

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings and ye would not! (Matt. 23:37.)

Then he adds:

Behold your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. (Matt. 23:38-39.)

May we accept his invitation, mingle with the Saints, strengthen the wards in their meetings where we reside, that we may not have a spirit of darkness come over us and that our houses may not be left desolate unto us.

May God bless this great Church and kingdom and all its members, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### ELDER MARVIN O. ASHTON

#### *First Counselor in the Presiding Bishopric*

There is always safety in either a silent prayer or a request aloud by one having this responsibility. Yes, it is safer to have the prayers in our behalf of those who are listening in. I am keeping in mind some of the words of President McKay in his prayer today, namely: "May those who take part today say those things they should, that when they have finished there will be no regrets." I have in mind also a few words uttered by Sister Kate Barker yesterday in Relief Society conference in her prayer. I thought those words just a little unusual. They were: "Lord we thank thee for another chance." She was speaking of the world war and that it is now over. In other words, we are all happy and thankful to the Lord that we are still here and have another chance to go on.

### THE POWER OF THE ATOMIC BOMB

So much has been said of late about the atomic bomb that one mentioning it here shows considerable bravery. It takes considerable intelligence, they tell me, to know much about this discovery. Therefore, I can say very little about it. I know this (if you can believe what you read) that where that bomb struck, incident to the first real experiment in the dry hills of New Mexico, that it took the sand of the desert and made glass out of it, so terrific was the generated heat in the explosion. I don't know too much about the damage done by the atomic bomb to the cities where dropped, but I have a prayer in my heart that the explosion of those bombs and the realization of the possibilities of their destruction have done something to the human mind. I must say that years ago I didn't know whether or not I liked the expression "God-fearing people." I thought we shouldn't fear God too much and that we should have his love rather than to be afraid of him. As I grew older, however, I began to think and wonder if there wasn't some sound philosophy in having

a kind of fear of God. I hope the realization of the power of this new force will mean a fear in us that is going to drive us closer together in doing right. Yes, I hope the inhabitants of this world will really get together, or to put it in the words of President Truman, "We are going to learn to live together or die together."

#### PEACE MUST COME FROM THE HEARTS OF MEN

The other night, I heard the observation of a lady whose husband was the president of the Rotary Club in San Francisco. She, by virtue of his position, was invited to the big banquet with those peacemakers there. This lady sat beside a delegate, I think, from the Lebanon country. This gentleman was not a Christian, but he turned to her and said something like this: "If this old world is going to get back on its feet, if there is really going to be peace, it is going to be when we get into our hearts kindness towards one another. We must do the kind things such as that One whom you worship who made the trail time and time again from Jericho to Jerusalem."

Someone else has said that we are never going to have peace in the world until peace is in our hearts. If you and I expect peace to come to the world simply by legislative bodies getting around big mahogany tables, we are certainly mistaken. It must come from our dear selves. It is going to come from the proper attitude, one towards another.

I always liked these words of Ella Wheeler Wilcox:

So many Gods, so many creeds  
So many paths that wind and wind,  
While just the art of being kind  
Is what the sad world needs.

If there ever was a time when we should be broad-minded it is now. We are not going to get to first base in this grand game of peace in the world until we are more tolerant. I think that means you, and I think it means me.

Let us be righteous, but not too rigid. You know I have much respect for the rubber tire. Take the tire off your car and put on solid steel wheels. Let the steel fight the hard road instead of rubber doing the job. How far are you going to get? You'll grind up the road—you'll wear out the steel tire, to say nothing of the jolt and the uncomfortable riding you will get. The steel wheel would not last long. I have respect for a rubber tire because it gives and it takes. The fabric is made firm, but it accommodates itself to the road. Now let me not be misunderstood in this comparison. I don't want to be so broad-minded that I forget the standards of this Church and our particular message to the world. May I repeat again the words of Bernard Shaw: "Let's be open-minded, but let's not get in a draft." I have ringing in my ears the words of President Clark at the dedication of the Idaho Falls Temple: "To be tolerant doesn't mean to accept." Let's be tolerant, let's be kind, but let's hold to our

own standards. The world is calling louder than ever for real tolerance.

