

because it benefited him as well as other people. He said that when he was coming down to conference he met at the depot a brother to whom he owed five dollars for making some shoes for his children. He gave this brother the five dollars, and he turned around and handed the money to another brother whom he owed, and he handed it to another, and he handed it to another, and the fourth brother came up and handed it back to Brother Farrell, saying "I owe you six dollars, here is five of it," and Brother Farrell put the money back into his pocket. That money paid five hundred per cent in debt there in just about the same length of time that it takes me to tell the story. But if the Bishop had bought the imported goods it would not have paid the five hundred per cent, because it would have gone out of the country. I went to a negro minstrel show once, and there were about ten or fifteen on the stage. One of them rushed in with his hat off and said, "which of these here niggers am lost two dollars?" holding up a two dollar bill. There hadn't any of them lost two dollars. "Well," he said, "if none of you have lost it, I found these two dollars right by the door here and it is my money." They said all right, and he put it in his pocket. No sooner had he got it in his pocket than up jumped a nigger and said: "Look here, George Washington Jones, you owe me two dollars; pay your honest debts!" He handed the two dollars to him. Another nigger jumps up and says: "Look here, Julius Cæsar Brown, you owe me two dollars; pay your debt." He got it, and in this way it went clear round. When the last man got it, up jumps George Washington Jones, and says: "Here, give me back the two dollars; you owes me two dollars." No sooner had he got it in his pocket than a fellow rushes in and said "which of you niggers has found two dollars?" George Washington Jones took it out of his pocket and said: "Here, take your money and go home; we've all paid our debts."

I desire that the Latter-day Saints should all pay their debts. One reason why I desire this is, I am in debt myself and I want to pay my debts. I want to live to see the day when I shall owe no man anything. I want the Lat-

ter-day Saints to not only pray for me but to keep a little more money in the country so that I will stand a better chance to get some of it. If they will keep the commandments of God and do less praying, I will be obliged to them. I believe in the saying of the Savior:

"He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me! and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."

If we keep the commandments of God He will love us, and the Savior will manifest Himself unto us. If we fail to keep the commandments of God, there is no promise made to us. The Savior said: "Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." It is the keeping of the commandments of God that causes men to grow and to become strong and powerful in the Church and kingdom of God. God bless you all. Amen.

Sister Judith Anderson sang, "Flee as a Bird to Yon Mountain."

ELDER GEORGE TEASDALE.

A fundamental principal of the Gospel—The "great and marvelous work"—How to receive a testimony—Union among the Twelve—The Law of Tithing.

I am exceedingly thankful for the privilege of attending this conference, and I think we can congratulate each other for the great privilege that is vouchsafed unto us in the redemption that has been made for us by our Redeemer. Jesus Christ said, "No man cometh unto me, except the Father draw him." The fundamental principle of the doctrine of Christ was that those who would do the will of the Father should know of the doctrine. Apostle James said: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." We have tested these principles and I think we are highly favored in having the privilege of living upon the earth in the dispensation of the fulness of times, when the Gospel is restored. I have proved in my experience that if we will ask, the Father will answer. Before the Church was established upon the earth,

when it was known that there was a Seer in the land, men went to the Prophet Joseph and asked him what the Lord desired concerning them, and it was told them that a great and a marvelous work was about to come forth, and that all who desired to take part in this work had the opportunity. The promise was given that if we would ask we should receive; if we would knock, it should be opened unto us; if we sought, we should find. At that time there was but one man upon the earth who knew that God lived, and the revelations that came unto him were very simple, easy to be understood. The Lord told those who desired to know His mind and will concerning them that it would be impossible for anybody to be engaged in this marvelous work save he was full of love and had faith, hope and charity, "being temperate in all things whatsoever shall be intrusted to his care." When the Priesthood was restored to the earth, those upon whom it was conferred were instructed not to exercise unrighteous dominion, but, with all long-suffering, patience, and love unfeigned, preach the restored Gospel, entreat and warn the people.

