

ye shall receive." They were cheerfully driven by men who acknowledged that they were not in the habit of picking up people upon the highway, but it seemed to be different to them on this occasion. The elders have preached the gospel as they traveled, and have received the appreciation of people of distinction who have driven them for hundreds of miles.

We were thrilled by holding the exercises in the Sacred Grove. I look forward to the time when that will be made a Mecca more than it is now. I anticipate that the desire to visit there will increase from year to year and that they will receive spiritual exhilaration, as they contemplate the glories and wonders of the great event that occurred there more than a hundred years ago.

My time has expired. May the Lord bless us, my brethren and sisters, and help us to put into this work all it is entitled to receive, that this glorious message may go forth to all the world, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

William Holdaway sang a sacred baritone solo: "Asleep in the deep."

ELDER LEVI EDGAR YOUNG

*Of the First Council of Seventy and Supervisor of the
Bureau of Information*

My brethren and sisters: The Japanese gentleman present this morning on the stand with us, was Dr. Seiska Tada of the University of Tokio, Japan. He is at the head of all the railways of the government of Japan and this is his first visit to America. Doctor Tada is one of the very many distinguished men who have visited the Temple Block mission this year. There has grown up at this mission a wonderful center for the entertainment of tourists who come to Salt Lake City.

Recently we had a party of German scientists who for three days kept coming to my office to talk on the subject of religion and science. One of these distinguished men was a relative of the great German historian and philosopher, Oswald Spengler, whose book entitled *The Decline of Civilization in the West*, is one of the outstanding works of history. It is considered by some to be the most scholarly work on history written since the days of the French philosophers of the eighteenth century.

We had the pleasure of conducting a party of French actors through the grounds one day this Summer, and when we took them to the stage of the old Salt Lake Theatre and told them the story of the building of the great theatre in the wilderness, they were overcome by its beauty and idealism. We have working at the mission fourteen brethren and sisters who willingly give much of their time in coming to the Bureau of Information to conduct tourists through the grounds and buildings. They are very faithful, and are doing a very important work.

We receive letters from all over the world asking about Utah and

the "Mormons," and while it sometimes requires weeks to answer them, information is sent as requested, and many of our letters have been printed in leading newspapers of the world. It is necessary that we missionaries become careful and comprehensive readers, for the questions asked cover a wide field of knowledge on religion, science, and philosophy.

During the months of June, July, and August we have averaged from eight to ten thousand people a week. The groups are cosmopolitan in nature. One day we had twenty-two states represented, and in another group there were thirteen nationalities represented. It is our object to welcome every tourist who comes here, and to make him feel that we are servants in God's house, and if there is anything we can do for him it is our desire to do it.

During the past year we have had a missionary class consisting of the missionaries of the Temple Block. To give you an idea of the instruction the brethren and sisters receive, I quote to you one of the twenty letters that was placed in their hands to study:

TO THE MISSIONARIES OF THE TEMPLE BLOCK MISSION

Dear Brethren and Sisters: In conversing with a company of tourists on the Temple Block, try to understand the nature of the people with whom you speak. The spirit of crowds is often very much the same, and there are some dominant personalities who will lead the conversation. In conversing on the GOSPEL, remember that you can give your views freely if you will bring your hearers to you. There are always so many vital truths common to all people. Belief in God and the great work of Jesus Christ our Lord will find a happy response on the part of your hearers. If you speak about the beauties of the Holy Bible and the Bible as a work of history and religion, you will win the people to your side, and then is the time to explain something of the GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

Let me give you an example of how I was able to interest a crowd not long ago. We were in a museum, and a woman read the words of Emerson inscribed on the wall: "MAN IS LORD OF HIS OWN ACTIONS." As she went to copy them, she asked how I interpreted their meaning. The crowd was interested, and immediately I had the opportunity of explaining to her the vital principles of the ethics of the "Mormon" people. We have the right to chose between right and wrong, and the choosing of right becomes more powerful on our part, as we discern the spirit of the Gospel of Christ by our lives and our attitude towards the world and humanity. In fact, the thought of Emerson opens up the whole theme of the gospel: Free Agency, Faith in God, the principles of the gospel by which we come to know the life that God would have us live. This was the way I interpreted Emerson's words, and the people listened.

Another little folder we issued is entitled *The Missionary's Responsibility*.

