

gospel, with the gift of the Holy Ghost, how much more should we so favored enjoy its precious gifts! If others of our Father's children throughout the world observe these manifestations of his special blessings to his chosen people, they will be led to investigate and seek the truth.

It seems to me as we near the conclusion of this great conference with its uplifting and inspiring teachings and testimonies, we could do no better thing than to highly resolve that henceforth and always our loyalty, our lives, and our love shall be such that our Father may pour out his rich blessings upon us in the gifts of the eternal gospel with discernment, wisdom and comfort to all. I know that he lives. I know that he will reward the faithful. I pray that in his mercy he will bring light and truth to all the world, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRESIDENT J. REUBEN CLARK, JR.

First Counselor in the First Presidency

I had hoped and supposed that my many speeches before the various groups at this conference would relieve me from saying anything more, particularly I had thought that this morning's sermon would count as something said here. But President Smith has asked that I say a word or two. I shall not detain you long because we must have President Smith close this conference.

REPENTANCE

So many things have been said, so much good has been told us, that it would be folly to try to summarize or repeat, but I think that most of us will leave this conference with two matters principally in mind—that of repentance and its reciprocal, forgiveness. The call has been made: Repent, for the hour of his judgment is nigh.

The Lord has said,

By this ye may know if a man repenteth of his sins—behold, he will confess them and forsake them. (D. & C. 58:43.)

I would like to point out that to me there is a great difference between confession and admission, after transgression is proved. I doubt much the efficacy of an admission as a confession.

FORGIVENESS

In the ancient days, men made sacrifice that they might be forgiven. Today we are told that we must bring to the Lord for our forgiveness a humble heart and a contrite spirit. As to forgiveness, the Lord has said,

I, the Lord will forgive whom I will forgive, but of you it is required to forgive all men. (*Ibid.*, 64:10.)

which means, as I understand it, that where there is repentance, we shall forgive and receive into fellowship the repentant transgressor, leaving to God the final disposition of the sin.

TESTIMONY TO RISEN CHRIST

This is Easter, and I have already borne my testimony to the risen Christ but I do want to read from the 76th Section the verses we all know, part of which was quoted by Brother Evans this morning. This was the great vision that came to Joseph and Sidney in 1832:

And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him: That he lives! For we saw him, even on the right hand of God; and we heard the voice bearing record that he is the Only Begotten of the Father— That by him, and through him, and of him, the worlds are and were created, and the inhabitants thereof are begotten sons and daughters unto God. (*Ibid.*, 76:22-24.)

I renew the bearing of my testimony that Jesus is the Christ, the Redeemer of the world, the first fruits of the resurrection, the Only Begotten of the Father.

And I cannot but remember that glorious message that came out of the chamber on that night most memorable perhaps in all the history of the world, the night before the crucifixion, when he had his disciples together and gave them his great final discourse:

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (John 14:27.)

That message to the disciples in the chamber is a message that comes to all of God's children, that peace be with us always, and may we live so that we may rightfully ask therefor, I humbly pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

President J. Reuben Clark, Jr.:

President George Albert Smith, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Presiding High Priest of the Church, the prophet, seer and revelator, ordained and set apart thereto by those having authority will now close this conference with his final instruction.

PRESIDENT GEORGE ALBERT SMITH

I am very grateful that I have been able to attend the sessions of this conference; thankful that I have had the companionship of this great group, most of them in this building. I want to take this occasion to express my appreciation and invoke the blessings of the Lord upon these men, women, and children who have stood during these long two hours of meeting, with no place to sit but have

stood here in the house of the Lord to be edified by those who have done the speaking. I am sure you will receive your blessings, and I am sure they will be sufficient to compensate you for any weariness that may have come to you as a result of this experience.

SECURITY ON LORD'S SIDE

The gospel of Jesus Christ is the only means by which we may hope to find a place in the celestial kingdom. Sometimes we feel that we are sure of it because we have membership in the Church. I take this occasion to call to the attention of the older members of the Church, who have lived a part of their lives and feel quite secure, the fact that nobody is secure unless he is on the Lord's side of the line.

All temptation and evil are on the devil's side. If I had time, I could tell you of an experience of a man who was magnified and was a great preacher of the gospel, and because of his failure to stay on the Lord's side of the line, he went into the dark and died a bitter apostate.

None of us are secure except we keep the commandments of our Heavenly Father. The pathway of righteousness is the highway of happiness. There is no other way to happiness.

PURPOSE OF LIFE

Today the people all over the world are talking about the same subject we have been speaking of, the resurrection. When we think of the resurrection of our Redeemer, I am reminded that the purpose of his life was to prepare us all, to make a path that we could all walk, that would bring us eternal happiness in his presence as well as in the presence of one another. He gave his life and testified by the shedding of his blood that he was a Son of God, and then as we have had it called to our attention, his appearance since that time has demonstrated beyond any possible doubt that he was what he claimed to be.