The Gospel came to me in a very simple manner through a small tract—"The Only Way to be Saved." That, with the "Voice of Warning," gave me the first intelligence I had concerning this marvelous work. By the grace of God He led me into His Church, and gave me a testimony concerning this work. In my experience from that day to the present I have been enabled, in common with those who have taken the Lord at His word and have sought and found, to know that the work which we are engaged in is of God and that we are living in the dispensation of the fulness of times, and that this is the "marvelous work and a wonder" predicted by the Prophet Isaiah. In the 29th chapter of Isaiah we read:

"Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their hearts far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:

"Therefore, behold, I will proceed to

do a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder; for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid."

It had a very small beginning. Two men—Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery—were ordained to the Aaronic Priesthood by John the Baptist. They were ordained to the Apostleship by Peter, James and John. From that very small beginning, look at the wonderful work that our Father has done! This vast body of people here, in solemn assembly, members of the Church of Jesus Christ, is evidence of what the Lord has done. The Latter-day Saints have come from all parts of the earth, in fulfillment of the prediction that the Lord would gather His elect from the north, and from the south, from the east, and from the west, and deliver them from the hands of the enemy. What enemy? The prince of darkness. And God has given unto us a living testimony. We are not dependent upon others. We have been taught of God, and He has given us the knowledge that we have concerning Him. For He is a God of revelation, and we know it. He promised that the signs should follow the believer, and they do. We know that it is by the grace of God that we have been put in possession of this knowledge; and in our experience and schooling, referred to by our beloved President in the opening of the Conference, we know that the Lord has sustained and is capable of sustaining us through all the vicissitudes of life and through all the persecution and ridicule we may have to meet. We know that He lives, and that He is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him. I say therefore that we can afford to be charitable. We never would have known what to do if we had not humbled ourselves before the Lord and sought Him for knowledge. We had to be converted to believe that we would receive, if we asked in the proper manner. We were told to ask the living and true God, in the name of Jesus Christ, with humility in our hearts, and we would be answered. I know that that is true, for I asked and received. I know that the Church of

Christ is a church of revelation, and that the spirit of prophecy is in the Church. Brethren are set apart to go upon missions and prophecies are made concerning them and their missions, and when they return they invariably tell us that every word predicted was literally fulfilled. Who inspired those blessings? Our Father in heaven, by the power of His Spirit, for He is doing His own work. Man is a manifest failure without the Spirit of God. Take Paul for example, the great Apostle to the Gentiles. Under the dominion of the Prince of Darkness he was a rabid persecutor of the Saints. But when he was under the influence of the Prince of Peace, Light and Truth, he was a very different man. While operating by his own wisdom, he was striving to bring men and women into trouble because they dared to worship the living and true God and testify of a risen Redeemer; but when he was under the influence of the Spirit of God, he was more valiant for the truth. Those who are opposed to us and misrepresent us, what influence are they under? What good does it do them? They waste a great deal of time and talent in vilifying the people of God and trying to make them a "stink in the nostrils" of all people. Do we vilify those who do not believe as we do? No, we have charity concerning them. We lay before them the principles of the everlasting Gospel and plead with them to take advantage of it. We are the friends of the people, and we have traveled a great deal in their behalf. We are minute men. We go where we are sent. We are subject to our file leader. We sustain President Lorenzo Snow as Prophet, Seer and Revelator. We know him, having been associated with him for a long time. He presided over the quorum of the Twelve and he was anxious to have us united as one man. He has lived to see that union. He besought the Lord that this might be brought about, and the testimony which he bore yesterday shows that it has been fulfilled. He has only to express himself that he wishes us to do anything, and that is sufficient, because we love our Father in heaven, and we are devoted to His work. Seven times I have crossed the Atlantic. I never went except

when I was sent. I never ask any questions, only that I may be where the Lord wants me to be. For I am so thankful to Him for the glorious redemption He has wrought out for me, and I appreciate so much the knowledge that He has given unto me. To my mind He is the first consideration. I reverence my glorious Creator, and I worship Him in the name of Jesus Christ, as he hath appointed.

