

He have revealed it? It is an absurdity to say that God has revealed Himself even in part, and then declare that He is utterly incomprehensible. It is charging Him with folly and a waste of time.

As for God being a spirit, we do believe that—as President Smith forcibly reminded us on a former occasion. God is a spirit, and man is a spirit; but man has a body, and so has God. Man is the child of God, fashioned in His image and endowed with divine attributes. Men and women are the sons and daughters of heavenly Parents, who said in the beginning, "Let us make man in our own image—male and female." That is not incomprehensible, and the Lord never intended it to be; but man has tried to make it so. We believe also in the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost is a personage of spirit, the third member of the Godhead; and there is a spirit or influence that proceeds from the divine presence and pervades the immensity of space. But that is not our Father in heaven, that is not our Savior, not the Father and the Son with whom Joseph Smith conversed and from whom he received instructions. God revealed Himself to the Prophet in the visions of heaven by the power of His Spirit, and Joseph saw Him, not with the natural eye—for no man, with the natural eye, hath seen God at any time—but with his spiritual vision, reinforced by the power of God's Spirit, without which no man can see or comprehend Him.

We are dependent upon the Lord for this testimony, and I feel the need of it every day, every hour—the need of guidance by that Spirit which manifests the things of God, which brings things past to remem-

brance, shows things to come, explains the otherwise mysterious present, and puts within the hand of man the key to celestial glory, the power to lay hold upon eternal life, God's greatest gift. Amen.

PREST. CHARLES W. PENROSE.

Benefit to Sundays Schools of the presence of the Priesthood—Excessive number of meetings—Priesthood classes may be held at such times as most convenient—No need to have organizations outside of the Church—All our energies needed within the Church of Christ.

Before we adjourn for the afternoon session, I have a very few words to say to our brethren, the presidents of stakes, the bishops and their counselors, and the brethren acting in the priesthood, particularly, and the subject will to some extent bear upon the whole congregation.

I made a few remarks at the close of the splendid session of the Sunday School conference last evening in regard to the labors of the priesthood in the Sunday Schools. We used to have, generally, in the different wards of the stakes of Zion, priesthood meetings on Monday evenings. In many of the wards that has been changed, to holding priesthood classes on Sunday mornings, and I learn that in consequence of that in some places, the Sunday Schools are denuded, so to speak, of the influence and power and authority and presence of men holding the priesthood, men of experience. We have so many meetings to attend, particularly on Sunday, that instead of being a day of rest it becomes to some a day of toil.

Now, it is not obligatory upon all

the wards and stakes of Zion to make this change. If they find it better to have the priesthood meetings held on Monday evenings they are at liberty so to do, so far as the Presidency of the Church are concerned. What we want is to have the greatest good come to the greatest number; and it is advisable that, so far as possible, the men who hold the Holy Priesthood, particularly men in authority, will by their presence and their influence and their teachings, aid in the glorious work of teaching our young people—children and the teachers of the children, the things of God. So, it is advisable as far as possible, to have the brethren of the priesthood, if they hold their meeting on Sunday morning as classes in the priesthood, to remain and attend the Sunday Schools. But if they can't do both, they can make their arrangements, if they so desire, to have their priesthood meetings as before on Monday evenings. This is not obligatory upon all the brethren because of the change that has taken place in some of the wards. In some wards it works well; in others it does not work so well. Do that which is best, brethren, and all will be right.

Now, in regard to having so many meetings, we are told by a great number of our brethren that about every night in the week they have some duty to perform, either as teachers or attending priesthood meetings or class meetings or some other meetings connected with the wards of the Church in which they reside. I would say then if that is the case, confine your time and your talents and your labor and work to the institutions of the Church. There is no need to go outside into other organizations established for other than Church purposes. The

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints contains within its organization all that is needed for the labors of our brethren in the priesthood, and for our sisters in their auxiliary societies, for the benefit of the Saints, for their uplifting, for their enlightenment, for their progress, for the consolidation of their energies in any direction. So, brethren, the advice of the Presidency is to you, do not be entangled with orders, or societies, or outside and extra organizations that are being attempted or set up, but bring your energies together inside the Church, its quorums, its organizations of every kind, and you will have plenty to do. May God bless you and help you to do it. Amen.

The congregation sang the hymn:

We thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet
To guide us in these latter days;
We thank Thee for sending the gospel
To lighten our minds with its rays.

Benediction was pronounced by
Elder Rey L. Pratt.

Conference adjourned unto 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference was resumed at 2 p. m., President Joseph F. Smith presiding.

The congregation sang the hymn:

How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the
Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word!
What more can He say than to you He
hath said,
You who unto Jesus for refuge have
fled?

The invocation was offered by
Elder William H. Smart.