The Church is organized, and the missionaries go out in all the world to share the gospel, not to give some new truth, but to share the truth that the Lord has already revealed.

When he was asked to pray—I am reminded of a part of that prayer—he said,

... Our Father which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.
(Matt. 6:9-10.)

UNIVERSAL RESURRECTION

That is the purpose of the gospel, and today we are thinking of what a marvelous thing it was when the Savior was resurrected, when he took up his immortal body to live forever.

But he wanted this earth to become a heaven, and that is what the gospel is intended to do, to teach people so that it will become

a heaven. What a wonderful condition it would be! We rejoice because of the resurrection, and he held out to us that it would be a universal resurrection, and that this earth would be redeemed, and the people who dwell here would live in happiness forever.

Brethren and sisters, we ought to be grateful for our blessings. We ought to be thankful for the companionship of such men and women as we have. We ought to feel a desire to do all that we can to set an example, that others, seeing our upright lives may be constrained to keep the commandments of God.

We are coming to the close of a most interesting and instructive conference. As I look at these beautiful flowers that came from the Berkeley Stake, I want to take occasion again to thank the people who sent them, for I don't know of any place where flowers are more appropriate than in the house of the Lord. And these beautiful lilies that we have, have made this house a beauty spot that it would not have been but for them.

HOUSES IN ORDER

Brethren and sisters, let us go to our homes. If our houses are not in order, let us set them in order. Let us renew our determination to honor God and keep his commandments, to love one another, to make our homes the abiding place of peace. Each of us can contribute to that in the homes in which we live.

It will not be long until calamities will overtake the human family unless there is speedy repentance. It will not be long before those who are scattered over the face of the earth by millions will die like flies because of what will come.

Our Heavenly Father has told us how it can be avoided, and that is our mission, in part, to go into the world and explain to people how it may be avoided, and that people need not be unhappy as they are everywhere but that happiness may be in their lives—because when the Spirit of God burns in your soul, you cannot be otherwise than happy.

GRATITUDE FOR SUPPORT

I take this occasion to thank the brethren who are giving all their time to developing and building the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I want to thank these men who stand by my side, who are so willing to support me in the responsibilities that are tremendous for one man to carry—my counselors, and the members of the Quorum of the Twelve and their assistants, and the First Council of the Seventy, the Presiding Bishopric, and the Patriarch.

I want to add to that the stake presidencies, the bishops of wards, the presidents of missions, and the presidencies and general boards of all the auxiliary organizations. I am grateful for the things that they are doing, because they are trying to bring this world into a condition that will be heaven. The Lord has said it could be if we will do our part.

BLESSING

In conclusion I desire to leave the blessing of our Heavenly Father with you all, that you may go to your homes renewed, refreshed, and invigorated, determined to carry on and to do all you can to make this earth heaven.

I bless you that you may have joy in this, that you may go to your homes in peace and in safety, and that you may carry with you that spirit which our Heavenly Father has bestowed upon us here so generously, and that we may look forward to the time when we may meet again in the name of the Lord, with assurance that a blessing will follow, because he has said it always would, even if two or three meet in his name.

Remember, we all have responsibilities. We may not be called to some definite duty, but in every neighborhood there is opportunity for each of us to radiate a spirit of peace and love and happiness to the end that people may understand the gospel and be gathered into the fold.

TESTIMONY

To some it may sound selfish to hear us say, "This is the only true Church." But we are only repeating what the Savior said, and he knows. It is the Church that he recognizes, and it bears his name. We do not say that in unkindness to our brothers and sisters, and they are our brothers and sisters, in other churches, or in no church, but we say it with the hope that they may feel the love that is in our hearts when we reach out to them with the desire that the happiness that has been ours may be theirs and may continue, not only now, but also throughout the ages of eternity.

God lives. Jesus is the Christ. Joseph Smith was a prophet of the Lord, and the gospel as it was restored through him is the power of God unto salvation to all those who would accept it and apply it in their lives. I bear this testimony in love and in kindness, and with my blessings as a servant of the Lord upon all of you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President J. Reuben Clark, Jr.:

We have just listened to President George Albert Smith.

The Tabernacle Choir will now sing the "Hallelujah Chorus," and the closing prayer will be offered by President J. Willard Marriott of the Washington Stake, Washington, D.C., after which this Conference will stand adjourned *sine die*.

The conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union will convene in this building tonight at 7:00 o'clock. All are invited to attend, and all Sunday School workers are urged to attend.

The messages that have been received for individuals supposed to be in attendance at this Conference will be broadcast over the grounds as usual after the close of this meeting.

The choir music today has been furnished by the Tabernacle