

heavenly Father. The biggest task I have on earth is to live in a manner that is satisfactory to me, and if I can do that, I know that I can satisfy my brethren and my sisters.

As Brother Kimball says, I am a member of the Liberty stake High Council. In that way I am endeavoring to do my duty. I believe it is incumbent upon all of us when we are asked to do a thing to do it to the best of our ability, whatever that task may be. A great many of us say that it is a *task*; possibly we should say, like Brother Robinson, that it is not only a task but a *privilege* to work in the Church in every way in which we are called. In doing that we get more out of it than any one else. We are the persons benefited, and receive added testimony to what we already have; as I know whenever I am called upon to do a duty and do it to the best of my ability, I am benefited; the Lord makes known to me his approval, if I have done it in a way that is acceptable to him. And I bear you my testimony, my brethren and sisters, that if we will perform our duties as members of this Church day by day, as the leaders of this Church expect us to do, living in a manner that those with whom we associate may say to one another, he is endeavoring to live his religion; he is endeavoring to be an honest, virtuous, truthful man; that we will get joy and satisfaction out of our labor. I pray my heavenly Father that he will bless me, that I may be able to live in that way and manner; and that he will bless you, and that each and every one of us may obtain a testimony of our Savior; that we may have that testimony burning in our hearts; that we may be Latter-day Saints wherever we go, upholding and sustaining those who are called to preside over us and endeavoring to do, to the best of our ability, what the Lord would have us do. May this be our lot, I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER J. GOLDEN KIMBALL

Of the First Council of Seventy

It may be considered unfortunate that some of our brethren who were appointed by President Grant failed to learn of their appointment and have not put in an appearance. Only three of us, as we are informed, have arrived—President Robinson, President Murdock, and myself. We appreciate the fact that we hold the Melchizedek Priesthood, and believe that whenever we are appointed by those having authority, we are fully qualified to perform every duty and responsibility to which we have been appointed. I have had some experience, along with my brethren in the Church, and while I may not have accomplished everything that I was appointed to do to the very best advantage, I desire to say to you that I have never been appointed to do a single thing in this Church but that, when I got the spirit of my appointment, I was qualified and fitted to assume that responsibility.

When I was an elder in the missionary field and was sent out in the woods—for that is about where we went in the years 1883-4; we

did not go in cities, they were not a safe place to go; we went to the woods, among the poor people, and preached the gospel, and we were sent forth without purse and without scrip—all it cost me to fill a mission was to get to my field of labor. I paid for that myself, and it was up to me to get back home as best I could. That is about all the money I had, with enough to buy a few clothes, and I remember they were rather poor. At one time I was up in the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia, in the winter, with a straw hat and a duster on. It was not very suitable; it was not very warm. We could not wear overcoats; could not carry them in that country. All we carried was an umbrella. We never were at a loss to know what to do, my companion and I, when we had the spirit of our calling. We heard that voice—not very often, not as often as we should have done, but we heard it—behind us saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right and when ye turn to the left." I stand before you as a witness for God that he never forsook us. I walked—and I am a very poor walker; I am not built for it—hundreds and hundreds of miles, and I never lay outdoors but twice, though I want to confess to you I hustled. There is nothing I dreaded worse than lying outside on the ground. I prayed, and my companion prayed, and then we got up and moved on. I guess we would have starved to death if we had kept praying and had not hustled; the Lord doesn't help people who do not hustle and move, after they pray, and do their duty.

Brethren, I want to read to you. I do not read very often except to myself. When I find a good idea—which is not very often, for very few of us do—I write it down. When you get an idea, write it down. That is what the Prophet Joseph tried to teach this people. When the Lord gives you a sudden idea, write it down, and then watch it; and if it comes from God, through his Spirit, it is inspiration; and when it comes true, that is revelation. Try to remember that. I am not going to read anything to you that has come to me, but I am going to read to you something that I have tried to make work—though I am not making very great progress. I have written it down partly because I have a poor memory, like my father. The Prophet Joseph Smith told father, when he tried to teach him grammar, "Heber, if you don't repeat that, I'll whip you." Father said, "Well, brother Joseph, you will have to whip me; I can't repeat it." Joseph said, "I would just as leave whip a child as you." The quotations I am about to read are such that I might repeat them a million times, or a multimillion times and never live up to them, and I am afraid some of us Latter-day Saints read a good deal, but do not think and put it into our every day life:

"He that seeketh the Lord early shall find him, and shall not be forsaken."

No wonder we are trying to teach our children. Some of us did not seek the Lord until we became old. It is a mighty good thing to begin early.

"The Lord is my shephcrd." Do you believe that? "The Lord

is my shepherd; I shall not want." Then why worry your head off for fear you will go to the poor house? But that is where some of you will go if you don't wake up. Because the Lord "tempers the wind to the shorn lamb." Haven't I just testified of that? In all my wanderings in the south, God led me to the doors of the honest in heart, and they fed me and gave me a place to lay my head. And that is what I am telling our elders, these young boys going on missions. I am trying, when I set them apart, to impress them that the Lord is their shepherd and they shall not want. One good mother stated that her son wrote her and said, "I have only \$3, and if you do not send me some money I will be licking the paste off the signboards." And the mother came to me somewhat disturbed and said: "Brother Kimball, what shall I do?" I said, "Let him lick paste for a while; he will find the Lord, but he never will with his pocket full of money." I have repeatedly told the "Mormon" elders that they never found God yet with their pockets full of money. I do not say that you do not have to have the money, but you do not worry much when you know where you are going to sleep and where you are going to eat. I know mighty well that I would not worry the Lord if I had a \$5 dollar bill in my pocket; I would go and get something to eat and have the agony over. I do not think the Lord respects a "Mormon" elder who will howl and whine around where he has money in his pocket and is hungry. If he does, he ought to starve; that is my doctrine.

