

liveth, there is none other name given under heaven save it be this Jesus Christ, of which I have spoken, whereby man can be saved." (*Ibid.*, 25:20.)

It is the message of the Book of Mormon that has caused people from almost all nations of the earth to accept it as the word of God. Its inspiring theme and divine message, from the title page to the last chapter, constitutes the testimony or witness of a whole nation of people that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, the Creator of the world, the Redeemer of mankind. It bears witness to the efficacy of the atonement, of its universal application and its value to all individuals who will accept his word and keep his commandments.

We urge our friends to examine the book itself, to check its claims, listen to its message and to feel of its spirit. Yes, we believe in continued revelation, ancient, continuous, current, and future.

And personally, I wish to bear my testimony with those that have already

been borne that the Church today, the kingdom of God, is being led by revelation. God is not the author of confusion. He does not work in dark places. He makes it known to the world when he appoints a prophet, and I testify that I know as I know I live, that this Church today is guided by prophecy and by revelation, and that these men whom we honor are prophets of God.

I pray that he may help us to live as though we believed it, to be true to ourselves, to them and to God, by carrying out the instructions they give, and living the gospel of Jesus Christ, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

Elder Hugh B. Brown of the Council of the Twelve has just spoken to us. Elder Levi Edgar Young of the First Council of Seventy will now address us. He will be followed by Bishop Thorpe B. Isaacson.

ELDER LEVI EDGAR YOUNG

Of the First Council of the Seventy

In the Doctrine and Covenants we read these words of the Prophet Joseph Smith, "Seek ye knowledge out of the best books, words of wisdom." (See D & C 88:118.) Today I should like to read to you some of the words of wisdom which I have found in good books. Some of these words are from the Bible, some are from the writings of Abbott Lawrence Lowell, late president of Harvard University, and from other sources. All these sources and many more good books are easily available to all of us. I am very much interested in them and wish to pay attention to the Prophet's words.

Our pioneer fathers read the best books. Sometime I shall tell you what books they brought to this valley with them. The founding fathers read *most* of the best books of their time and in many languages. They were educated and wise men.

What is "wisdom"? President Lowell says, "We think of wisdom as a part of religion. In its highest strains it involves wisdom as an attribute and emanation of God, such that, if a man

take her as a companion and guide, he shall find righteousness and happiness. Such wisdom demands serenity of temper, a judicial attitude of mind, a habit of seeking what *good* reasons and motives, rather than what *bad* ones, others may have for differing from us. It demands not only a negative, but a positive intellectual integrity, a desire to understand that which contradicts, as well as that which supports, one's own views of what is just and wise. This means an open, earnest mind, a mind based upon wide and deep insight into ultimate realities."

Men are not born with wisdom, they acquire it by habitual self-control, by looking not at the popular impulse of the day, not by conforming, not by mass participation, *but* at those principles that endure and are eternal.

The following words, which I now quote, will be particularly helpful to our missionaries: "There are thousands of men in the world who live on a high moral plane and are not thought self-righteous. If we have any insight into the deeper springs of human nature, we

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will meet them constantly in the journey of life. If we have not the insight, we will not see them, for they do not make a show of virtue. But they have upheld it in others by their example, and make the world better by their presence."

What does Paul mean when he says (Corinthians), ". . . they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise." (II Cor. 10:12.) He further says, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 3:11.) Let us integrate this wisdom into our lives.

Let us be wise in training our children, and remind ourselves often that all young people need heroes to emulate. There is no life of the mind or aspiration of the spirit without emulation of great heroes. Let us remind them too, that opportunity is often *made* or *seized* upon by men, rather than thrust upon them. The lives of two of the most eminent American historians—Prescott and Parkman beautifully teach this great lesson. Our children must feel at times that they are in the company of a great human spirit.

May I pause here to say some words on juvenile delinquency. William Ellery Channing, the great historian, writer, and teacher said, "No state of mind, not even positive suffering, is more painful than the want of interesting objects." In other words, boredom causes crime. If we had wisdom enough in the community one cannot doubt that crimes, which all good men reprobate, would be less prominent . . . we should be so wise as to discover the causes and remove them.

To leaders and workers I say—ponder on these words in Genesis, "And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

"And he said, Let me go for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." (Gen. 32:24, 26.)

We read—wisdom is better than strength. Wisdom is better than weapons of war.

Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight.

We read in our newspaper the other morning these words of Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell. They are, I believe, wise words. "Civil rights is not solely a legal problem. Basically it is a moral problem." It will always be a problem in America, as long as children hear parents and neighbors utter derogatory remarks about other races, creeds, and religions. Our hiring practices in labor in the future, he says, will have to be based on ability and qualifications for the job, without regard to age or sex or race or creed or national origin.

Let us not be satisfied with a mediocre standard of our life's work. Destiny does not bless a man unless he has endurance to wrestle until the breaking of the day.

Our Father in heaven, help us to get wisdom and use it in our lives, we humbly pray. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

Elder Levi Edgar Young of the First Council of Seventy has just spoken to us. We shall now hear Bishop Thorpe B. Isaacson of the Presiding Bishopric.

BISHOP THORPE B. ISAACSON

First Counselor in the Presiding Bishopric

President McKay, President Richards, President Clark, my dear brothers and sisters: One cannot help feeling humble whenever he is occupying this position. I think it is the best lesson we have in bringing one to true humility, and I humbly pray the Lord will

sustain me today as I occupy this position.

We come to these conferences happy, cheerful, full of love, with tolerance and kindness to mankind, and with gratitude in our hearts to God, our Heavenly Father. Truly, it is always