

Its secret here reposes,
We've got to work from week to week,
To get results or roses.

A STRONG TESTIMONY

The knowledge I have of the gospel, and the testimony I have of its truth and saving power, make my appreciation and love for it beyond my power to express. I do know that the work in which we, as Latter-day Saints, are engaged is the work of the Lord, the plan of the Gods for the existence of the earth, and of man upon the earth, for their glory and for man's exaltation, through obedience unto the laws and ordinances of the gospel, and through the atonement of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. His is the only name under heaven by which man may be saved in the kingdom of God. And no man can be saved in the kingdom of God except he believe on the name of Jesus Christ and in the efficacy of His atoning blood.

In a most solemn manner, I bear to you my testimony that God the Eternal Father and His Son Jesus Christ did reveal themselves to Joseph Smith, whom God raised up to be the mighty prophet of the last days. That the Prophet Joseph, as an instrument in the hands of God, accomplished the work of establishing the Church and kingdom of God on earth, and of restoring the gospel in its fulness, and following in the footsteps of the Savior, sealed his testimony with his blood.

That Brigham Young was his legal and lawful successor, as president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. And that those who succeeded to the presidency, down to and including the present president—Heber J. Grant—have been men of God led and directed by him in their ministerial labors, so that the work has progressed and prospered, and it will continue so to do until the Savior shall come, and the kingdom of our Lord, and He shall dwell personally upon the earth, and rule as King of Kings and Lord of Lords forever.

This testimony is true and faithful and I bear it to you and to all the world in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER LEVI EDGAR YOUNG

Of the First Council of the Seventy

May I say by way of introduction to the few words I wish to give this afternoon as a message, that the call of Elder Mark Petersen to be an apostle of our Lord and Savior receives our hearty support and love.

Elder Petersen is a high type of man, a Christian gentleman in every particular. What a fine work he is destined to do as a disciple of our Lord!

COMMENT BY AN EMINENT ARCHITECT ABOUT THE TABERNACLE

On entering these sacred grounds this morning, I saw the dentils that surround the cornice of this building. It is the dentils, and there are

hundreds of them, that give beauty to the simple and unadorned cornice of the Tabernacle. You will note them just under the roof if you will look closely. They were recently the inspiration for comment by the great American architect, Thomas E. Tallmadge in his *Story of Architecture in America*. He had been telling about the influence of Greek ideals on early American architecture and says: "Up and down the Atlantic seaboard, through the Western Reserve, along the Gulf of Mexico, up the Mississippi, and over the plains, the Greek revival spread. I have noticed that the famous tabernacle built in Salt Lake City by that extraordinary man, Brigham Young, has the tell-tale Greek profiles in its mouldings and cornices." Dr. Tallmadge refers to the dentils, which give to this building a beauty relieving the cornice of its extreme unadornment. One famous artist said that the dentils remind him of a beautiful piece of old lace.

THE ANGEL ON THE TEMPLE

The angel on the center tower of the temple also looked very beautiful this morning, bathed as it was by the gold light of the morning sun. I almost imagined hearing John the Revelator himself speaking to me his exquisite words as he peered into the future:

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. (Rev. 14:6, 7.)

THE PURPOSE OF MONUMENTS AND BUILDINGS

Then I passed the gull monument, the creation of our own Mahonri Young. It is in honor of the gulls in their saving the wheat fields in 1848, when they were being destroyed by the locusts. The south bronze of the monument was pronounced by Rodin, the most noted sculptor of France, as one of the outstanding pieces of American sculpture.

I speak of these things because they represent so much in our history. They are the creations of great men—great souls. Only a deeply religious people could create a building like this tabernacle; only a good people could construct a building like yonder temple. A religious leader of India once wrote above the portal of a temple in Kashmir, India, these words: "O God, in every temple, I see people who see Thee." These buildings involved the human constants, common to humanity throughout the ages—hunger and labor, seed-time and harvest, love and death, faith and prayer—all operated to produce the noble things you see on these sacred grounds.

