

said that, not God. Men have said that the Lord finished his work. They have said there could be no more coming of angels, no more scripture, and that we would have to depend on the dead letter of the law as it is recorded in the books contained within the lids of the Bible. Men are saying that—God did not say it.

And he has restored to us the everlasting gospel and has given us revelation and made known to us many of the plain and important things pertaining to his kingdom—things revealed anciently, and also in the day in which we live, and he will give revelation to this Church from time to time according to the needs of the people, for the heavens are not sealed, only as men have sealed them against themselves.

Let us seek to know his will, hearken to the counsels of the First Presidency of this Church, and the President, who is the mouthpiece, the servant of God, with the authority to receive revelation for the guidance not only of the Latter-day Saints, but also for the people of all the world if they will only hearken to it. The Lord bless you, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

President Joseph Fielding Smith, President of the Council of the Twelve, has just concluded speaking. Elder Thomas E. McKay, Assistant to the Twelve, will now address us.

ELDER THOMAS E. MCKAY

Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles

PRESIDENT MCKAY and Counselors, President Smith, other members of the Council of the Twelve, brethren and sisters, and friends:

It is good to be here, to partake of the wonderful spirit of this occasion.

I am grateful to my Father in heaven for this privilege. I am grateful to my brethren. I love my brethren. I love you, brothers and sisters, and appreciate your support, your cooperation. I love the Lord for what he has done for me and my family, as referred to by President McKay, the great importance of the family life, for my missionary experiences the importance of which was referred to by President Smith.

This is a beautiful world in which we live. The Lord has given us this world; men, as has been stated, have made a mess of certain things, but in spite of that it remains a beautiful world. I am sure we appreciate the music we have heard this morning, the beautiful music furnished by the combined Scandinavian choirs, and of the weekly broadcasts of the Tabernacle Choir, organ, and "The Spoken Word."

I recommend listening to them firsthand or transcribed.

I am reminded now of Richard L. Evans' "Spoken Word," of two weeks ago, on the dream of John Ruskin, which Brother Evans referred to—of the children in the garden and in the home. Books, music, and entertainment were supplied, with freedom for the children to enjoy themselves. They had everything that a child's heart could desire, and still they were not satisfied. Some of the leaders began pulling the nails, the brass, shiny-headed nails, out of the chairs and other furniture, and others joined them, and in a short time they were all engaged in that useless, destructive pastime, to see how many nails, shiny nails, they could collect. Some of the leaders were jealous of some of the others, and the stronger ones helped themselves to the nails, and before they knew it, they were fighting for nails, shiny nails. No one was satisfied; everybody wanted some of somebody else's. They fought on for the nails, though they knew they would not be allowed to carry as much as one brass nail

away with them. But no, it was who had the most nails at the moment.

John Ruskin said he awoke from his dream because of the noise of the children, and then he thought that it could not have been children that were fighting for such foolish things. "Only men do." And so it is with the world. Many have forgotten God.

As one writer stated, we look upon our religion, upon our Church, as a spare tire to be used only in time of emergency. An example comes to my mind of this emergency in an instance, told by President McKay (I hope he will pardon me for referring to it), when he was returning from his first mission. It was in the summer, August 1899, I think. The boat had gone off its path in its desire to shorten the distance, and ran into an iceberg. The boat stopped; the cargo was shifted a little and the boat listed and quivered. Everything was in darkness. There was a man on that boat who had been touring Europe, a member of the Church, and he was there, not associating very often with the missionaries and the members, for which some of the missionaries were grateful because his face was flushed from visiting the bar too often; but when that iceberg was struck, this man was the first one, so President McKay relates, to come and suggest that we call the missionaries together and pray. Afterwards he stated, "All I could see was my wife and seven children before me." And all during his visit to Europe, and his time on the boat, he had forgotten his religion, forgotten his wife and his children at home, but now, in the case of an emergency, he was the first one to think of the Lord.

Too many of us are like that. We forget the Church, the gospel, and its many values. Within the Church are enviable opportunities for spiritual and cultural development. Our expanding universities and our chapels furnish opportunities, whereby we can participate and develop. Within these walls is produced the highest type of music.

We live in a land of unequalled beauty.

