

in the midst of heaven with the everlasting Gospel, it was to be preached to every nation, every kindred, every tongue, and every people. (Rev. 14:6-7.) Does that leave anybody out? If not, that is a part of the great missionary responsibility that we bear to the world.

I bear you my testimony that it is one of the sweetest experiences that can come, and I hope that even our boys who have been in the armed forces will not be robbed of the privilege of going on missions. I think the bishops ought to interview them all, and if they are worthy, give them an opportunity and even if they cannot go, they will feel drawn to the Church because they have been invited.

I would like to say in parting to the bishops, do not just sit in your offices and decide that boys cannot afford to go on missions. I will tell you a story that was told to me. A good brother, a friend of mine, who aims to keep a missionary in the field all the time, decided to go to a poor section of the city and see if the bishop would like to furnish him a missionary, so he said, "Do you have a young man that you think would like to go on a mission and you have not called him because you did not think he would have the money?" The bishop said, "We have

just such a man as that." My friend said, "Well, you talk to him about it." So the bishop went to him and when he told this young man that he wanted him to go on a mission, the young man's face lighted up and he said, "Bishop, I have the money in the savings bank for my mission. I have been waiting two years for you to tell me you would like me to go on a mission." I wonder how many men in Israel there are who have waited on their bishops and the call never came.

God help us to arise to the importance of this great missionary work, I humbly pray, and leave my love and blessings with you all, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

The congregation, and that includes those brethren in Provo and in Logan, in the Assembly Hall, in Barratt Hall, and other places, will now join in singing, "We Thank Thee O God for a Prophet," Brother Spencer Cornwall directing.

The Men's Chorus and the congregation joined in singing: "We Thank Thee, O God, For A Prophet."

PRESIDENT J. REUBEN CLARK, JR.

Second Counselor in the First Presidency

MY BRETHREN: It is always a thrill to meet with this great body of Priesthood, and every time I meet with you, I am afflicted with the dread that we are not exercising the power for righteousness that belongs to us. No one can estimate the power and the influence that we might wield, no one can estimate the amount of good we might do if we were united, and no one can estimate the amount of good we are not doing, because we are not united as we should be, united in faith, united in action, believing the same things, supporting our leaders, ward,

stake, Priesthood, and all the rest. What we could do if we would but exercise the powers of the Priesthood which we have.

And I return again to a thought that I have expressed, I think, every time I have been here in the last twenty years, that we cannot trifle with the Priesthood. It is not something that we can take off as we wish, and put on when we get ready. It is something that is with us all the time, until we lose it through transgression, and then we may not put it back on, because we shed a few tears. Brethren, guard, guard your

Saturday, October 3

Second Day

Priesthood, magnify it, bring it into your homes honestly, preserving your covenants.

I approve of everything that Brother LeGrand has said tonight. I love to hear him speak about missionary work. His whole soul is filled with it. All that he said is true. But I want to enlarge the missionary labor a little bit, Brother LeGrand, I want to say that every one of you men is a missionary in your own homes. You have souls there to save. Do you know where your daughter is tonight, and every night? Do you know what kind of company she is keeping? Do you know that when she goes to meeting, as you suppose, Mutual, that she goes? Do you know the same things about your sons? Are you living the Gospel, are you magnifying your Priesthood in such a way that you can exercise influence to see that they do go where they should. Are you so exercising your Priesthood that when one of them starts to go astray that you can counsel with them, have them listen to you. I know children may be reared in the same home, the same environment, the same care, the same instruction, the same example, and yet one lives righteously and another goes astray. But, oh, the woe, the misery and the sorrow that come to the father and the mother of a wayward daughter or son. Brethren, do not overlook the home mission.

Deal gently, deal kindly, deal understandingly, deal justly, deal with charity, deal with love, with your sons and your daughters, and your wives. I cannot over emphasize these thoughts, because I have had fathers come to me and say, "my daughter has gone wrong, what can I do?" I am sure they did all what they thought they should do. Of course, all of their intents and purposes were as they should be, but somewhere they probably failed. You can only have one such mistake before the damage is done.

You know, our soldiers returning from foreign countries bring back with them various kinds of infections, infections of the body, bring back new germs, we are unaccustomed to them, we become subject to them. But they bring back other infections, too, moral infections. And those moral infections also spread, they are spreading. I hope that you brethren of the Priesthood are on guard against these infections, usually infections destroying chastity. Do not rest easy, brethren, be on the watch-tower always. Guard against these infections. Watch as you would watch your own life, the lives and purity of your children, your loved ones.

You know, I believe that the Lord will help us. I believe if we go to him, he will give us wisdom, if we are living righteously. I believe he will answer our prayers. I believe that our Heavenly Father wants to save every one of his children. I do not think he intends to shut any of us off because of some slight transgression, some slight failure to observe some rule or regulation. There are the great elementals that we must observe, but he is not going to be captious about the lesser things.

I believe that his juridical concept of his dealings with his children could be expressed in this way: I believe that in his justice and mercy he will give us the maximum reward for our acts, give us all that he can give, and in the reverse, I believe that he will impose upon us the minimum penalty which it is possible for him to impose.

Brethren, watch your homes, be missionaries in your homes, have all the zeal, all the faith, all the righteous living that you would have if you were in the mission field, and then put your trust in God, asking his blessing, ask his help, that he will teach you how to govern your family, that you may have no tragedies therein.

God bless you, I humbly pray, in the name of Jesus. Amen.