

face of financial uncertainties. It takes faith for the young woman to bear her family instead of accepting employment, especially when schooling for the young husband is to be finished. It takes faith to observe the Sabbath when "time and a half" can be had working, when sales can be made, when merchandise can be sold. It takes a great faith to pay tithes when funds are scarce and demands are great. It takes faith to fast and have family prayers and to observe the Word of Wisdom. It takes faith to do ward teaching, stake missionary work, and other service, when sacrifice is required. It takes faith to fill foreign missions. But know this—that all these are of the planting, while faithful devout families, spiritual security, peace, and eternal life are the harvests.

Remember that Abraham, Moses, Elijah, and others could not see clearly the end from the beginning. They also walked by faith and without sight. Remember again that no gates were open; Laban was not drunk; and no earthly hope was justified at the moment Nephi exercised his faith and set out finally to get the plates. No asbestos clothes or other ordinary protective devices were in the fiery furnace to protect the three Hebrews from death; there were no leather nor metal muzzles for the mouths of the lions when Daniel was locked in the den.

Remember that there were no clouds in the sky nor any hydrometer in his hand when Elijah promised an immediate break in the long extended drouth; though Joshua may have witnessed the miracle of the Red Sea, yet how could he by mortal means perceive that the flooding Jordan would back up for the exact time needed for the crossing, and then flow on its way to the Dead Sea.

ELDER S. DILWORTH YOUNG

Of the First Council of the Seventy

I REALIZE, my brothers and sisters, that conferences have to run somewhere nearly on time, and in the interest of time, therefore, I shall not

Remember that there were no clouds in the sky, no evidence of rain, and no precedent for the deluge when Noah builded the ark according to commandment. There was no ram in the thicket when Isaac and his father left for Moriah for the sacrifice. Remember there were no towns and cities, no farms and gardens, no homes and storehouses, no blossoming desert in Utah when the persecuted pioneers crossed the plains. And remember that there were no heavenly beings in Palmyra, on the Susquehanna or on Cumorah when the soul-hungry Joseph slipped quietly into the Grove, knelt in prayer on the river bank, and climbed the slopes of the sacred hill.

But know this: that undaunted faith can stop the mouths of lions, make ineffective the fiery flames, make dry corridors through beds of rivers and seas. Unwavering faith can protect against deluge, terminate drouths, heal the sick, and bring heavenly manifestations. Indomitable faith can help us live the commandments and thereby bring blessings unnumbered with peace, perfection, and exaltation in the kingdom of God. May this be our desire to develop this kind of faith and may we finally attain the blessings which such perfect faith can bring, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The congregation and the *German-Speaking L.D.S. Choir* joined in singing the hymn, "Praise To The Man."

President David O. McKay:

Elder S. Dilworth Young of the First Council of the Seventy will now speak to us, and he will be followed by Elder EIRay L. Christiansen.

talk to you about the thing which I had hoped to discuss, but I shall be happy to bear my testimony.

Before I do so, however, I should like

Saturday, October 4

Second Day

just to say that while you are quite an awe-inspiring group from here, broken down into your component parts I realize that you are, like me, just ordinary folk, wanting to serve the Lord, desiring to do what is right and to follow the precepts of those who lead you.

I recognized your humanity yesterday when, while Brother Cowley was reminding us all of our duty to our wives, one couple came within the range of my vision. They sat happily together, but when Brother Cowley mentioned hand-holding, the man suddenly became alive and reached over and took his wife's hand. I could not tell whether it was repentance or whether it was a normal process, but as I looked at her, I am sure it was normal. She did not have that startled look, but basked in what to her was an ordinary procedure. And I am sure, as they listened, Brother Cowley said for him in poetical language, what he should have liked to say to his wife, had he been given the words. And I think she recognized it, too. I glowed along with them and wished that I might be close to mine so that I could do the same thing.

I am a member of the Church. I have been all my life. I accept its teachings. I am convinced in my own soul that I am a child of our Father in heaven, and that the Lord Jesus Christ is the author of my salvation, and that he lives.

I accept without reservation, President McKay as the President of this Church, and therefore, as my President. I recognize him to be a man, and I know, too, as well as I know anything, that one cannot separate a man from his office. I used to think that one could, but one cannot. I am sure that I would love President McKay anyhow. I have had enough dealings with his family to be certain of that. It is a real pleasure to like the man, and then to like him, too, because he is the President of the Church.

