

to realize what a call into the Council of the Twelve meant.

During the days which followed, I locked myself in one of the rooms over in the Church Office building, and there I read the story of the life of the Savior. As I read the events of his life, and particularly the events leading up to and of the crucifixion, and then of the resurrection, I discovered that something was happening to me. I was not just reading a story; it seemed actually as though I was living the events; and I was reading them with a reality the like of which I had never before experienced. And when, on the Sunday night following, after I had delivered my brief talk and then declared, simply, "As one of the humblest among you, I, too, know that these things are true, that Jesus died and was resurrected for the sins of the world," I was speaking from a full heart, because I had come to know that week, with a certainty which I never before had known.

I do not know whether that experience was the realization of the workings of the gift of the more sure word of prophecy, but this much I came to know: neither the Prophet Joseph Smith, nor any who have followed since, have ever received a personal visitation from the Master, nor have they ever received a special witness of his life and mission, except they have had a supreme faith. Until that faith had been tried and tested, only then did they receive the witness.

This much more I know, and bear

humble witness, that only shall I receive a greater witness than I today have, that he is, when my faith through trial shall have become the more perfect.

I know with all my soul today, God being my witness, that the Savior died, was resurrected, and lives today, so close to us in the councils of the priesthood, so near to those whom he has chosen as his mouthpieces, that if they will but open their hearts and minds, they may know with a surety that they have done his will and that he has spoken.

I am thinking today of the quoted testimony of a great defender of the faith recorded in Brother Barker's splendid priesthood lessons which we are now studying in the priesthood quorums, when he told how his testimony came. This is what that faithful Cyprian said: "Into my heart, purified of its sins, there entered a light which came from on high, and then, immediately, in a marvelous manner, I saw certainty succeed doubt."

God help us, as the sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father, that we, having the right to the witness of the Holy Ghost, shall by faith so purify our hearts that the light from on high may enter into them, that in a marvelous way we, too, may see all doubt flee in the face of absolute certainty. God help us to this end, and keep us in the faith, worthy of the testimonies of the reality of the mysteries of heaven and godliness, I humbly pray, in the name of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRESIDENT DAVID O. McKAY

ELDER Harold B. Lee of the Council of the Twelve has just spoken to us. His address marks the last of a series of addresses given during this conference by the General Authorities of the Church, all of whom you have heard, excepting Elder Stayner Richards, who is presiding over the British Mission. Elder Romney, as you know, gave the Church of the Air address this morning.

Thus comes to a close a great confer-

ence, another glorious opportunity that the Church has had of meeting together, making new resolutions, receiving timely instructions, and sustaining the Authorities of the Church. The weather has been most propitious. The attitude of the individuals who have assembled in the various gatherings, including the Primary conference, has been hopeful, promising, eager; that of the congregations, most responsive.

The messages of the General Authorities have all been timely and inspirational; the cooperation of the city officials, ready and efficient. The assistance rendered by the various radio stations, here in our own city, in Idaho, Colorado, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona, and Mexico, has been the means of permitting tens of thousands of people to hear the proceedings of this the 122nd Annual General Conference of the Church. To all we extend words of appreciation, heartfelt expressions of gratitude, for all combined to make this a most memorable occasion.

To our singers, the Brigham Young University chorus of young people, to our own Tabernacle Choir, we again express our thanks.

What a glorious opportunity we have had in listening to these two great organizations. To our choir, I believe I will express not only your gratitude but also that of the entire city and of the state, for the Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir is now an institution, not just an organization, appreciated by every member of the Church, and I think by every fair-minded citizen of our glorious state. God bless them, and those young people who came up from the Brigham Young University to sing at the opening sessions of conference.

I have much in my heart to say to you, but I will conclude by calling your attention to the words of a very practical servant of the Lord who was blessed to labor in the companionship and shadow of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Indeed, I think he is his own brother. James said:

"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?"

"If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"

"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

"Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy

faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works." (James 2:14-18.)

