

the truth, that we may all be saved and exalted in His kingdom, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### ELDER GEORGE TEASDALE.

The Doctrine Preached by the Saints the Same as that which was Taught by Christ.

I am grateful unto God our Eternal Father for the privilege of attending this Conference. I think the Latter-day Saints may congratulate themselves in the testimony that hath been given unto us, that has relieved us from all doubt or anxiety concerning our spiritual welfare today or in the future. The doctrine of the Lord Jesus Christ is different to anything else. To believe on the Lord Jesus Christ is to believe in His doctrine. If we believe in His doctrine, we believe in the ordinances of the house of God. We understand somewhat concerning our relationship to our Father in heaven. He taught His disciples to pray, "Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven." This is the sentiment of the Latter-day Saints—those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, who have accepted the doctrine of Jesus Christ, who worship the living and true God, who have repented of their sins, who have been baptized by immersion, by one having authority, for the remission of their sins, who have been sanctified in the precious blood of Christ, which follows the water, and who have received the witness of the Spirit in the gift of the Holy Ghost that was given unto them by the ordinance of the laying on of hands. The principles that we advocate are the principles advocated by the Lord Jesus Christ in His day; and are the only way to be saved from death, hell and the grave.

We have our missionaries, in large numbers, preaching this everlasting Gospel, who are taking the glad tidings of great joy to the inhabitants of the earth, testifying that God has again spoken from the heavens, that He hath restored to the earth His Church, that He hath living Apostles and Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers, for the work of the

ministry, and for the edifying of the body of Christ. We also testify to the truth of these principles, because in our experience as individuals we know that the signs follow the believer; we know that the path of counsel is the path of safety; for whenever we have followed it we have always been well satisfied. The ways of God are not the ways of man, neither are His thoughts their thoughts; but as the heavens are above the earth, so are His thoughts and His ways above ours. Men for ages have had the Scriptures. They have had the dealings of God with the inhabitants of the earth in the records that we have. But have they been enabled to understand the philosophy of salvation? Have they been enabled to understand why it was necessary that all men must repent, and be baptized (immersed) for the remission of sins? Have they been enabled to understand why it was essential that they should be born of the water and of the spirit, or they could in no wise inherit the kingdom of God? These principles are made plain to us, because the Lord has revealed them. He has restored His new and everlasting covenant. He has restored His holy Gospel. We are His witnesses of this, and we testify that which we do know, and we bear testimony to that which we have seen and that which we have felt.

But the world will not receive our testimony. We take the Bible and show that these principles are in harmony with those taught by the ancient Apostles. It is no new doctrine. It is the old doctrine. It is the straight and narrow path that leads to eternal life. And we are endeavoring to train our children and the people to have faith in God, to trust in the Lord, to honor Him, to reverence His name, to love Him, and to keep His holy commandments. In our Sabbath schools we show the children what has been done by faith. In our exhortations to the people we refer them to what has been accomplished by faith; believing in God, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him, believing in His ordinances, and practicing them, that they may make their calling and election sure. We are striving to do this ourselves, simply

because we want a salvation; we want to be associated with the Church of the firstborn; we want to see the kingdom of God established upon the earth in power, that the kingdom of heaven may come and the will of God be done upon the earth as the angels do the same in the heavens.

I will say to our friends visiting at this Conference, if you have not heard this Gospel before, I want to bear testimony to you that I came out of the world; that I heard this Gospel in the world; that I accepted of its principles, and the promises made to me by those who introduced it to me have been fulfilled. I know that the spirit of prophecy exists. I know that the gift of tongues exists. I know that the power of God is manifested, when faith is exercised, in the laying on of hands unto those who are sick and afflicted, in the anointing with oil and the prayer of faith. I know that the signs follow the believer, as the Lord Jesus Christ promised eighteen hundred years ago. The Lord has again revealed His will. He taught His servant Joseph Smith His doctrine and the necessity of these ordinances of His house, and has taught the necessity of adding works to our faith.

What would be the use of the Scriptures to us if there were no living men having authority to officiate in the ordinances of the house of God. Where there is no authority of the Priesthood there cannot be any ordinances, to be of any effect. You can easily understand that the things of God are not known by the spirit of man, but by the Spirit of God; and when the Lord withdraws His Spirit, and when His authority is taken from the earth, then men of wisdom, so-called, change the ordinances, break the everlasting covenant, and instead of baptizing by immersion, that men may be buried with Christ by baptism, they pour or sprinkle water upon a child's face and call that baptism. Now, if the ordinance of baptism that was given unto us by the Lord Jesus Christ was being buried with Christ in baptism, how would it be possible for us to be justified by having a little water sprinkled in our faces when we were little children and knew nothing about it? So much for

the wisdom of men. No man knoweth the things of God, except by the Spirit of God. When they had living Apostles and Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers, sent of God for the work of the ministry, then the proper ordinance of going down into the water and coming up out of the water was performed.