I sustain him as a prophet. I do not believe that everything that he says is prophetic, but I earnestly pray always

that I may have the gift of discernment, so that when he does speak prophetically I shall be able to recognize it and follow the instruction given.

I recognize him to be a seer. I believe that as the needs of this Church arise, he will be given sight, not only prophecy, but also sight into how things should happen and how things should be done, and having seen, he can interpret to me and to you the things which the Lord tells him to interpret.

I bear witness that he is a revelator, and he will reveal as the Lord gives him revelation all of the things of the kingdom which should come forth during his administration as the President of this Church.

What I say for him, I say for his counselors. I have the deepest and most profound respect and a sort of worshipful love for each of the brethren who assist him. I should like to emulate them. And I do, with all my heart, uphold and sustain them, even as they uphold and sustain him.

Now, I know that there are others who have this prophetic gift given to them, the Twelve and the Patriarch, besides the Presidency. I recognize, too, that it is not their lot to stand here as Presidents of the Church at this moment and tell you what to do, as would the President of the Church, and yet they are prophets, and seers, and revelators. On the occasions on which they preside in meetings, they are given the gift of prophecy, too. Them also, I uphold and sustain with all my heart, as I do my brethren, the Assistants, the Seventy, and the Bishopric.

But I go farther than that, I uphold and sustain with all my heart, too, my stake president. His right it is to receive inspiration from the Lord about how the Ogden Stake ought to operate; I am a member of that stake. I uphold and sustain, also, as having the gift of inspiration for his people, the bishop of my ward. When he comes to my house to ask me to do something or to put me in the way of my duty, I should not be a true member of the Church

did I not heed his counsel. If I have any advice to give to you this morning, it is that I believe that obedience starts with the bishopric; that is, the Church member should be obedient to his bishopric, then to his stake presidency, then to the General Authorities. As you learn, bit by bit, to be obedient in the little things, so when the large and great things are propounded to you, you will neither falter by the wayside nor fall.

ELDER ELRAY L. CHRISTIANSEN

Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles

MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS. During the year that I have now served as a high priest assigned to assist the Quorum of the Twelve, I have increased my admiration for all of you people who are serving the Lord; for those who are willing to lay their own affairs aside to work on welfare projects; willing to travel for miles and miles, time after time, to attend their meetings, willing to give of their substance, their all, if necessary, for the work of the Lord, without equivocation. I have increased my admiration for these, for you, for all who have thus testified before the Lord that they love him—receiving from the Lord; giving to the Lord. That is as it should be.

How well trained, how well prepared, and how well tested, how useful they will be to him, when he comes again to reign upon the earth! They, I should think, who have proved themselves thus, would be among those whom he shall call forth to administer the affairs of his kingdom under his personal direction.

It is evident that the families of those who are thus engaged in Church work are among the happiest families in the world, because those who thus serve the Lord are recipients of that great blessing, peace of mind, which I think is one of the priceless blessings of life.

But whenever I think of these groups and individuals who thus serve the Lord,

I am thankful and deeply grateful for my testimony. I do not know why I should have been blessed in this day to come forth at a time when the gospel is on the earth and the prophets are on the earth, but that they are, I have no doubt. And my thanksgiving goes to my Father in heaven, for the privilege of standing here now and bearing you my testimony, which I could not do without the gift of the Lord, and I do it in the name of Christ. Amen.

I wonder about those who, with us, have membership in this great Church and yet are satisfied merely to have their names upon the records; who do not feel impelled to give of their substance and of their time and talents, but who are willing to let suffice the fact that they are members of the Church.

Usually, they are born of goodly parents. They are willing to give passive acknowledgment of the truth of the gospel and of the reality of the Church of Jesus Christ. They, sometimes, give contributions but desire to be left alone, requesting that the ward teachers and Relief Society block teachers pass them by, feeling that the teachers can do them no good. How I wish we could do more for these members!

They point with justifiable pride to the devotion to and sacrifices for the Church made by their ancestors, and it is well that they should. My brothers and sisters, we should all be proud of our progenitors. Some of us forget, however, that as someone rightly said, no matter how tall your grandfather was, you have to do your own growing. So it is in this great Church—we all must realize that salvation is an individual matter; that none of us can be taken into the celestial kingdom on the backs of others. We must earn our own position, both here and hereafter. It is not merely an acknowledgment that God lives and that this is the Church