THE MISSIONARY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Any faith that lasts will teach righteousness toward man as a part of duty toward God. It was so in all the past and will be so in all time. Thousands of inscriptions exhumed in these modern times teach us this truth of the past and we have Christ's teachings and those of his followers to guide the present. In this particular mission field on Temple Square, we come in close contact with people from every nation, every creed, every race, every tongue. They come in a peculiar frame of mind—they are curious, open-minded, tolerant and pleasant

and without fear of the petty worries and anxieties of every-day life. They are on a vacation, free and observant; critical and appreciative. For these reasons and many others I believe this mission to be the greatest in the world. When they leave us we want them to have the wish, the desire, the determination to know something of the truth we believe to be the everlasting and true Gospel. We wish to inspire them with our ideals, our faith, concerning what we are and what we know we ought to be. That "Power that makes for righteousness" and "A Power not ourselves" is the basis of every reasonable faith and all durable hope. We wish to impress them with a knowledge of this Power as it has been brought to us and as it has brought our lives to their present stage of righteousness "toward man"; and knowledge of what God is and what he has destined man to be.

We always meet these tourists and talk to them with this one thought in mind: "Therefore all things whatever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets." To live this law means a careful study of *yourself*, as well as a careful study of the attitude, the mind, and the feeling of the traveler, the tourist, the stranger, the brother who comes to you. We meet the learned and the simple alike. The gospel to them all should be intelligible, attractive, and convincing, remembering always that no truth is really important in our lives that cannot be simply stated. St. Paul expressed a fear for the Corinthians that lest, "as the serpent beguiled Eve, their minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." Robert Louis Stevenson said, "My duty to my neighbor is not to make him good but to make him happy if I can." Does not this state Christ's admonition in another form? This is simple and true. How do we like to be treated? Do we wish to express our views? To answer this imagination is absolutely necessary. We must for the time be the "other one." We must develop imagination or we are ignorant and dull.

Loving God, loving one's neighbor as one's self, doing justice is what the Lord requires of us. It comes to us through study, which is work; through prayer, through cultivation of imagination, and sympathy.

We are very anxious that the spirit of reverence be increased in our hearts, for these buildings and grounds so that the tourists may know rather from a spiritual influence than by words, that we have sincere faith in Almighty God. We show the visitors this great Tabernacle and our beautiful Temple. Marvelous buildings, they are. The Latter-day Saints were never so happily inspired as when they erected these buildings. A house of God or Temple such as this is a "part of the great picture book of humanity." As I look over this vast congregation to-day, I am reminded of the words of the priest, Abul-Fazl, which appeared on the portal of his temple in Kashmir:

"Oh God, in every Temple, I see people who see Thee,
And in every language I hear, they praise Thee."

We are often asked what these buildings represent, and the answer naturally brings out the resourcefulness and courage of the founders of the State of Utah. But they signify something vital and far more important than the average man appreciates. I want to say that these buildings express the conception of the all-loving Christ as the Redeemer of fallen humanity. This is the thought that inspired the building of them, and it has vitalized every bit of our creative work and ideals in our history.

I was impressed this morning by what Doctor Tada said to me.

He was to have left the building at 10:30 and when the hour came and I suggested that we go, Elder George Albert Smith was speaking, and Doctor Tada turned and said, "I beg your pardon, but let us wait until the gentleman who is speaking finishes his devotions to his God; then we will go."

The success in preaching the gospel of Christ lies in the method of approach. Impressions are lasting things, and if we can impress the people of the world with the spirit of our lives, it will go much further than words, "For he who walketh in the light has the truth, and the light shineth upon the paths of men." Much has been said at this conference concerning the ills of human society. The social order is in a furor and there are five principal ills afflicting humanity. They are the unprecedented challenge to law and authority; hatred between man and man; the abnormal aversion of work; the excessive thirst for pleasure as the aim of life; and the gross materialism of the day which denies the reality of the spirit in life.

I wish to add a larger element to this statement. Today there is a great misunderstanding as to the meaning of religion. The difficulty with the various Christian sects is that religion does not exist for the saving of the souls but for the preservation and welfare of society. If Christ our Lord taught anything it is the fact that "Pure religion and undefiled is for the saving of the souls of all men." The trend of modern sociology has resulted in a false conception of the word "religion."

There are three distinct things needed in the world today as forces to spiritualize humanity. First, a revival and adherence to the Ten Commandments given to Moses on Mount Sinai; the second is a renewal of faith in God the eternal father, and his son Jesus Christ; and the third a divine knowledge that in this day and age of the world the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has been restored by revelation. The priesthood, sacred in its gift, divine in its influence, and spiritual in its character, has been given to man directly by the power of God. These are the three great truths that must be taught to the human race.

The gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is a champion of the truth concerning the redeeming love of God, "and is the custodian of a particular and exclusive way in which the redeeming power reaches man." To have the right kind of belief in the plan of salvation is indispensable to right relations with God. We believe in the infinite power of the human mind; we hold to the truth that man is divine, and his personal power and individuality live throughout the countless ages of eternity.

I pray that we may grow in knowledge and in faith; and that the divine love of God will lead us to people with his divine message. Amen.