

Friday, September 29

First Day

worth of souls is great in the sight of God; . . . And how great is his joy in the soul that repenteth!" (D&C 18:10, 13.)

The Lord is greatly concerned about every one of his children and would that all would repent and enter into the joy that he has prepared for those who keep his commandments.

"The object and design of existence"

The Prophet Joseph Smith summed the matter up like this: "Happiness is the object and design of our existence; and will be the end thereof, if we pursue the path that leads to it; and this path is virtue, uprightness, faithful-

ness, holiness, and keeping all the commandments of God." (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, pp. 255-56.)

May each of us be worthy to receive great joy and happiness each day is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President N. Eldon Tanner

We have just listened to Elder James A. Cullimore, Assistant to the Twelve.

Knowing Brother Sterling Sill's ability to condense his remarks, we will call him as our concluding speaker.

Elder Sterling W. Sill

Assistant to the Council of the Twelve

As I was leaving my home a few mornings ago, I stepped on a black walnut. I carried it with me as I walked to work; and as I now hold it in my hand, I think of it as a symbol of life. This walnut has a shell-like stone. And if you could see into its inside, you would discover a great network of stony reinforcements. And in the labyrinths in between is a substance having a gigantic power. If you were to plant this seed in the soil under the right circumstances, heat would be developed on its inside. You might turn a blowtorch on the outside of a walnut with little effect, but when heat develops inside a person or a walnut, important things begin to happen.

In the case of the walnut, a great power is created that breaks this stony shell as though it were paper, and a little shoot is sent up on its important mission toward the sun. This walnut has within itself the ability to attract from the elements in the water, the soil, and the air all of the ingredients necessary to become a great walnut tree, with wood and foliage and blossoms and fragrance and fruit multiplying by a million times the original investment.

But God did not put his best gifts into walnuts. Every human soul was

created in the image of God, and each of us was endowed with a set of the attributes and potentialities of Deity. And the greatest idea that I know of in the world is that everyone who lives the principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ will be given a far more miraculous power whereby he will be able to attract from his environment all of the elements necessary to become even as God is. May God bless our efforts toward this end, I humbly pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President N. Eldon Tanner

And that is quite a message, isn't it?

The Saturday morning session will be broadcast direct by numerous radio and television stations, and recorded for transmission on Sunday morning to many television stations in the eastern and central parts of the United States.

A video tape of Saturday morning's session of conference will be flown from the mainland and broadcast Sunday morning in Hawaii and to Alaska, and broadcast at both Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Morning sessions of Saturday and Sunday will be carried from the tabernacle over direct oceanic cables to a