

the land. If we serve Him—and here is our glorious opportunity—He will fortify us against all nations, and though the world combine in arms and attempt to invade us, every true American will meet them in battle array and send them back in the confusion of retreat, for when God is with us, who can be against us?

And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave,

if we remember God and seek Him while He may be found. This is my prayer, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

The Choir sang an anthem, "My Redeemer Lives"—B. Cecil Gates. Richard P. Condie, soloist.

PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY

Second Counselor in the First Presidency

You will agree, I am sure, that that is one of the most beautiful musical compositions ever written. The Choir sang it impressively.

ELDER ALMA SONNE

Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles

My brethren and sisters: I am conscious at this moment of a tremendous responsibility. I am full of fear and apprehension, and I confess to you that when the call came to me to serve in a high position in this Church I was full of doubts and misgivings. Yet I pledge to you my best efforts, with the help of God.

RECOLLECTIONS OF PAST TEACHINGS

When President Grant spoke yesterday there came out of my boyhood three stimulating memories. One of these was the visit of President Wilford Woodruff to Logan when I was a boy. I remember his testimony. He spoke of Joseph Smith the Prophet, as one of his associates, and he told us that Joseph Smith was a mighty man, full of faith, full of courage, and full of integrity, but he said when Joseph Smith assumed his responsibility as a leader of the people, he was meek and humble as a child. I shall never forget the fervent testimony of President Woodruff.

The second memory that came to me was President Heber J. Grant's visit to Logan, also when I was a boy. I remember his sermon on temperance and the Word of Wisdom. I shall never forget what he said on that occasion.

The third memory is a recollection of seeing and hearing that venerable, scholarly and cultured leader, President Lorenzo Snow. He spoke of the law of the tithe, and urged the people to honor that great law, and he said if they would do so the Lord would lift them out of their economic distress. There are many people living in the Church who can remember the admonition of this great leader.

QUOTATION FROM "RAYS OF LIVING LIGHT"

Thirty odd years ago I was a missionary over in England. I remember distributing a tract written by President Charles W. Penrose. That tract was called "Rays of Living Light." To me it has always been a masterpiece, for Brother Penrose explained the Gospel magnificently in that little booklet. I have frequently pondered the last paragraph in this Gospel tract, and I am taking the liberty of reading it to you this afternoon, in view of the many things which we have heard concerning the trouble and gloom of these last days.

Said President Penrose:

"This is a day of warning. It will be followed by a time of judgments. The Lord is about to shake terribly the kingdoms of this world. War, pestilence, famine, earthquake, whirlwind, and the devouring fire, with signs in the heavens and on the earth, will immediately precede the great consummation which is close at hand. These are the last days. All that has been foretold by the holy prophets concerning them is about to be literally fulfilled. The everlasting Gospel has been restored to the earth as one of the signs of the latter days. Israel is being gathered. The elect of God are assembling from the four quarters of the earth. The way is opening for the redemption of Judah. Soon all things will be in commotion: men's hearts failing them for fear and looking for the things that are coming on the earth.' The places of refuge appointed are in Zion and in Jerusalem. The Lord, even Jesus the Messiah, will come to His holy Temple. He will be glorified in His Saints, but will 'take vengeance on them that know not God and obey not the Gospel.' He will break in pieces the nations as a potter's vessel. He will sweep the earth as with a besom of destruction. He will establish righteousness upon it and give dominion to His people. 'The meek shall inherit the earth and the wicked be cut off forever.' Therefore, repent and turn unto Him, all ye nations, and obey Him, all ye people, for these words are true and faithful and are given by His Spirit! Salvation has come unto you; reject it not lest ye fall and perish. The time is at hand!"

THE EXAMPLE OF THE PIONEERS

Brethren and sisters, this great Gospel tract has found place in many homes in this nation and in old England. And so I say we are living in the last days, and when these events are transpiring. There is confusion in the world. We are beset with difficulties, and sometimes I think it is well for us to hark back to the days of the pioneers to get our bearings and to learn the principles upon which they succeeded. Those sturdy people who laid the foundation of all we have and are, were men and women of faith. They were obedient to the commandments of the Lord. They knew that freedom is a priceless treasure. How could they fail?

In conclusion, I want to say that freedom in the earth must be safeguarded, and it will be safeguarded, brethren and sisters, because Jesus Christ was the great advocate of equal rights, and His precepts will eventually prevail. I firmly believe that Thomas Jefferson received

his inspiration to write the Declaration of Independence from the Holy Scriptures, and that he was familiar with the life of Jesus Christ as told in the New Testament.

May God bless you. May He bless this Church. May He prosper the cause of truth in all the earth, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

ELDER MARION G. ROMNEY

Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles

My dear brethren and sisters: It is a great relief when one's name is announced. The Prophet Joseph Smith once said that "There is no pain so awful as that of suspense." I quoted that to President Clark once and he answered in substance, "Well, you ought to be pretty well purified by now, then." But if being held in suspense will help to purify a person then I do not object to being so held.

I want to qualify under the teachings of the Apostle John, who—when explaining that when the Lord should appear "we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is"—said, "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure." (1st John 3:2-3)

A TESTIMONY BRINGS RESPONSIBILITY

I am grateful beyond my power to express, for the confidence of the Brethren and the great mercy and blessings of the Lord to me, and I appreciate the opportunity to bear my testimony to you from this stand for I know, with you, that God lives; that Adam fell that man might be; that Jesus Christ was and is the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world; that by suffering in a manner beyond our power to understand, He wrought out the great atonement, thereby paying for the sin of Adam unconditionally and for the sins of all men upon condition of their individual repentance; and that by reason thereof all men shall be resurrected and stand before the judgment bar of God to be judged upon their individual records made during their life upon this earth; that when all the excuses, explanations and protestations are made and brushed aside, the final all-important question for every one of us to measure ourselves against will be, "How nearly did I in the living of my life upon the earth conform to the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ." I know, too, that a righteous judgment will be made, and that if through righteous living we have brought ourselves within reach of the great plan of mercy, then we shall, through the atoning blood of the Savior, be washed clean and received into the mansions of our Father. We all know these things and we each have a testimony of the divinity of the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and a knowledge that through him the Lord restored the Gospel in these last days and again organized His Church upon the earth; that the men who now stand at the head of the Church hold the keys of the holy Priesthood and that they have been chosen by the Lord to lead His people and are sustained and upheld by Him in