As we depart now to go to our various homes, let us make real the good feelings that have been aroused in our souls. Let us not permit to evaporate from our minds and feelings the good resolutions we have formed. First, let us resolve that from now on we are going to be men of higher and more sterling character, more conscious of our own weaknesses, more kind and charitable towards others' failings.

Let us resolve that we shall practise more self-control in our homes, control our tempers and our tongues, and control our feelings, that they may not wander beyond the bounds of right and purity, more seeking the presence of God, realizing how dependent we are upon him for success in this life, and particularly for success in the positions we hold in the Church.

As we leave this conference, let us not only resolve to be more loyal to our quorums but more devoted to the duties assigned us, one of which is attendance at our quorum meetings, in order to strengthen that group and increase the power of fellowship and brotherhood, more loyal to our country. This is an election year. Upon you devolves the responsibility of choosing our servants in government, for whoever is elected to preside over this country as President, as senators, members of the House of Representatives, are your servants, not your rulers. And do not be slothful on the day of election, but come out and exercise your right and privilege as a citizen of this great republic. What doth it profit though a man say he hath faith not works? Here we should prove ourselves loyal citizens.

As we depart, let us be more determined to make beautiful homes, to be kinder husbands, more thoughtful wives, more exemplary to our children, determined that in our homes we are going to have just a little taste of heaven here on this earth.

With these resolves in mind, with all my heart I say, fellow workers, God

bless you. Cherish in your hearts the testimony of truth, make it as solid and as firm and unwavering as the fixed stars in the heavens. May there come into everyone's heart and in all our homes the true spirit of Christ our Redeemer, whose reality, whose inspiring guidance I know to be real.

God bless you, keep you, and magnify you in the eyes of your associates! May he make more powerful than ever before in the history of this Church the influence of this divine organization, that its potency may be felt throughout the world, and men's hearts turned to serve him as they have never before been influenced, that we may avert the terrible threatening war, and peace be established among the nations of the world, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

The Tabernacle Choir will now favor us with the Hallelujah Chorus from the "Mount of Olives."

The Closing prayer will be offered by Elder Golden H. Hale, formerly President of the Samoan Mission, after which this Conference will adjourn sine die.

The Deseret Sunday School Union Conference will convene in this building at 7 o'clock tonight. All Sunday School workers should be in attendance.

The Choir music for today's sessions, as you know, has been furnished by the Tabernacle Choir, with Elder J. Spencer Cornwall conducting, and Elder Alexander Schreiner at the organ.

The Temple Presidencies will please keep in mind our meeting following the close of this session.

The Tabernacle Choir sang The Hallelujah Chorus from "The Mount

of Olives," after which the closing prayer was offered by Elder Golden H. Hale, formerly president of the Samoan Mission.

Conference adjourned sine die.

The congregational singing of the Conference was directed by J. Spencer Cornwall, Conductor, and Richard P. Condie, Assistant Conductor, of the Tabernacle Choir.

The Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir was in attendance at the Sunday Sessions, a chorus from the Tabernacle Choir was present at the Saturday afternoon meeting, and furnished musical numbers at those meetings.

The Tabernacle Choir male chorus provided the choral music for the General Priesthood meeting Saturday evening.

The Brigham Young University Combined Choruses, under the direction of Norman Gulbrandsen, Crawford Gates, and Newel Weight, furnished musical numbers at the Friday morning and afternoon meetings.

Saturday morning the singing was entirely by the congregation, Richard P. Condie conducting.

The music of the *Church of the Air* broadcast and also the *Tabernacle Choir and Organ* broadcast, Sunday morning was directed by J. Spencer Cornwall, Frank W. Asper was at the organ, and the spoken word was by Richard L. Evans.

Accompaniments and interludes on the great organ were played by Alexander W. Schreiner, Frank W. Asper, and Roy A. Darley.

Stenographic notes of the conference were taken by Frank W. Otterstrom and Joseph Anderson.

Joseph Anderson
Clerk of the Conference.