THE STANDARD WORKS OF THE CHURCH

My brethren, I often feel that we fail to see the beauty that lies all about us; we fail to realize that the three great characteristics of creation are truth, beauty, and goodness. God is behind all truth, beauty, and

goodness, and there is nothing so noble for the soul, so uplifting as to be able to find beauty in all truth. In fact, it was the poet Keats who said: "Beauty is truth, truth beauty." These statements apply to our Church works: The Holy Bible, the "Holy" Book of Mormon, the "Holy" Doctrine and Covenants, and the "Holy" Pearl of Great Price. I freely use the adjective "Holy," because all these four standard Church works are sacred. The Prophet Joseph Smith's entire life was devoted to discovering and having revealed to him the truths of God. These are the forces that made his life what it was—a life of refinement and appreciation for the beautiful.

I believe, my brethren, that if we as missionaries will present the word of the Lord as contained in the standard works of the Church in a manner that will bring out the beauty of them, people will begin to read them as never before. Take the Holy Bible. When I read the first words as contained in the Book of Genesis:

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; . . . And God said, Let there be light; and there was light . . . So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him—

I feel thankful for prophets and revelators.

These words plant in our hearts the truth of truths. God is there in the heavens as our Father, the creator and ruler of the universe. It causes every soul to reach out to Him and strive for eternity. Could any words be more beautiful? The Holy Bible is the book of God's words and teachings.

As an example of beauty in the Book of Mormon, I commend to you the twenty-ninth chapter of Alma, which reads in part:

O that I were an angel, and could have the wish of mine heart, that I might go forth and speak with the trump of God, with a voice to shake the earth, and cry repentance unto every people!

Yea, I would declare unto every soul, as with the voice of thunder, repentance and the plan of redemption, that they should repent and come unto our God, that there might not be more sorrow upon all the face of the earth

The entire chapter is a lyric of great beauty. The Book of Mormon is full of such lyrics. Some day this holy book will be sung into the hearts of humanity.

The one hundred and ninth section of the Doctrine and Covenants is one of my favorite chapters of that divine and holy book. It is the prayer offered at the dedication of the Kirtland Temple on March 27, 1836, in which the Prophet Joseph Smith asks God, "in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of Thy bosom, in whose name alone salvation can be administered to the children of men, we ask thee, O Lord, to accept of this house, the workmanship of the hands of us, thy servants, which thou didst command us to build." And then are uttered words of admonition to train our minds and understanding. Says the Prophet:

Call your solemn assembly . . . seek ye diligently and teach one another words of wisdom; yea, seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning, even by study and also by faith. Organize yourselves; prepare every needful thing; and establish a house, even a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God. (D. & C. 88:117-119.)

Thoughts are precious seeds of life, and here we are taught to become thinkers. The Prophet Joseph founded a School of the Prophets and encouraged the study of the classical languages including Hebrew. He himself worked hard at the Hebrew language and set us an example of what it means to cultivate the mind, for "a great soul is strong to live as well as strong to think." The Prophet founded schools and the University of Nauvoo.

Then there is the Pearl of Great Price in which you find the beautiful Articles of Faith. Why this book is so neglected, I do not know. It is a perfect reservoir of truth, and in it as in all the others I have mentioned, we can read about God directly, and become deeply moved by His holy words. There is an Arabian proverb which says: "A fig tree, looking upon a fig tree, becometh fruitful." When we recite the Articles of Faith let us speak from the depths of our souls, particularly when we repeat the words: "We believe in God, the Eternal Father; and in His Son, Jesus Christ; and in the Holy Ghost." We go to our holy books for life, for more life and keener life, for life as it crystallizes into higher and deeper significance. They create within us a sense of absolute truth, beauty and goodness. They impart to us the spirit of learning and wisdom and truth. They tell us which way we must go to find our God who leads us by our faith to the unity of the perfect life. May God bless us all and help us daily to understand His great truths, I ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER DAVID A. SMITH

President of the Temple Square Mission

My brethren, for me this day has been a glorious one, it is good again to meet men with whom I have labored, having been greatly blessed and encouraged through such associations.

I rejoice in being with you today and in receiving your kind greetings and words of encouragement,

At this time I am reminded of the day I made my first visit to a stake conference, representing the General Authorities.

This was a Priesthood conference, a uniform Priesthood quorum activity was to be considered.

As I stood before that assembly of men, the hair of their heads having grown gray in the service of our Lord, I was frightened. I pleaded with the Lord to direct me, and He was good to me as He has always been.

As I finished, the stake president moved that those present approve