I like the word "practical" used by our Patriarch who has spoken to us today. How practical are you in your thinking—how practical am I? This getting peace into the world—whose business is it? Again I say it is yours—it is mine. I am thinking of the sign in some of our fields, "*No Trespassing. This means you.*" It means you and me. I won't forget one of the stories they told us while I was going to the L.D.S. University. I think it was in the psychology class. It was the story of the wealthy lady who went to the theater. It was in the days when the coachmen had to stay out in the storm and wait. They say that as she sat witnessing the heart-rending scenes on the stage before her that she wet several handkerchiefs with her tears. But while she was so weeping, her coachman was freezing to death on the outside. She was not practical. Her emotions were off in another world, but those that she should be mindful of, close at hand, were suffering. You good lady in the home, what is your attitude towards your hired girl? Mr. Man of the house, what is your attitude towards the humble man working for you? Yes, and let's go a little further. It works both ways. Mr. Employee, what is your attitude towards the man who gives you employment? What is your attitude towards your neighbor, whether he is a member of your Church or not?

I was very much impressed in the temple, day before yesterday, in listening to Elder Cowley speak of the virtues of his brown people in New Zealand. We learn some great lessons from these people. I will not forget in a hurry a little play I saw acted out a couple of years ago by the Papago Indians. The whole setup was teaching the lesson of America being the great melting pot and what the responsibility was of a new immigrant coming to this country in seeking shelter here. The first act showed the big melting pot in the center of the stage. Each immigrant came up to the pot and took a sip of the contents. The Indians made it very clear that when they tasted it, it was displeasing to them. They didn't like the soup. Each withdrew with decided dissatisfaction. Now we come to the second act: each child brought in his hands his heart and put it into the kettle mentioned above. I can see each little brown Indian coming in one at a time, putting his heart into the big melting pot. The last act showed these little people from all parts of the world coming in again to taste of the contents of the pot. Now as they smacked their lips on its contents, they liked the taste of it. *They liked it because their hearts were in it.* This means you and it means me. From now on we will have to look at this whole world as a big melting pot, and we must all put our hearts in it. "We will have to learn to live together or die together." We must take this thing of living happily together more seriously than we have ever done in our lives. We must respect, as never before, the viewpoint of others. If you are an isolationist, you are as far behind the times in your thinking as are the horse and buggy days.

## HELP IN TIME OF NEED

I don't know of anything that has impressed me more the last few months than the little experience we had in Salt Lake City a few weeks ago when the flood came through the cemetery and did its damage. The unfortunate people of the north bench received more water and gravel in their basements and on their lawns than they had ordered. The thing that impressed me was how President Christensen of this particular stake and his people got together. They organized themselves and went into the basements and dug out the debris. They found some basements half full. What impressed me most about this whole program was that as they went from door to door to do the Samaritan act, the question was not asked, "Are the people under this particular roof members of our Church?" They went to every home that was afflicted. I thought that was a grand act. We will have to put more of that stuff, if you please, into our systems. I was interested in what they said of one particular man helping with this work. I don't know whether this man could write out a check for a million dollars or not. That's quite a lot of money, but he was a man of considerable wealth. There he was up to his knees in mud, using the shovel. Someone who knew him well and knew his wealth said to him, "You don't have to do this." Of course he didn't. He could have written a check out to have someone else do it, but what was his comeback when so approached? He said, "Sure, I don't have to do this, but I want to know what the taste of it is along with the rest of these good people." Now that's what is going to convert the world—that's what is going to bring peace.

May the Lord bless us and help us to be tolerant and kind and do unto others as we would like to be done by, I ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## ELDER RICHARD L. EVANS

*Of the First Council of the Seventy*

It is thrilling to me, my brothers and sisters, to see this tabernacle filled again at a general conference of the Church. It is a glorious sight to behold.

## ACCEPTANCE OF NEW APOSTLE

I should like to express first of all my earnest appreciation for the appointment of Brother Matthew Cowley as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. I heard him voice his testimony day before yesterday in the temple, with the mission presidents, and was thrilled with the conviction of it. I must confess that several months ago I had his name on a list which I was preparing for another purpose.

## A TRIBUTE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH

Since this is an unusual day in Church history, one on which