The more we observe this, the more we will realize and appreciate these blessings. One of our great Utah artists, who has moved from Utah and now lives in New York, I believe, states that this Wasatch Range east of here is the most beautiful range of mountains in the world, and I believe he is right. When you go up north to the beautiful peaks north of Brigham City and especially Willard, and down to Ben Lomond and to Mount Ogden, on down to Timpanogos, and the Twin Peaks, Mount Nebo in the distance, that can be seen for miles, it is uplifting. Why should we leave such beautiful things, to gather nails, brass-headed nails?

It is a great Church, and I am grateful for my membership in it.

At one of the sessions, I think it is generally on the anniversary of the Church, which will be Monday, the Authorities of the Church will be presented for our sustaining vote. I would recommend to the tourists who are in our midst that they attend that session. It is a revelation. It is a wonderful feature of our conferences, of all our conferences.

I am tempted to refer to the presentation at one of our southern conferences. Some of the brethren and sisters take this feature of the conference and think it is not very important. Brother J. Golden Kimball, my dear friend, was attending a conference in one of the stakes in southern Utah, so the story is told. He was presenting the names of the General Authorities and presented the Presidency of the Church. They voted upon them separately—then the Council of the Twelve, the First Council of the Seventy—there were fewer hands coming up each time, and then he slipped this in: "It has been proposed that we move Mount Nebo in the southern part of the valley to the northern. All in favor, manifest it." And they voted it. "Any opposed by the same sign." And nobody voted against it. So he presented the names of the Presiding Bishopric and then asked the president of the stake to con-

tinue with the presentation of the stake authorities.

The sustaining of the officers is a revelation—it will be to the visitors—to see how many men and women have definite appointments in this Church. Work is the greatest blessing that can come to us, and this is not a one-man Church, brothers and sisters. In the stakes, also, the same procedure will be pursued, and I have here the number of stakes, and the number of people engaged in each stake with definite appointments, also, 206 stakes and approximately three hundred people given definite appointments in each stake, fifteen hundred ninety-five wards, approximately two hundred forty-seven people given definite appointments to work in each ward; two hundred four branches, and practically one hundred seventy-five people given definite appointments for the people to work in each branch.

There is no excuse for anybody in this Church not having work. Yes, it is not a one-man Church. It is not the Church of Joseph Smith, nor of Brigham Young, nor of any of the men, the leaders who have succeeded them. They have all been called of God by the proper authority, but it is the Church, brothers and sisters, of Jesus Christ. He is our head, do not forget that. I testify to you, my friends, my brethren and sisters, that I know that Jesus lives, that he is the Christ, that he is our head, the head of this Church, and I bear you that testimony in his name. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

Elder Thomas E. McKay, Assistant to the Twelve, has just addressed us.

The combined Scandinavian choirs will now sing, "Almighty God of Our Fathers," conducted by Elder R. Hulbert Keddington. The closing prayer will be offered by Elder Gordon C. Young, formerly President of the New Zealand Mission, after which this Conference will stand adjourned until two o'clock

this afternoon. The proceedings of that session will be broadcast over KSL at Salt Lake City, and by arrangement through KSL over the other stations named at the beginning of the session.

The Conference will also be broadcast over Television Station KSL, channel five.

Once again we wish to announce that important messages and calls that have come to us for persons supposed to be in attendance at the conference, and for persons to meet others, will be announced at the dismissal of the meeting over the loud speaking system on the grounds. Similar messages coming in will be likewise broadcast at the close of each general session without further notice. Please listen carefully to these announcements.

The music for this session has been furnished by the combined Scandinavian choirs, conducted by R. Hulbert Keddington; Roy M. Darley has been at the organ.

You have all enjoyed these lovely callalilies, which adorn the banister here on the right and left of the rostrum. They have been furnished by the Berkeley Stake of California. Members of that stake have made such a presentation a traditional project for April Conference. They are particularly appropriate this year at the Easter season.

We thank the members of the Choir, the combined choirs and Brother Keddington, for the time you have put forth in practicing, and for the beautiful singing, the inspiring service, that you have rendered during this session.

We shall now hear the Choir sing, "Almighty God of our Fathers," and Elder Young will offer the benediction.

Singing by the Scandinavian Choirs, "Almighty God of Our Fathers."

Elder Gordon C. Young, former president of the New Zealand Mission, offered the closing prayer.

Conference adjourned until 2:00 p.m.