

a morning or a night that I did not bow before my Heavenly Father in that place and thank him for the knowledge I had of him and his great work.

VISIT WITH THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The last time I visited Theodore Roosevelt he was a very, very sick man. It was some time before his death. In our conversation he expressed the opinion that the time was near at hand when he would be taken to the Beyond. He said: "I have tried to live a Christian life, I believe in God, I have tried to wrong no man. I expect to continue my work beyond." He was strong enough to rise from his chair after a two hours' visit, and I had to leave to catch a train from New York to Washington. He arose with a great deal of energy, and putting his arm around me he said: "Reed, there are trying times coming for our country. I expect you to defend the rights of the people and the constitution of the United States as long as you live." I promised him upon that occasion that I would do my best.

PRAYER FOR COUNTRY AND CHURCH

I love my country. I have watched her growth, I have seen her mistakes, as I judge them, but I have absolute confidence that there shall no harm come to our nation as a nation. We will revere the Constitution, live by its principles, even though at times it may seem that we are violating them. God bless America. God bless the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. God bless the Presidency of the Church, and give them the revelations, O Father, of thy mind and will, that they may at all times direct the affairs of this Church in a way that thou wilt approve of all that is done. And, O Father, grant unto thy servants power to defend thy cause here upon this earth in a way that will be convincing unto the honest in heart. May we grow in numbers as thou seest best we should, no faster, no slower, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

ELDER JOHN H. TAYLOR

Of the First Council of the Seventy

May the Lord bless me that I may be helpful to you, my brethren and sisters. The ways of the Lord are those of simplicity. They are effective because of the intelligence, wisdom, and love back of them. It seems to be more difficult to live the simple life and the principles of the Gospel than it is to live a more complex life with a religion that has as a part of its motivation, artificial and ornate things as well as numerous rites and ceremonies. The statement has been made that it is needful for us, in order to hold our people, to introduce, at least in a

small measure, some of these ornate attractions and additional ceremonies.

What we need is real faith. I was encouraged in my faith because of President Grant's attitude regarding the questions which in his youth were unanswerable from an intellectual or scientific standpoint. I am quite certain that today we have other questions which are unanswerable from the viewpoint of science or learning. Our only safety, when it comes to the revealed laws and words of God, is to hold to that type of perfect faith that President Grant had as a young man. If we do not, and if we are not capable of developing that degree of faith, eventually we will lose our faith in the revelations of God. Our schools of education in the Church, our auxiliary associations, and even our meetings, should be so imbued with the spirit of the Gospel and should so interpret the doctrines of the Church, in accord with our standard works, that no student, no parent, none of us, would have cause for any criticism. Those who teach us from the pulpit and in our organizations or our schools should be men and women of whom there is no question as to their faith towards the revealed word of God. Correctness of doctrine and spirituality are our safeguards. They are absolutely necessary if we shall make progress and maintain our faith in the revealed principles of the Gospel.

May we be blessed by the Lord that our faith shall increase; that we will be able to live beautifully the simple things of God, the Eternal Father, so that he will be pleased with us, I humbly pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER GEORGE ALBERT SMITH

Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles

My beloved brethren and sisters, I rejoice with you in the spiritual feast that we have enjoyed during the last three days. Reference has been made to the music furnished by the various organizations. To me it has been inspiring. From each of the speakers we have received suggestions that have been highly beneficial. The teachings of the Master have been so beautifully set forth that a stranger to this Church would certainly be impressed with the fact that we believe in and earnestly advocate the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the only plan for salvation in the celestial kingdom.

BELIEVING THEIR PROFESSIONS

When we realize that those professing Christianity are often arrayed against their fellows selfishly and unkindly I am not surprised that there are many in the world who are unable to accept the various interpretations of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When we see the manner in which many men and women who claim to be Christians are deporting themselves it has a tendency to destroy the faith of those who do not differentiate between the effect of living and just pretending to live the Gospel of our Lord.