

attendance this morning, eleven men and women from Denmark, leaders of Danish cooperatives, trade unions, business and social organizations. They are traveling in the United States as guests of the United States Department of Commerce. In your behalf I take pleasure in extending welcome to these, our friends from Denmark.

We welcome also the State, City, and County officials in attendance, and the leaders of the University of Utah, the Agricultural College, Brigham Young University, and other educational institutions.

PRESIDENT J. REUBEN CLARK, JR.

Second Counselor in the First Presidency

I COME to you in deep humility, sensing, at least in part, my responsibility, and with a prayer in my heart, which I hope will be echoed in yours, that I may be led to say something that will tend to our upbuilding and leading us into that narrow way of life which our Heavenly Father has marked out for those who would come back into his presence. May the Lord be with us during this whole session, and the session that is to follow even as he has been with us to the present time.

As I sat here yesterday, something brought to my mind that I am the oldest member of the General Authorities. This is an honor that has been thrust upon me by time. It is an honor that any of my brethren can reach, if they will live for it. I say this, neither by way of boasting nor for the purpose of inviting sympathy, but I say it that I might make use of what I hope is some experience of value and the result of some reflection.

I have lived long enough and there has, year by year, come more into my consciousness, the knowledge that the principles of the everlasting gospel are beyond my power of rationalizing. Furthermore, I am persuaded that there is none who, unaided by the spirit of the Lord, and there is only one in this Church and in this world, who has the

The Tabernacle Choir will now sing, "Hear My Cry, O God," Brother Cornwall conducting.

The Tabernacle Choir sang an anthem, "Hear My Cry, O God."

President David O. McKay:

President J. Reuben Clark, Jr. of the First Presidency, will be our first speaker. He will be followed by Elder John Longden.

right to rationalize, and that is, at the present time, President David O. McKay, our prophet, seer, and revelator—I have come to feel that there is none who can safely rationalize. And I am persuaded more to that by what happened in the early Christian Church, which, lacking a head that was effective during the early centuries, drifted away because they tried to make God's plan accord with their reason, and with the reason of the pagan philosophies.

I am persuaded we must watch carefully that we do not follow along those paths. Some of the greatest heresies that have crept into the Christian religion came in through a very few men who held no real official position, mostly, but who spent their time and their talents, and they were great, in trying to rationalize the gospel of Jesus Christ. There is some evidence—these were called "schoolmen," and the results of their work "scholasticism,"—and I am persuaded that we have some tendency in that direction as among ourselves, and I hope that the people will not listen to the rationalizing of men who undertake to make God's plan conform to what they think it should be in their weak and ineffective reasonings.

I am grateful to have lived in this day and age when the gospel has been restored. I take it there is no man or

woman who sits down calmly to think, in the Church or out of the Church, but more particularly out of the Church, for light has come to us who are in the Church, who does not ask himself or herself, "Where did we come from? Why are we here? Whither do we go?" We Latter-day Saints have been instructed in that, and the instruction has come to us in modern revelation.

The book of Abraham, found in the Pearl of Great Price, tells us of the beginning, how the Lord came down among the intelligences, and as a result of his coming down, there was a great council in heaven. The record in Abraham which precedes the account of the council, is devoted to explaining that there are inequalities in God's creation, and inequalities among the intelligences, not all are equal. The Lord said to Abraham, calling attention to this great group of intelligences, that there were among them those who were the great ones, and declared to Abraham that he was one of those who were to be rulers.

I want to read just two or three verses, and I am reading from the third chapter of Abraham:

And there stood one among them [this great group] that was like unto God, and he said unto those who were with him: We will go down, for there is space there, and we will take of these materials, and we will make an earth whereon these may dwell.

I call attention to the two succeeding verses which I shall read, because they are filled with certain great elemental truths. He continues:

And we will prove them herewith [the intelligences], to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them."

That was the purpose for creating the earth. We were all there, all participating; we thus knew of the plan from the very beginning.

And they who keep their first estate shall be added upon; and they who keep not their first estate shall not have glory in the same kingdom with those who keep their first

estate; and they who keep their second estate [the estate in which we now are] shall have glory added upon their heads for ever and ever." (Abraham 3:24-26.)

Thus we know whither we came, and why we are here, and where, to what place we shall go. The whole plan is summed up in those few words.

Now since we came here to be proved, the Lord did not leave Adam in doubt about what he should do, or how he should do it, for the Lord gave to Adam the gospel, and the gospel which he gave to him included the revelation and the knowledge that there would come a Redeemer. You will recall, you who know the scriptures, the angel of the Lord asked Adam why he offered sacrifice. He said he did not know except that he had been commanded to do so. I think there is a great lesson there. They who rationalize, try to say why we do this, why we do that. Adam set the example. Why did he do it? Because the Lord had commanded it. And then the angel of the Lord explained to him the great atonement that was to come.

Now, that gospel so revealed to Adam has been in the world to a greater or less extent, sometimes less, from that time until now. It taught us what we should do, and what we should not do. We have never, when his Church has been on the earth, the Church of Christ, been in any doubt on these two points.