The Lord has taught us these principles today in the revelations that He has given. He has given us the ordinance of baptism, the ordinance of the laying on of hands; and when we look into the Scriptures we find that it was just the same eighteen hundred years ago. The Scriptures bear testimony, or we can quote from the Scriptures to show the people that it is no new doctrine. We have a living testimony, too, in the which we know that God lives, that Jesus is the Christ, that there is efficacy in His precious blood, and that if we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship with our brethren, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin. We have faith in these principles, and we honor God. We manifest it in our works. We are not teaching false doctrine. We are not deceiving the people. We are teaching them the truth, and we call upon all men everywhere to repent and to come unto God with a broken heart and a contrite spirit, and worship Him in the name of Jesus Christ.

If you are honest in your hearts, and desire to know God, whom to know is eternal life, He will lead you into His fold, as he has done us; He will reveal to you the principles of life and salvation, as He has done to us; He will give you a living testimony, as he has given us. We invite all men to come unto Christ. We prove our doctrine by the Scriptures. We know that these principles are true. We know it in our experience and in our associations; we know it by the signs following the believer, and we are grateful to God our Eternal Father, beyond expression, that we have the privilege of being called by His name, and we love to do His will and honor His ordinances. Every man that has the fellowship of the Spirit of God loves the ways of the Lord. He cannot help it, it is so

glorious. The Gospel has been of great benefit and worth unto me. It redeemed me from the darkness I was in; it redeemed me from priestcraft, from superstition and folly, and has given me the privilege of the glorious light that shines in Zion. But the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not. Why do the people love darkness rather than light? Because their deeds are evil. That is the interpretation that Jesus Christ gave, and I believe it. Why should we not be united in the worship of the living God? Why should we not be laboring for the building up of His kingdom? What is the use of broken cisterns that hold no water? What is the use of trusting in the wisdom of men, or in the arm of flesh? Why not trust in the living and true God? Why not wait upon Him, and place our faith in Him? Why not dedicate ourselves unto His kindly care and protection? I know that He lives. I know that He hears and answers prayer. I know that He blesses the administrations of His servants. How do I know it? Why, in my experience. There is scarcely a day passes but we have some witness concerning the mercy of God and His goodness. I have never been enabled to express my gratitude to my Father in heaven, and I have always been willing to preach this Gospel, because it has been such a blessing unto me.

I remember during the time I was on a mission I published two tracts—"The Glad Tidings of Great Joy" and "The Restoration of the Everlasting Gospel." What did I do it for? Because this Gospel has been such a benefit and blessing to me that I wanted to do all that I could to tell my brethren and sisters of the world everywhere concerning it. We are the friends of mankind. We have shown it by taking our lives in our hands over and over again to teach them the truth. We plead with them to be reconciled with God, and to embrace these glorious principles. I was trained in the scriptures. The people say that we do not believe in the Bible. If that be the case there are no people on the earth that do believe in the Bible. We do believe in it, and we believe in the doctrines of Christ. It was a simple tract that

came into my hand—The Only Way to be Saved, by Apostle Lorenzo Snow—and then afterwards the Voice of Warning, that caused me to reflect and brought me to associate with this people and to wait upon the Lord. It aroused the spirit of faith in me.

Now, my beloved brethren and sisters, let me say unto you, as the Apostle said of old, have faith in God; for without faith it is impossible to please Him. This is what the Lord requires of us. He will be enquired after. As far as salvation is concerned, it is between the individual and God, between the child and the Father. He is our Father in heaven. We entreat you to put yourselves in harmony with Him; humble yourselves before Him and cry unto Him as a repentant sinner, and ask Him for light and truth. He will not deceive you, and truth. He will give it you. He will not deceive you, but guide you in the strait and narrow path which leads to everlasting life.

I bear my testimony concerning the Presidency and the Apostles, with whom I have been associated for some time. I know that they are men of God. I know that they labor for the establishment of the righteousness of God upon the earth. I know that they are men called of God. I have had their hands on my head, and they have predicted concerning me, when I have been sent on missions, and I know that they had the spirit of prophecy, because those predictions were fulfilled. Then in my associations with them in the work of the Lord. I know that they are men of God; and I know that the Latter-day Saints who are living their religion are the happiest people on the face of the earth, and the Lord blesses them and gives unto them the righteous desires of their hearts. I am grateful unto God for this privilege that I have of bearing my testimony this morning in this Conference, and I pray that we may be kind to each other, that we may love God and keep His commandments, that when we shall have finished our probation upon the earth, we may enter into His glorious rest, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choir sang the anthem:

Lift up your heads, O ye gates.

Benediction by Patriarch John Smith