

little garden, but he said to me in all sincerity: "Mr. Tadge, our kind, heavenly Father will let it grow again, I am sure." He added: "You may be surprised at hearing me talk that way, but, Mr. Tadge, I tell you my heart is full, my feelings almost overwhelm me; because, what I have seen and heard, today, convinces me that there is a just God in heaven." So impressive, my brethren and sisters, were the services incident to the unveiling of this memorial tablet.

In conclusion, I wish to bear my testimony that I know positively that the gospel is true; I know positively that the supernatural elements, to which our esteemed President referred in his opening remarks, exist in the Church today. The Lord has been with us, and may he continue to bless us; may we abide in the faith continually by observing his commandments, I ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER LEVI EDGAR YOUNG

Of the First Council of Seventy

I noticed, by an editorial in the paper this morning, that a monument is to be erected in honor of the pioneer mothers of this great country of ours. I was thrilled when I read the account, and happy when I was informed a few weeks ago that the monument designed in sculpture, by a Utah son, Mahonri Young, would possibly be accepted by the judges in the contest. As I see before me a number of pioneer mothers, I wish to say, on this occasion, that I am very grateful to God that the wonderful work of the pioneer mothers, who blazed the trails into the wilds of America, is to be recognized. For, if there ever lived fine womanhood, women who loved God and gave to the work of God all that was best, it was the pioneer mothers of this country and this great state.

Ten years ago, this morning, President Woodrow Wilson, before the Congress of the United States, proclaimed war against Germany, and the United States entered that great contest. You pioneer mothers sent forth your sons and your grandsons. They fought in the war, they fell in battle, but they honored you in maintaining the finer ideals of civilization. The war was ended a few years ago, but there are some things greatly needed by all peoples of the world. The world today needs a higher morality, and to attain such it must recognize the existence of a divine Will and Personality, more than ever before. The idea that good can be disassociated from the idea of God is wrong. The world since the war needs a finer system, not only of religion, but of effort for a larger righteousness. This will be the greatest preventive of war. Nations must have a deeper consciousness of the personal relationship between God and the individual, and a broader philosophy of history which attempts to unfold the divine purpose in the rise and progress of nations. What the world needs, therefore, is character, the kind of character that you pioneer mothers taught your

sons and your daughters; and it is the gospel of Jesus Christ which brings out the idea of a belief in God, a God who is righteous and loving—a person. This must lie at the root of character, and today the Latter-day Saints realize more than ever that it is revelation that gives a new impulse to the spiritual advance of humanity.

My brethren and sisters, life is a spiritual gift and a spiritual opportunity. Salvation means the recovery of life. It was the Apostle Peter who wrote and said: "His divine purpose has granted to us all things that pertain to life and to godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue."

There has been ushered into the world a new force in history, and this was accomplished a hundred years ago by a barefoot boy, a child, who hardly had enough to eat, but who had linked his life with God's. His name was Joseph Smith. He was the "Mormon" prophet, the prophet of this new dispensation, and was born at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It was a new age of the world's history. The government of the United States had been organized. The common man had come into his own. The government under which we live had acclaimed for the first time in all history that man is endowed with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The constitution of the United States had written large: "We, the people"! It was the common man who was speaking, the man upon whose shoulders rested the great work of the new age. So this new prophet came at an opportune time, for a new age had come; a new age for the extending of the message of Christ Jesus our Lord was to be ushered in. To the world this Joseph Smith announced the word of God direct from heaven. The Priesthood of God was restored with all its rights, powers and blessings. The Church of Christ was reestablished and the knowledge of man's divine relationship to God was reaffirmed. The world was given a new faith. Michelet, the French historian, said at the beginning of that century: "If there is anything in the world that is needed, it is a new faith in Christ our Lord." This, the religion of Jesus Christ, asserted with a clearer vision, a deeper knowledge, the kingdom of God and its establishment upon the earth. It teaches the truth of God the Father and the infinite value of the human soul. It restores the higher righteousness and the commandment of love. It summons all men to Christ and says to them: "Rise up and be God's children." All must labor and put their hands, hearts and minds to the work of progress. Eternal progression and the immortality of the soul give us the key to the higher life beyond. So through the work of this prophet a new day has dawned with a new sky over our heads. For in religion as in other things men are not owned any more but are guided. This religion of Christ, our Lord, claims today that men of truth are living more than ever in all history. This man Joseph Smith, therefore, was not a Calvin nor a Luther nor a Zwingli. He was far more than they were; he was a prophet of fire, with a moral intensity, believing and teaching that the Kingdom of Heaven is near at hand. He believed and taught that wrong and injustice,

unrighteousness and sin, could not stand before the oncoming of the kingdom of righteousness. The hearts of men are to be turned to usher in the kingdom and the glory of God. Prophet and seer, he was the great interpreter of the Spirit of Christ to the new thought of the new world. He did not arrive at truth by a logical process. He perceived it. Truth was spiritually discerned. So today, for a nation to enter into this great program of peace that we are dreaming and thinking about, that nation must discern truth and light direct from God.

Christ today is acclaimed anew. There is a superb explanation of mind and thought and peace. Men of God are entering on the scene of action as never before. So lift up your eyes, O people of the world! The supreme drama is enacting. My brethren and sisters, may we go forth from this conference with a greater testimony burning in our hearts; may our love for humanity increase; may our faith in God deepen. Amen.

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

President Charles H. Hart's remarks about the *Catholic Encyclopedia* have brought the following memorandum from Brother Orson F. Whitney:

"President Grant: I wrote the article on 'Mormons' for the new *Catholic Encyclopedia*, by request of President Joseph F. Smith, and at the solicitation of Dean Harris. He signed it, and sent it to New York, where it was changed, things being written into it that the article, as it left my hands, did not contain. The assertion that the Three Witnesses denied their Testimony was one of these interpolations. I protested to the Dean, and he invited me to correct the misstatement, which I did. Whether they published my second article in the *Encyclopedia* (as promised) I know not. (Signed) ORSON F. WHITNEY."

Apparently they did not.

The congregation sang, "Do what is right."

The closing prayer was offered by Elder Joseph E. Cordon.

Conference adjourned until 2 p. m.

CONCLUDING MEETING

The closing meeting of the 97th Annual Conference session was held on Wednesday, April 6, 1927, at 2 o'clock, in the tabernacle, a large congregation being in attendance.

President Heber J. Grant presided, and announced that the congregation would sing the hymn, "Now let us rejoice in the day of salvation."

After singing, prayer was offered by Elder George H. Brimhall.

The congregation sang, "Zion stands with hills surrounded."