

Delivered at the General Conference of the Church, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Saturday, April 20th, 1889, by

ELDER BRIGHAM YOUNG.

[REPORTS OF ACTIVE WINTER.]

For this blessing and proving, which I enjoy this morning in God, particularly in the Holy Spirit, I thank heaven, and I trust that the Spirit of God will rest upon the speakers this day as it rested upon those yesterday. We have come here for a blessing, and God is willing we should have it. But this power is within us to enjoy the presence of the Holy Spirit or reject it, for the agency that God has given us is complete, and we can serve the Lord or the adversary. We can plant the seed of truth, or the seed of ambition, and promote desires in our hearts that, lead unto death, or we may promote the presence of the Spirit of God, that leads unto eternal life. I think it is right to encourage ambition in the heart if it leads in this direction. But for us who have been highly favored of the Lord to cover the things of this world is a sin. Of all people that have ever lived upon the earth we should be entirely free from ambition. We are the Maker, for God has favored us as He has no other people. We have occasion to rejoice today in the liberty that we enjoy, the right and privilege to serve our God and promote the interest and building up of the Church of Christ, attending to the ordinances of the house of God, laboring for the living, and the dead in those sacred places which are unknown to the world. We are to be faithful to those to whom they have been revealed through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We are to be faithful to the Lord, that they have brought to fear in the future, they need not tremble in the present, and it is our privilege to say to them, "Be not afraid, for the Lord is with you." It is felt by some of the brethren that great things will be accomplished if we can step right in and be numbered with the people of the world. I think it is well that this people rejoiced exceedingly when a Territorial government was given to them. I presume that the State government will be given to them, but there is one direction in which I see no light for this people, and that is in the direction of the world. We cannot be broken—uniting together in the bond of the everlasting covenant which God has given us. Do I desire to be numbered with the people of the world? I desire more and see greater light in the union of this people. If the Latter-day Saints are united and agree in the word of God, we give out all that is necessary for them to have to accomplish His work. More than this, I am sure, we can give out. We are not to be absolutely idle. We will not turn in

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