

## ELDER CLIFFORD E. YOUNG

*Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles*

Y BRETHREN AND SISTERS:

When I was on my mission many years ago, I was laboring in Southern Germany, and in 1907 President Joseph F. Smith, in company with then Bishop Charles W. Nibley, who subsequently was called to be a Counselor to President Heber J. Grant, was traveling through the missions. While in Switzerland, as has been related here, a meeting was held attended by Saints and some of the missionaries, at which President Smith made that memorable prediction that the day would come when there would be temples in Europe and in that land of Switzerland.

It seemed so incredible at that time. We were facing persecution. In Germany we were not permitted to meet openly, so we held our meetings in the forests in the summer and in private homes in the winter.

The newspapers carried articles against the Church and the missionaries, vicious in their nature. It seemed that the powers of the evil one had been turned loose to stop the work, and when that prediction was made, as we talked about it in our little missionary group, we wondered if it would ever be fulfilled.

I came home from my mission in 1908. Conditions here were not too good. There was persecution here at home, criticism toward the leaders of the Church, President Joseph F. Smith being especially singled out in newspapers and magazines for vitriolic attacks on the part of those antagonistic to the Church.

There are two types of persecution. In the early history of the Church it was more or less physical. Later on it was of the nature I have described. It just seemed that the work could not go forward.

What a change now! God moves in the affairs of men. It is his work. We are his children, and no matter what may come, if we do our part in preaching the gospel, declaring its message, its saving truths, there will be no ques-

tion about the outcome. These things we have learned over the years.

No one would have hazarded such a prediction except a prophet of the Living God. He saw, he knew, through the prophetic powers that he possessed, and today, during this conference, we have had related to us the fulfilment of that great prediction.

Thus, my brethren and sisters, it has ever been, and thus it will ever be in this work. There will be no failure. We may fail. Six months ago, you will recall we had a heavy snowstorm—conference weather they called it—and President McKay announced that all the roads in Wyoming were blocked and that the Saints should not attempt to drive home until the storm cleared. Today under such beautiful weather conditions we meet in conference. How this epitomizes the rolling forth of the work of the Lord! We meet storms; we meet roadblocks; then the storm clears. We ourselves sometimes throw up road blocks when we fail to do our part, when we fail to support the organizations, when presiding officers in wards and stakes fail to give the necessary direction to the auxiliary organizations, helping them in their work, all of them being important and necessary. We throw up road blocks when we fail to do our duty and keep his commandments. But the Lord, just as the storm cleared, clears the way, and in spite of us his work goes on, and there is no failure.

I am grateful for my testimony. I am grateful for the cleansing power of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank the Lord for faith in God. I thank him for his blessings that come even in the face of adversity and affliction, for the power to see even beyond the affliction. I am grateful for these blessings.

God sustains us. You know what was said of the Savior—that although he were a son, yet learned he obedience by suffering, by the things which he suffered, and being made perfect through that suffering, he became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey.

Thus it is with us, my brethren and sisters, and I leave with you my testimony, and pray that God may help us that there may be no failure on our part, and that we may not place any road-blocks because we have sufficient evidence to know that even against odds and adversity, there is no failure.

God help us to appreciate these

things, I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**President David O. McKay:**

Elder Clifford E. Young, Assistant to the Twelve, has just spoken to us. Elder Oscar A. Kirkham of the First Council of the Seventy will be our concluding speaker.

## ELDER OSCAR A. KIRKHAM

### *Of the First Council of the Seventy*

**I** PRAY for the blessings of our Heavenly Father.

President J. Reuben Clark, on his eighty-second birthday, said these words: "This is a great world for each youth, but he must conquer it for himself by work and right living."

President Stephen L. Richards, at the dedication of a ward chapel in Cache Stake stated: "We are engaged in building the kingdom here on earth. That is our assignment. Men are not endowed with the same talents, but everyone can make a contribution in his way."

President David O. McKay said, at the dedication of a chapel in the Box Elder Stake: "Three virtues contribute to the spirit of man: first, control of the passions; second, reverence; a great man is reverent in his attitude toward God and his Son, Jesus Christ; third, service to his fellow men."

Out of our welfare program has come: "They are putting a roof on the house of a sick brother. Men and boys are harvesting the widow's potato crop."

Lucy B. Young, one of President Brigham Young's wives, said one day in Germany to me, "I went up the hall in the Lion House. President Young had just crossed the road on South Temple and hurried into his office. With the curiosity of a good woman, I walked up to the end of the hall and listened at the door. I heard President Brigham Young say: 'Down on your knees, Brigham! Down on your knees!' He had had some difficulty with the men across the street. In a few mo-

ments he opened the door calmly, with perfect control, and went about his work.

May God school our feelings, give us a desire to do the right with such fine determination and faith, I humbly pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**President David O. McKay:**

Elder Oscar A. Kirkham of the First Council of Seventy has just addressed us briefly, but he said much in those few words.

We have been deprived of the inspiration of remarks from Elder Henry D. Moyle. He would rather I would not say what I am going to say, and I do not want my remarks to arouse any undue anxiety in your hearts.

Brother Moyle was one of four of the Twelve who were present at the dedicatory services of the Swiss Temple. Just prior to that he filled a special appointment. As always, he said, "Yes, I will go." I think that the filling of that appointment did not result in the cold from which he suffered when he got back to Bern. Be that as it may—I want to say that he participated in all the exercises, too. He speaks German fluently, and hundreds of thousands of German Saints rejoiced in his message.

The doctor thought he should not attend these services. He has a very painful case of shingles. I have deemed it unwise to have him exert himself to address this large congregation. We unite our prayers, Brother Moyle, for your complete and permanent restoration to your usual vigor and health.