing to Timothy, says that "life and immortality is brought to light through the Gospel." So then, we have the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as something that endures beyond the grave, while the knowledge that the rest of the human family possesses only leads them to the grave, and beyond that is to them darkness and ignorance, and they know nothing about the future, comparatively speaking.

Jesus came and taught the people upon this land; He came here and ministered repeatedly. The Book of Mormon tells us that He came oft, and broke bread with the Saints here,

and instructed them and testified to them; on one occasion He came and told them to gather together their sick, afflicted and distressed, and bring them before Him and He healed them. He made a business of it, as Joseph Smith went through the land of Nauvoo or Commerce and Montrose healing every one who was sick, of the people of God, and as the Savior wished to do in the land of Palestine. There He complained that He could not do many mighty works because of their unbelief; but here on the land of America, He found a greater measure of faith. He called together the people and healed their sick and distressed. On another occasion He blessed their little ones, and those little ones spoke and uttered things incomprehensible to mortals, and angels came down and surrounded them, and ministered unto them. And while the Savior Himself began with a degree of fearfulness concerning their unbelief, before He got through He said: "Now My joy is full." Yes, this great Redeemer, the author of life and immortality, came over to this land and labored among the Nephites, and said here, what we have no account of His saying in that other land, at any time: "Now, My joy is full." On the contrary, on the other land, He sorrowed and He wept because of their unbelief and their hardness of heart, and He couldn't do many mighty miracles among them because of their unbelief. Thus we have a Savior that has gone through the grave, a Redeemer that has triumphed victoriously over hell, and the grave; and it is said the last enemy that shall be destroyed will be death.

We see, then, that the Latter-day Saints have not only the advantages of the Holy Ghost here, and the power of faith; but O, the love that fills our hearts when we hear the pure principles of the Gospel taught to us! How happy we have felt as we sat together while the Apostles ministered unto us the bread of life. How joyful the people feel when they are full of love to each other. The principle of charity and the blessedness of the Everlasting Gospel belong to this people as it belongs to no other people.

I rejoice greatly in this Gospel, because it opens up unto us transcendent joys, blessings and glories in the future, which we have knowledge of, which our Savior taught, and which are taught to us here in our times, and which He has condescended to reveal again in these last days. Think of what this Savior has done for us here, and has gone to the Father to intercede for us, to forgive us of our sins, to heal us of our backslidings; and has condescended, after the lapse of eighteen hundred years, to come with His Father, the glorious Father. The Creator of all came and introduced that Savior, His Son, to the boy Joseph Smith, when fourteen years of age, and taught him to commence a great and mighty work, of which we are today some few of the fruits. The Father said, "This is my beloved Son, hear him." And the Son taught Joseph, and sent His angels to administer to him, to teach, to bless, to bring forth the Book of Mormon, and to build up the Church again, bringing it forth out of the wilderness through great suffering; and we ought not to forget that the truth is a costly article, and always has been. It has cost the best men that have ever lived in the flesh, their mortal lives, and may yet again. It is a work that is made altogether of what has been considered as sacrifice. Indeed, the old Prophet said, "Gather together my Saints, unto me, they that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." That is the principle upon which we are brought together. We sacrifice our sins, our pleasant enjoyments and

worldly lusts, and turn unto God and serve Him.

This Sabbath day may become a very grave question if we are to build up the New Jerusalem. It was one of the first things that the Lord complained of through the prophets anciently, that they had polluted His Sabbath, and they had profaned it, and they had not observed it; and when they got so they could do these things with impunity, they left off paying their tithing, and the Lord told them they had robbed God, the whole nation of them—they had robbed Him because they had withheld the tithing which they owed Him. And when they could do a few of these things, they went on in their transgressions into fornications, adulteries and murder, from one step to another, to the most heinous crimes, until, finally, they could crucify the Lord Jesus Christ. We must look out that we do not roll any manner of sin as a sweet morsel under our tongue, but strive with penitence day by day to put away from us everything that is contrary to godliness, that would hinder the working of the Spirit within us, that we may be able to get grace for grace, and go from faith to faith, until we can become pure in heart, for we are assured in the word of the Lord that nothing that is unholy or impure can enter into His presence. What a saying! No wonder the brethren said to Him, "Lord, are there any that shall be saved?" when we look at the touchstone, look at the criterion, look at the rule by which these things have to be brought about. And we should labor continually, striving to subdue ourselves and to put away the vices, the sins and the besetments that do so daily and so easily beset us, until we bring this living body of clay into the subjection of the Spirit, that our souls may live.

The Sabbath is the day that the Lord has appointed for a time of rest. He says that He finished His work, and that He rested on the Sabbath day, the seventh day. When the Lord came, in His day, He instituted the first day of the week, and ever since then it has been "His day," and He says, that we may keep ourselves unspotted from the world, we are required to meet together on His day and offer our sacraments, and make our acknowledgements, and our confessions, paying our devotions to the Most High. It is a common thing, for the people to violate that sacred law concerning the Sabbath day. Many of the people, if they go on a journey, take pains in their calculation to make the Sabbath count one day in the trip; and many things are put off for Sunday especially. I would like to have it taken up with the people, and have the women make calculations on Saturday, and have the food cooked on that day, for the Sunday, and then go to meeting, instead of roasting over the stove cooking, and see to having a little more leisure and good instruction, and feed the soul, instead of being so much at work and having so much to do on that day. The Lord said to Israel: "Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work, for on the seventh day, the Lord thy God rested from His labors; and thou shalt not do any work, neither thy son nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor the stranger that is within thy gates." Now it was a strict rule and law and commandment to Israel anciently, and you will find if you will look into the Book of Mormon that it was so there, and is going to become just as binding upon God's people in all time as it ever was with them, and we ought to be looking to it and practicing on it, so that we can do right, so as to be able to do the right thing when we get to it.