

Sunday, April 4

Second Day

"That faith also might increase in the earth;

"That mine everlasting covenant might be established;

"That the fulness of my gospel might be proclaimed by the weak and the simple unto the ends of the world, and before kings and rulers.

"Behold, I am God and have spoken it; these commandments are of me, and were given unto my servants in their weakness, after the manner of their language, that they might come to understanding.

"And inasmuch as they erred it might be made known;

"And inasmuch as they sought wisdom they might be instructed;

"And inasmuch as they sinned they might be chastened, that they might repent;

"And inasmuch as they were humble they might be made strong, and blessed from on high, and receive knowledge from time to time.

"And after having received the record of the Nephites, yea, even my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., might have power to translate through the mercy of God, by the power of God, the Book of Mormon.

"And also those to whom these commandments were given, might have power to lay the foundation of this church, and to bring it forth out of obscurity and out of darkness, the only true and living church upon the face of the whole earth, with which I, the

Lord, am well pleased, speaking unto the church collectively and not individually—

"For I the Lord cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance." (D. & C. 1:17-31.)

I wish the Lord could have said, and I wish he could say it today, that this is the only Church upon the face of the earth with which he is well pleased considering this Church individually. That he cannot say, but if we would humble ourselves, if those who are wayward and indifferent, who have received the testimony of the truth would repent, and if every man and every woman and child who is old enough to understand would turn unto the Lord with full purpose of heart and honor and serve him as we are commanded to do, the Lord would be able to say it.

The day is promised when righteousness shall prevail, and when it shall cover the face of the earth as the waters do the sea, and I am sure that many of us will have to humble ourselves if we live to see that day, and if we do not humble ourselves, and should that day come, we will have to be removed.

Brethren and sisters, let us keep the commandments of God as they have been revealed. Let us set the example before the people of the earth, that they, seeing our good works, may feel to repent and receive the truth and accept the plan of salvation, that they may receive salvation in the celestial kingdom of God, and so I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## ELDER HUGH B. BROWN

*Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles*

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RETHREN AND SISTERS, there are times when silence would seem to be more appropriate than speech, when one is so overwhelmed that speech is no longer an adequate medium of expression, when one could wish that he could broadcast a message

from his soul without opening his mouth.

Some years ago we took our little family down to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. The children were young. We stood where thousands of you have stood, on Inspiration Point, and we saw with awe and wonder the depths,

the distances, the majesty of that scene. We felt our littleness and insignificance.

As we stood there absolutely speechless, with our arms around each other, little Mary slipped her hand in mine and said, "Daddy, don't you think we ought to pray?"

Looking out upon this great canyon of faces, and realizing that out beyond there are other thousands listening in, again one is smitten with a sense of littleness and insignificance, again it seems that prayer would be the only appropriate form of speech. A man may talk to God when he is afraid to talk to men. Would you join then in a continuation of the beautiful prayer that was offered in the invocation by President [Golden L.] Woolf, which expressed thanks and gratitude for our blessings? All of us are indebted to the past, and I am sure we could, with profit, join in prayer and thanksgiving to God for those who preceded us. All of us, like the mountain streams, depend for our volume and quality upon the springs and tributaries that lie far back in the hills.

Indeed some of us are aware this morning of sustenance from tributaries which have their source on the other side of the valley of life. We thank thee, our Father, for our ancestors. Many of us look back through five generations of Latter-day Saints. We think of them who were associated with the Prophet, of their trials and difficulties; their heartbreaking experiences in Kirtland and Nauvoo; their subsequent journeys across the plains with their ox teams or handcarts; and for some of them the memorable march of the Mormon Battalion. They established themselves in this desert land, and some of them were called by the Authorities of the Church to move again and go into even more rugged and forbidding areas extending from Mexico to Canada. We thank God for our great progenitors. With Nephi, we feel that to be born of goodly parents is one of heaven's choicest blessings.