You will examine the Bible for some detailed statement of the principles of the gospel, up until the time of Moses, with but scant success. But if you will read carefully the book of Moses in the Pearl of Great Price, you can glean, and will glean from there the great principles of this gospel, even as they have been revealed and are taught to us today. When Moses came, we had the Ten Commandments given to us. They are the guiding star for the world civilization today. Blot out the Ten Commandments, and you have the darkness which rests upon Russia and those nations which follow her.

I call attention to the fact that the Ten Commandments, every one of them,

have in them a spiritual element. There is nothing in them that, if obeyed, does not build the spirit. From then until now there has been, effective in the world, a part at least of the great gospel. Men have known what they should do, and what they should not do.

Now time will not permit me to develop what we should do. We do as we are commanded, in order that we may meet the design of our Heavenly Father, who said,

For behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man. (Moses 1:39.)

That is the purpose.

Now, I am happy, very happy, that the Lord not only told us what we should do, but has told us what we should not do. He has told us the things that will prevent our gaining this immortality and eternal life. Sad, indeed, would have been our situation, had we been merely told what we might do. But he has not left us in darkness as to what we ought not to do.

And since doing the things we ought not to do forfeits the glory which the Lord has marked out for us, and if you want to know about that read sections 76 and 88 of the Doctrine and Covenants, then we must refrain from doing the things which he has commanded us not to do, refrain from misdoings of various kinds, refrain from sin, and all transgressions. And I thought perhaps it might not be without value if I were to read to you, for you to reflect upon some of the things that we are told we ought not to do, some of the offenses we should not commit under the penalty that if we do commit them we shall not reach the full glory which the Lord has marked out for us.

And I am going to read just a few things from Paul. Paul said:

For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good.

Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. . .

But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. (II Tim. 3:2-5, 13.)

That was to Timothy. Again to Timothy:

O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called. (I Tim. 6:20.)

Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. . .

Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry. (I Cor. 10:8, 14.)

And that was the burden of Paul, "flee from idolatry," and leave the food offered to idols alone. We Latter-day Saints do not worship idols, we do not worship relics, we do not have shrines. I wonder sometimes, however, if there is not something of idolatry among us. I call our idolaters, worshipers of dimes and chasers of nickels.

But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils. (*Ibid.*, 10:20-21.)

Peter said:

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. (II Peter 2:1.)

These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren. (Proverbs 6:16-19.)

I read these to show you that the Lord has not left us in doubt nor in

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darkness as to the things, some of them, that we should not do. We add these to the Ten Commandments.

Now, my brethren and sisters, salvation is ours, if we will but live for it. We shall forfeit it if we do the things which his prophets have declared unto us should not be done. Read, I repeat, sections 76 and 88 and see what the Lord has laid up for us when we live the principles of the gospel.

My brethren and sisters, he who will read needs have no doubt of the great future that lies ahead of us, he will have no doubt of the place to which we go, of the associations which will be his; he will have no doubt but that the eternities that are to come are worth in happiness and joy, all of the giving up of the pleasures, so-called, of this life, from which we are asked to refrain.

I am sure the prize is worth the restraint. And after all, all the things that we are asked to refrain from are things which lower our standards of joy, lower our standards of life, lower our respect for humanity and humanity's respect for us, and leave us debtors to the whole list of Christian virtues.

May the Lord help us to keep his commandments, help us to earn that which he has provided for us.

And I bear my testimony to you at this time that God lives, that he hears and answers prayers, for he has heard and answered mine. I bear you my testimony that Jesus is the Christ, that he is the Son of God, the Redeemer of the World, the First Fruits of the Resurrection, that through his redeeming blood all mankind shall be saved, that is, shall be resurrected, and that

those who keep the commandments and live the life which he gave and lived will have an eternal glory in the celestial kingdom.

I bear you my witness that Joseph Smith did have a vision, that the Father and Son did visit him, that holy angels came to him; that the priesthood, the Holy Priesthood of God which had been lost to the earth for centuries was restored through him to this earth; that those who have followed him in his high and great calling of President of the Church, the Presiding High Priest of the Church, have the same rights, the same privileges, the same authority which he held, even from Joseph's time down to President McKay, who holds those rights, exercises those functions, possesses all of the spiritual powers of the priesthood which Joseph had; and that this Church will continue to go forward, that those who follow President McKay will enjoy the like privileges, the like authority, and exercise the like functions.

There is no doubt about this, my brothers and sisters, and if we could just take this into our hearts and understand it, make it part of ourselves, not a mere expression, not lip-service but service by act, the power of this people would be unlimited.

God grant that to all of us and to each of us may come this testimony, to the end that we shall continue to spread the gospel in the world, continue to build up our own Church, and for ourselves individually, and as an incident to all that, gain eternal salvation in his celestial kingdom, I humbly pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER JOHN LONGDEN

Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles

I REALIZE more than anyone else, excepting my Heavenly Father and his Son Jesus Christ, my utter weakness in and of myself to occupy this position this morning. I am sure with an interest in your faith and prayers ascending to our Heavenly Father that I may be

blessed with his Spirit and we may be recipients of his blessings.

I haven't words to express adequately my appreciation and gratitude for the rich blessings which have been mine during the past six months in visiting the stakes and the wards throughout the