I have a living testimony concerning this work and I persuade men to be reconciled to God, obey the Gospel, be kind to themselves, and make the record of a well-spent life. I show them the advantages that we have in being honored to assist in this marvelous work and a wonder. Who built the Temples in St. George, Manti, Salt Lake and Logan? Look at our meeting houses; look at our magnificent homes, Who has brought this to pass? Our Father in His glorious providences. If we cannot see and understand this, it is time that we had our eyes opened. He does not ask anything of us but what is consistent. I want to bear my testimony with regard to the law of tithing. I know that it is a correct principle. The Lord has done to me what He has said: "Prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open to you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." In my experience I am a living witness that that is true. If any of us do not have this knowledge, it surely is a disgrace to us, because it has been decreed in the heavens from the beginning that whoso would do the will of the Father should know of the doctrine, and that redeems us from doubt, ignorance and from death.

I rejoice exceedingly in these principles. I love my brethren. I love my President, and whenever he utters anything that he wishes me to do, by the grace of God, I hope to be able to do it. The only way that the Kingdom of God will ever be established upon the earth is by giving our hearts to God and by saying, "Father, thy will, not mine, be done." If we will listen to Him, keep His commandments, and walk humbly and faithfully before Him, He

will lead us back into His presence in His glorious kingdom, through Jesus Christ, Amen.

ELDER JOHN HENRY SMITH.

Extensive ground covered by administration of the Elders—A great field yet to be reached—The Lord will break down the barriers—Earnest and devoted labor necessary—Immediate responsibilities of the Saints.

At the introduction of this work, the Lord laid it upon the Latter-day Saints that they were to go into all the world and preach the Gospel unto every creature. They that received it were to be blessed, and they that rejected it were to be condemned; and upon those who did reject it His judgments were to be poured out in His own time and in His own way. When we think of the small start that was made, it is wonderful the extent that has been covered in the ministrations of the Elders from that time to the present. We find represented in this congregation people of many nationalities, and in this conference are men who are defenders of the faith and expounders of the principles of the Gospel from Mexico and Canada, and from the various mission fields upon the American continent, where they have been laboring to disseminate the principles of the Gospel. They are here to represent bodies of people who have received the Gospel. The growth of the work truly is a marvel to all who will stop and think of it. Nevertheless, only a limited portion of that work has been accomplished as yet. There are many countries in the world untouched, because it has been impossible for us to make our way in them. The character of the governments that exist, the extreme prejudice that abounds in the hearts of people of various countries through their lack of information, has led to their rejecting the Gospel in one sense, and has prevented extending the truths thereof as our Father designs they shall be extended among the children of men. As fast as openings can be made looking to the extension of free thought and free action, the Elders are carrying the olive branch of peace, backed by the word of the Lord, and fulfilling the obligation resting upon them. Wherever the effort has been made to introduce this Gospel and the spirit of intolerance has manifested it-

self to a degree that has prevented the accomplishment of that work, our Father in heaven will, in His own time, have a controversy with those nations and people who so determine to hedge up the advance of the work which He is seeking to establish. Their rejection of it forebodes to them trouble of a serious kind. It may be necessary that upheavals shall occur and changes be wrought that may cause bloodshed and confusion. The doors must be opened. It is the decree of Providence that such shall be the case. His children cannot be judged by his word until a knowledge of it has been sounded in their ears, at least to some extent. And if governmental matters are such that free speech is prohibited, and if words of peace fail to accomplish a change in these conditions, I am one of those who believe that in the providences of God, those governments will be scourged and humiliated in some form or another that shall lead to the opening of the doors whereby this Gospel may be sounded in the ears of the people of those nations.

We have accomplished but a limited part of the great work that has been assigned unto us. It is true, some of the more liberal governments of the world have treated us with reasonable kindness and have guarded our rights as well as could be expected, considering the prejudices that exist in the minds of people against the introduction of any new idea, whether in manufacture, in invention, in government or in religion. Especially are men slow to receive religious views that may come in contact with their inborn prejudices. But the work of Almighty God delivered to the Latter-day Saints in this the dispensation of the fulness of times, has a destiny, the highest that could be imagined, so far as its extension and growth are concerned. There is no reason for us to doubt the fulfillment of the Almighty's purpose in regard to this, when we remember what has been accomplished. But a few brief years ago, in a village to the eastward of us, a few persons made a covenant with Almighty God that they would obey His will and meet the requirements of His Gospel. They plighted their faith in the waters of baptism, that His stand-