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden." God knows that we have thousands in this Church who have labored and are weary. And there are thousands of people in this Church, mothers and old men, the best people God ever created, who never had a banquet or a chicken dinner in their lives unless they cooked it themselves. No wonder they get weary—they are made to feel they are no longer wanted. "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." And that is the only place you can get real rest.

"Cast your care upon him, for he careth for you." Can you believe that? That is what I am trying to believe—but I want to tell you I am having a hard time to believe what I read, and put it into practice. As I tell our missionaries, do not let doubt and fear creep into your hearts, for God never planted in one of his children a spirit of fear; it does not come from God; for when you have faith in God, you have no fear, you have no doubt; you *know*. But you will have trials and be tested; "you will eat the bread of adversity and drink the water of affliction." That is the only thing that will keep you humble. You have to knock some "Mormons" down every little while to keep them in the Church. It is too bad, but we as Latter-day Saints cannot be prospered without some of us getting arrogant and proud and forgetting God.

"I will strengthen thee," (I have quoted that over a thousand times) "yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of righteousness." Do you believe that?

"Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." I have heard hundreds and hundreds of elders say, that applied to the twelve apostles in the days of Jesus Christ and did not apply to a "Mormon" elder, out preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ! Think not of the morrow! I remember a story of two elders wandering in the South without purse or scrip, and they came to a corn crib, and one of the elders said, "We will sleep there tonight," and he called that faith! It was, but it was a poor faith. Those boys wandered around and around and got lost, and traveled in a circle; and when darkness set in there was the corn crib, and the elder said, "There, I told you we would sleep in the corn crib." The Lord fulfilled his word, and it served him right. It is where he expected to sleep. "As your faith is, so shall it be unto you."

"As thy faith is"—I have it here, by the way—"so shall it be unto you."

"I will fear no evil, for thou art with me." "There shall no evil happen to the just." You have read those things a thousand times, and so have I; and then we never think of them. We are a good deal like Coue. Have you ever read Coue's book? When I was sick, I read it from lid to lid, and I went trotting around, saying: "Every day, in every way, I am getting better and better." Every morning when I got up I was worse and worse. What good did it do me? I did not believe it. But thousands of people, according to the story, have gotten over physical ailments—they call it mental—by repeating, "Every day and in every way, I am getting better and better." It did not do me a bit of good, because I did not make it work. And they say it only cures mental trouble. My experience is, my brethren and sisters, that a large per cent of our troubles are imaginary and not real. We get an imaginary trouble, and we cling to it like death, and won't let loose. So it is with scripture; of what use is it to continue to repeat these things if you do not believe them?

Here is another. "The God that I worship says unto me, 'I am with you always—'" I can find that in my blessing given to me by Elder Moses Thatcher. "Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you."

The Prophet Joseph Smith, when but a boy, read this: "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering." Surely God reads our hearts; you cannot deceive God. You can deceive a bishop, sometimes, not all the time; you can deceive a president of a stake, not all the time; you may deceive the apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ, not all the time; but you cannot deceive God any of the time. And don't ever try it. His ways are not as man's ways; he is greater than sects or creeds or isms or fancies or the notions and caprices of men.

Brethren and sisters, the time is up. I have only gotten started.

Why don't you read these things and write them down, like our fathers and mothers did of old, and think about them, and make them work? And when you are sick, have faith and be healed. Christ never diagnosed a case in his life; Christ never asked a woman what was the matter; he never asked her what kind of a disease she had. I know as I know I live and breathe, although I may never feel its power, that when sick, authority has been vested in me, as I have seen people healed, not many, it is true, but some were healed as soon as I took my hands off their heads. Yet doctors have said that those diseases were incurable, but they have been healed nevertheless. They tell me that epileptic fits are incurable. I cannot cite you to many cases, but I can point you out a poor widow, who lived in the sagebrush, in Idaho, that came to me after a conference. The bishop of the ward, and I administered to that good old woman, and she never had a fit after. I can cite you to a poor old widow in the north country who had a cancer. She had fasted for three days, and came to the same conference, and something said to her, "That is the man." I do not think I amount to much, but we administered to that poor old widow, and God healed her. I have had splendid success with widows; especially, when they were in poverty! But I have never had any success with rich people. I do not know why. May be it is because they have little faith.

May the Lord bless you, Think of God. How many of us think of God thirty minutes out of twenty-four hours? There is not one out of five hundred that actually thinks of God and his Son Jesus Christ thirty minutes a day. I do; but the first thing I know, my mind wanders off on something else. My brethren and sisters, God bless you and be with us and help this people, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choirs sang the anthem, "O grave, where is thy victory?"

The benediction was pronounced by Elder John W. Walker, of the High Council of the Ensign stake; and the meeting was adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

SECOND OVERFLOW MEETING

A second overflow meeting of the conference was held in the Assembly Hall at 2 o'clock p. m., Sunday, April 4, 1926.

Elder Rulon S. Wells, of the First Council of Seventy, presided.

Singing was furnished by the combined choirs of Murray First ward and Mill Creek ward, of Cottonwood stake; W. F. Robinson, director; Frank W. Asper at the organ.

The combined choirs sang "Author of faith."

Prayer was offered by Elder William J. Robinson.

The choir sang "Grant us peace, O Lord," Ada McDonald and Manasseh Smith singing the duet parts.