

Saturday, October 3

First Day

Now, in this particular emergency which has lessened our group, we are finding that our wives and our daughters are one of our most effective missionary elements. If you can't supply us men, increase our numbers by giving us good women. We will take excellent care of them. We will give them an opportunity that they cannot have otherwise, likely—an experience which will broaden them and strengthen them and help them. Those of them who are unmarried will make better mothers, and those of them who are already mothers will go to the work with an experience that will qualify them for it.

Brethren, it is an important work and we have that responsibility. It is the

charge that has been given to the Twelve in every age when the gospel has been established, and it is our greatest purpose to carry to people who have not learned of the truth a light which will lead them back into the presence of God our Heavenly Father. Will you, then, give us the aid and the support that we need that this work may not falter; that it may not go forth haltingly but that it may go with a tread so firm that nothing can impede its progress and that many people may be garnered into the Church to receive of these wonderful benefits and blessings of which we have heard this evening.

God bless you all I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

### ELDER JOHN H. TAYLOR

#### *Of the First Council of the Seventy*

THE Lord has said, "I have warned you and forewarned you"—He has warned us again today through His servants. Perhaps some of us will continue to say that there is a tomorrow when we will repent and lead a finer life, but we all know that as far as each one of us is concerned the time comes when for us there is no tomorrow. The Lord has also said that today is the time to repent.

You remember that the Lord told His prophet, Noah, that he should go out and warn the people and tell them of the coming destruction. But the people, seemingly because they thought there would always be a tomorrow and because the floods did not come that day or the next day, thought they would never come; therefore, they ridiculed the prophets and went their way. But the floods came and they were destroyed, because they would not listen to the prophets of the Lord.

I remember hearing a story of a man who had just lost his oldest son. The father was not a very religious man. In fact, he had disregarded most of the Lord's commandments. Because of his son's being called to the other side, a good man went into the house to talk with the father and to the family. The son had been unfaithful in every way.

He had been disobedient unto his parents, to his country, to his God. As the good man talked with the father and the family, the father said, "I think that this is a time for prayer." Perhaps we all think that only when the emergency comes to us it is the time to pray. The efficiency of a prayer is dependent on the type of life we have lived and the way we have made progress upon the earth. When the time comes for the summons, to ourselves or to our family, if we have not repented, if we have not done the things that should have been done, the praying comes rather late.

I trust, brethren, that as we continue traveling along the way of life, we will try to do the things that God through His servants wants us to do. The time is short and there is no telling when it might be too late for us to repent and do the things that we ought to do. It is very easy in an emergency, such as we have in war today, to build big buildings and to make steel and to make airplanes and to build hospitals. Perhaps we can do these things in a material way, but we cannot all of a sudden build character, build decent homes, or have a family who have such confidence in us that they will listen to our words and listen to the words of the servants of the Lord.

May we be humble as we live upon the earth. May we repent of our sins. May we take this message seriously as

it comes to us today, and live better and finer than we have ever lived before, I humbly pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

### ELDER SAMUEL O. BENNION

*Of the First Council of the Seventy*

ONE of the most important documents that I have read is the message which was delivered by the First Presidency last spring. Today we have had another equally important message. These brethren are inspired of the Lord. I don't know where we could find such writing outside of Holy Writ itself, and to me it is Holy Writ. We have been called to keep the commandments of God and to walk uprightly before Him. If this great body of Priesthood will yield to the persuasion of these brethren and set the proper example, there will certainly be an influence for good in this great land that never has been felt before, for here is the strength of God, the strength of the Holy Priesthood, vested in this Church.

I often think of the words of the great Solomon who said, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Men who have it in their hearts to keep the commandments of God, will keep them. They will not commit adultery who say and feel that it is a sin akin to murder, a thing the Lord has said we shall not do. Such men will not steal, they will not lie, they will not bear false witness, or violate the Sabbath day. Men will not leave the work of God undone if they feel in their hearts that it is the thing for them to do.

Brethren, there never was a time that was more opportune for us than right now. There will never be another time when we will be enjoying this earthly existence. This is your day and mine. We will never go through this world again as we are now. We are here writing our history. We write it every day and there can be no change. As we write it, that is the way it will be. We write it by our lives. No matter what our vocation is, no matter where we are, there is nothing that will build us more surely and make us

stronger than an assurance that we have the truth. As we work in our fields or in our homes, in our shops or in our offices, let us keep in mind this thought: This is the work of God that I am engaged in.

I know that the Lord, our Eternal Father, appeared to Joseph Smith and introduced to him the Savior of the world and said unto him, "This is my beloved Son—hear Him." If we will keep in our minds all the time that the Priesthood of the Son of God is in the earth and that the same leadership that was introduced to the Prophet Joseph Smith is here; if we will reflect constantly upon the high standard of living and teachings that have been ours from the days of Joseph until now; and if we will remember that there has never been a wavering in any way in the leadership of this Church, we cannot help feeling in our hearts and souls that this is the work of God. If we do that we will be strong and we will be able to carry on as the Lord would have us do. We will not be weak, and we will not be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine, but we will feel in our hearts to know the truth. We will understand the course we should take and the opinion that we should express; we will know that we are the Lord's chosen people.

I am thankful for the testimony that I have, for the privilege of laboring in a small way in this great Church of Christ on this earth in this dispensation; I rejoice that I have been permitted to take a part in building this western commonwealth. I know that is the feeling of every true Latter-day Saint. I pray the Lord to bless the leadership of this Church, for this Church is led by a prophet of the living God who was raised up for this very purpose. He stands as a monument in faith and ex-