If for a moment we become personal,

it is not because our experiences and heritage are unique—they are but typical of the lives of Latter-day Saints—but we are thinking now of a father, willing all his life to lay everything upon the altar, sending boys on missions, building up new areas, struggling against the elements. We are thinking of a pioneer mother, a woman who somehow had the genius to inspire in the hearts of each of her seven sons and seven daughters a sense of their individual worth and who predicted for them blessings in the future predicated upon observance of law.

We are thinking too of our companions, and I am sure all of you brethren who are assembled and who are listening will join in a tribute to those who know us best, in our weaknesses, and still somehow contrive to bring out of us something of our potential worth; who pray and love us into being our better selves.

This speech would not now be made were it not for one of the choicest of the daughters of Israel. Her faith and loyalty and love were sail and chart and compass on life's voyage. O God, we thank thee for our companions. We are grateful, too, for the hallowing influence of children in the home. They hold us like an anchor in the storm. We think back when we knelt by their beds to nurse them through affliction, when we called on God to bless and restore them, and he heard us; we thank God for the influence of their lives upon us, and for the continuing dividends of their love and loyalty.

We thank God for the privilege that has been ours of working with the young people of the Church. The inspiring message of our beloved President about conditions in the world and the need for missionaries makes those of us who have had that experience feel, as I am sure these mission presidents here today must feel, how great it would be if there could be a hundred thousand of them. I am sure each mission could absorb all the missionaries that we now can send.

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Thank God for the privilege of working with those young people, worthy descendants of pioneer stock, faithful, full of integrity and faith. They have meant so much to our lives.

Humbly we thank God for the priceless privilege that has been ours to associate with the men in the service, men who are willing to die for freedom and country, and have the courage to live the principles of the gospel. We have seen them coming back from bombing missions, kneeling in their battle dress and talking to God as few men talk. Thank God for the privilege of associating with the servicemen. God bless them.

May we, as we leave this conference, not forget them, but let a flood of letters go out to them, expressing our faith in them, letting them know that we are praying for them.

Thank God, too, for the great privilege of associating with the students in Brigham Young University, the inspiration that comes from those thousands of valiant young Latter-day Saints, fruits of the gospel, nourished and sustained by the blood of their pioneer ancestors. Truly they are thoroughbreds. We almost envy you young people who are listening in, and who are here today, envy you the future, dark and difficult though it may seem. Do not allow the huge events that are darkening the horizon to intimidate your souls, for God will make you equal to your time and task. The same one who led your parents will stand by you if you forsake him not. We envy you as you go forth with the improved methods and increased power to which reference has been made, and we say, with the poet,

Ye that have faith to look with fearless  
eyes  
Beyond the tragedy of a world at strife,  
And know that out of death and night  
shall rise  
The dawn of ampler life:  
Rejoice, whatever anguish rend the heart,

That God has given you the priceless dower  
To live in these great times and have your  
part

That ye may tell your sons who see the  
light

In Freedom's crowning hour,  
High in the heavens—their heritage to  
take—

"I saw the powers of darkness take their  
flight;

"I saw the morning break."†

Now, while it would be inappropriate to even mention the first personal pronoun in this speech, it would be ungrateful indeed if reference were not made to the gratitude that fills our hearts for the privilege that now is ours to associate with these great men, a privilege that must not be misread as merit. We love and support and honor them. We thank God for the privilege of sitting at the feet of greater men than Gamaliel of old who tutored Paul.

God help us all that we may add to our faith, virtue, and to virtue, knowledge, and to knowledge, temperance, and to temperance, patience, and to patience, godliness, and to godliness, brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness, charity. God grant that these things may be in us and abound, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

†Found on the body of an Australian soldier and credited to Sir Owen Seaman.

President David O. McKay:

The congregation and Choir will now join in singing "High On The Mountain Top."

After the singing, President Stephen L Richards of the First Presidency will speak to us.

The Choir and congregation joined in singing the hymn, "High on the Mountain Top."