

For the past two and a half years he had been in England, engaged in the ministry. His time was not devoted to traveling among the people, but he had been assigned to the business connected with the Liverpool office. He had had pleasure in his labors there, and had been benefitted by his experience. During the past three seasons about 3500 Saints had emigrated from the European mission, and he had been associated with the labors necessary there. In the European mission there are now between eight and nine thousand—a small number compared with a few years ago, the reason for this being that many have gathered to Utah. They have obeyed the word of the Lord to come out of Babylon, and have been blessed in doing so.

Elder McAllister was pleased to note the fact that many who have gathered out are liberal in giving assistance to those still in the old country. Those who have gathered out have great reason to feel thankful at being away from the scenes of destitution presented in the old countries. This condition made me feel doubly thankful for my home here. Then the moral condition of the people is not so favorable as that which exists here. Do we who have come up to the gathering place of the Saints appreciate the privileges we have? Are we sufficiently grateful to our Father for the blessings we enjoy? Let each answer for himself.

The Elders engaged in the land where I have been are laboring with great diligence. Although they see but little of the results of their labors, yet they are finding a few of the honest in heart. In the past year there were more new members added to the Church than the number which emigrated. There is at the present time a general indifference to matters of religion; all of the churches feel its effects. There is a strong tendency on the part of many religious denominations, but more particularly the Church of England, to revert to the rites and ceremonies of Catholicism. The creeds that have been formulated do not seem to give satisfaction, and the glitter of the ritual of the Catholic Church seems to attract many, while with the other denominations, there is not a corresponding increase. The doctrine that belief in Jesus is sufficient for salvation is, I think, bringing about the general indifference which I have referred to, and people are willing to leave religion to the ministers, oblivious to the statement of the Apostle, that faith without works is dead. In the old countries, religion is dying out. I could not help contrasting the condition there, with the living, practical faith of the Latter-day Saints, who are seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. I trust that those who have gathered will not forget that it is our duty to aid in establishing God's Kingdom. I know that some regard it as almost a crime to labor for the establishment of that Kingdom, but it will surely be established in His own time.

In the British Mission the Elders have to provide, to a great extent, for themselves, for they are not provided for there. I would say to neighbors and friends here that the missionaries there need your assistance occasionally. In England during the past two years, 750,000 tracts have been published and distributed; also 10,000 copies of the Voice of Warning, 5,000 copies of the Book of Mormon, and other works. These have been used to aid in the promulgation of the Gospel. In regard to assisting the missionaries, I remember one instance where an Elder came to the office with a dollar bill to purchase tracts. He stated that that was the first money earned by his 12-year-old son in Utah, who had sent it with a request that it be used in buying tracts for distribution. Such acts as these will bring fruit to the glory of God.

I am pleased to see the development of the Saints since I have been away, and the progress of the work on the Temple. I bear testimony that we are engaged in the work of God. I regard it as an honor to have had the privilege of engaging in the work of spreading the Gospel as I have been the past two and a half years. May the Lord bless us that we may live to be worthy of the name of Latter-day Saints.

ELDER JOHN MORGAN

was the next speaker. He said he had been requested to address the Saints, and he desired to do so in conformity with the will of heaven. The Saints are accustomed to meet on the Sabbath day to receive such spiritual food as will strengthen them in the principles of the Gospel. Those who walk in the straight and narrow path are called upon to struggle and make sacrifices for the Gospel, thereby showing that they love the truth. It is today as it was in past ages, they who seek to benefit the human family are not understood in their lifetime, but suffer as was indicated by Jesus when He asked the generation which lived when He was on earth, "Which of the Prophets have your fathers not slain?" Thus it will be till there shall come on earth peace and to man good will. Jesus, in His day, said that time had not come. He said He came then not to bring peace but the sword. We see this truth exemplified in the opposition of the world to the light of heaven. The Saints comprehend the words of the Master when He said that it must needs be that offenses come, but woe unto those by whom they come. The reformers in every age were called to meet with opposition, and it was demanded of them that they recant. The sentiments which inspired their hearts when they refused to denounce what they believed to be true were Godlike, and will remain on the principle that the fittest will survive.

God will provide the Saints with the means to stand and witness the fulfillment of his words. In looking over the world's history we find that the benefactors of the world have ever been met by the cry of "Crucify them." People in

this age are not different in their natures from those of one or two thousand years ago, and we can expect to see the angry waves of persecution rage against the work of God until they would seem to engulf it. But God has given an assurance that His work will triumph, the human family be regenerated, and the earth be redeemed from the curse under which it has rested for ages.

When as Saints we reflect on our position, we could not but wonder at the acts of men were it not for the lessons of history. We wonder now that men can be found to oppose that which we know to be the truth from heaven. When we realize how the blessings we enjoy have been brought about, we wonder at the acts of men to antagonize the cause we have espoused. When we consider that the poor of the earth have gathered here, and then we contrast their position now with what it was formerly, and realize that this is but one of the fruits of "Mormonism," we wonder at the course of men in fighting such a good work. When we think of the reclamation of these valleys from the desert, and realize that "Mormonism" opened the way to the accomplishment of this task, we wonder at the antagonism of men. If those who raise their hands against this work could understand the genius which actuates the Saints in these labors and in the building of Temples for the salvation of the souls of men, they would cease their efforts if they were honest. There is no greater or more magnanimous work than that of the Saints to open the prison gates to the multitudes that are dead, as well as to the living. This being the case, we marvel at the onslaughts of those who persecute the Saints, and who would scatter to the four winds the principles that will glorify God and establish Zion.

Let the Israel of today lift up their hands, for the hour of their redemption draweth nigh. The dawn of religious liberty is approaching, and will usher in the glorious day that will never end. Jesus said to his disciples when many turned from him, "Will you too leave me?" and Peter answered, "Whither shall we go?" I ask the Saints, with all the murderings, drivings and persecutions, which you have borne, and with their continuance before your eyes, yet where can you turn to from the Gospel? We can only say as did the disciples to the Lord, "In Thee alone can we trust." We recognize in this organization the Church of Jesus Christ, planted never to be removed from the earth, or to be given to another people. All the Prophets from Adam to John the Revelator, with the revelations in this day, testify to the Saints that this is the work of God, and that it will triumph in the end and bring salvation to all who adhere to it.

When we look at the history of the Saints in this day, we can only find its counterpart in the history of Jesus Christ and those who followed Him. The light which they had rests today upon the Saints.