

right until our hair is gray. Brethren, let us be tolerant; let us be kind and considerate. It is the proper thing to despise sin and wickedness; but I think it is wrong to despise the man that has a weakness, and make him feel that he is good for nothing, and that there is not much chance for him. I think I can safely say to you Latter-day Saints: You will all be saved, every one of you; the only difference will be this, some will be saved sooner than others. Every man that has transgressed and done wrong must pay the penalty of his transgression, for salvation costs something, and you have to pay the price or you don't get it.

While I was in Venice, California, or Ocean Park, I saw three great battle-ships, the Wisconsin, the Tennessee and the California. I had the privilege of going on board the Tennessee. They left Venice on Friday morning at ten o'clock, and I saw those beautiful war vessels leave the harbor. I had not been on the pier long when I noticed a young man, called a jackie, one of the boys of the Tennessee. He was looking longingly over the ocean at those retreating ships. I asked him why he was not with the ships, and he said: "I was fifteen minutes late." I asked him: "What will they do with you? What are you going to do? Why don't you take the railroad and run up to a station where they will stop, and get on your war vessel?" He said: "O, it don't make any difference, I will go down to San Pedro and get on the Dakota, and they will place me in chains and feed me on bread and water; but" said he, "I had a mighty good time." He had had a good time at Los Angeles, but he was fifteen minutes late, and accord-

ing to his story he was to be disciplined, and he was to eat bread and water, and be placed in chains. I asked him what he did it for, and he said: "Well now, look here Mister, I did it and it is done, and I am trying to get a little sunshine out of this thing." That was a knock-down argument and I never said another word. If he could get any sunshine out of it I was willing for the poor fellow to have it.

Now, brethren, let us be kind and considerate for each other.

The Lord bless you. Amen.

Elders John W. Summerhays and Noel S. Pratt sang, as a duet, the hymn beginning:

The morning breaks, the shadows flee;  
Lo! Zion's standard is unfurled.  
The dawning of a brighter day  
Majestic rises on the world.

#### ELDER JOSEPH W. M'MURRIN.

My brethren and sisters, I feel to thank the Lord, with all my soul, that my father and mother heard the glad sound of the everlasting Gospel, many years ago in a far off land, that their souls were pricked by the power of God, and that they were made to understand the truth of the message which was communicated to them by a humble missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I say, I thank God that they heard that message, that they yielded obedience to the truth, and that they gathered with the people of the Lord to these mountain valleys. I feel very grateful to them for my birth in the midst of the people of the Lord. I honor their memory this day for the example they set before me and for their

anxiety concerning my life, that I might have faith in the message that brought them from the land of their nativity.

My soul has been filled with gratitude as I have listened to the testimonies of the servants of the Lord concerning this work—its greatness, its breadth, its strength and beauty, and the evidences that abound of the power of God that is in it.

I have wondered, my brethren and sisters, if we appreciate the blessings that have come to each of us, as individuals, as a result of hearing the sound of this Gospel; and if we comprehend what "Mormonism" stands for. We oftentimes hear remarks made regarding what men and women have done for "Mormonism," and yet I suppose it is true that "Mormonism" has done more for every soul, who has been convinced of its truth, than it is possible for any man to do for it. As we have heard during the meetings of this Conference, "Mormonism" is the power of God unto salvation; it embraces the truths of the Gospel of the Redeemer of men, revealed anew.

I have been impressed with the fact that men from various nations have occupied this pulpit, bearing testimony to the truth of this work, and I do not suppose that we have discovered one particle of difference in the spirit that has actuated those who have spoken. They may have seen the light of day, in mortality, in Scandinavia, or in England, or in these United States of America, but "Mormonism," by the wonderful power that is in it, has brought to each one the very same spirit, and they have testified of the truth of this work by the same power and under the same inspiration. As I

have looked over the immense gatherings of this Conference, I have been reminded of the fact, as we oftentimes hear it expressed in one of the anthems, that God has gathered His flock from afar, from the nations of men throughout the earth.

There has been ringing in my ears a passage of scripture, wherein we are told that our Father in Heaven has decreed that He would gather His servants and His handmaidens—one of a city, two of a family, and bring them to Zion. He declared that He would give them pastors after His own heart who should feed them with knowledge and with understanding; and I suppose the same feeling has been in your bosoms as in mine, that God has accomplished and performed the thing which He promised by the mouths of His ancient prophets. We are not being fed with husks, but we are being fed with the kernel of the Gospel; and we have come to feel, in the testimonies of these men who stand as presiding authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, that they have in very deed the word of life to give to the people. Are we prepared to receive it? Are we acquainted with the inspiration of the Spirit of the Lord? Do we recognize the voice of the Good Shepherd? Do we know, by the Spirit that is in us, that we have been taught as the Lord would have us taught, and not according to the wisdom of men alone? I believe in the doctrine, taught of the Father in one of the revelations, where He directed His servants in the preaching of the Gospel, that they should speak as they were moved upon by the power of the Holy Spirit. He promised that whatsoever they spoke when they were moved by that Holy Spirit, should be the word

of the Lord, the power of the Lord, and the very doctrines of the Gospel unto salvation. If we have recognized that Spirit in the words that have been spoken and in the testimonies that have been delivered, we will not go away from this conference questioning the counsels that have been given unto us; but we will go away impressed with the feeling that with the help of our Father in Heaven, we will endeavor to put into practice the counsels that have been imparted. We should feel that, so far as in us lies, we will give to this work and to our God the best that there is in us. God requires it of us. This great work, that has been spoken of so eloquently, demands of every man, who has put his hand to the plow, that he shall work with a will, that he shall stand solidly for this work, and that it shall be known of all men just where he stands and what can be expected of him.

I believe in this work. I know it is the power of God. It has filled my soul with peace and joy and happiness. It has filled me with hope, as it has filled you with hope, and I testify with my brethren concerning its truth, concerning its power, concerning the salvation that is in it; and I ask men everywhere to give attention to these glorious truths, for they have been revealed by our Father for the blessing of the human race.

God bless you, my brethren and sisters, and God help us to be true to this work, true to the covenants we have made, true to our brethren, I pray, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRESIDENT SMITH.

We wish now to present before the Conference the report of the

Auditing Committee, as we think this report will contain information that you will be pleased to receive. I will call upon Heber J. Grant to read it, as his voice is clear and can be heard in this building. (Report read.)

Elder Heber J. Grant read the annual report of the Auditing Committee of the Church, as follows:

"We, the undersigned, members of the Church auditing committee, beg leave to report as follows:

"We have carefully audited the financial reports of the Trustee-in-Trust, Presiding Bishop, the latter comprehending the Presiding Bishop's Office, 56 stakes of Zion and 21 missions in the world; also the Deseret News and the L. D. S. hospital for the year 1907. The said reports we found to be very full and complete in every essential, showing care and accuracy in the work done, and we were highly gratified with the systematic, thorough and businesslike manner in which the accounts of the Church were kept.

"In view of the financial stringency and depression of business interests last fall, almost resulting in a panic, we are happy to report that there is a substantial increase in the total amount of tithing paid for the year 1907 over and above that paid for 1906. The Latter-day Saints are to be commended for their faithfulness in the observance of the law of the Lord.

"In our examination of the report we noted with pleasure the fact that generous aid was extended by the Trustee-in-Trust to the worthy poor, Church schools, stake and ward meetinghouses, mission maintenance, Latter-day Saints' hospital maintenance and improvements, and