

accepted as a course of action by anyone, new life comes into him. He has peace in his heart and gladness in his soul, while the sweet whispering of the Spirit gives him a taste of what is in store for him.

When will he reach the goal? Not in this life, although he may have a foretaste of its magnitude in this life. But he lays the foundation of character and love in this life upon which his eternal being is constructed. He is watched by the angels. His record of accomplishment toward the goal is recorded, and his reward is sure.

### Obedience to first principles

It is wondrous to know that the most magnificent of God's creations may be duplicated—not by technical knowledge gained here, although this may be of help, but by such simple acts as being kind to and honest with all people. By obeying the first principles and ordinances, one places himself in harmony with eternal teachings that will lead him to the presence of the Creator, and from him he will learn to take part in the acts of creation.

We understand that these wondrous accomplishments will not come without work. We know we must learn all we can of the truth of things in this life, and that we shall have to

conquer eternal physics, eternal chemistry, eternal biology, and all eternal arts to give eternal science beauty. But our Lord and Master will guide the teaching, and the truth will be the text.

No wonder that we bow in worshipful praise and adoration! No wonder that the name of Jesus Christ is used only in adoration and love!

All glory to the Lord God. He revealed himself to Joseph Smith and pointed the way, giving to Joseph the keys of the kingdom in this the dispensation of the fulness of times. With those keys operative today, through President David O. McKay, we may enter at the strait gate which leadeth to life eternal, and may become among the few who find it. I bear witness with words of soberness to the truth of our eternal destiny in the kingdom of heaven. I pray we may be alert to and worthy of these blessings, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### President Alvin R. Dyer

Elder S. Dilworth Young of the First Council of Seventy has just addressed us.

We shall now hear from Elder Eldred G. Smith, Patriarch to the Church.

## ELDER ELDRED G. SMITH

### Patriarch to the Church

As we celebrate this Easter season, we remember the promise of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:

“... I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.” (John 11:25.)

With the assurance of this great promise, obedience to eternal law should be a joy, not a burden, and give each the incentive to not just be passive members of the Church but to be diligent in trying to further advance his kingdom on the earth.

### Parable of the sower

The Savior, speaking in parable, told the story of the sower: how some seeds fell by the wayside, some upon stony places, some among thorns. Then he told of the seed that fell into “good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.” (Matt. 13:8.)

“... his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be?” (Luke 8:9.)

He answered, saying: “Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.” (Matt.

13:18.) He then told of the seed that fell by the wayside and in stony places and among the thorns. In each case, all became unproductive.

"But he that received seed into the good ground," said he, "is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." (Matt. 13:23.)

We frequently refer to this parable in reference to missionary work. The gospel is preached to many, and to each the same is taught. The seed is the same—the same quality, the same strength, same value—yet some persons accept quickly, some more slowly, some not at all. Some fall away and leave the Church, as the parable declares. Some remain steadfast to the truth.

Then the Lord describes those who are as the seed sown in good ground. Speaking of these he said some bear fruit or produce an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

### Membership alone not enough

This means, then, that mere membership alone is not enough—no, not even if you have a testimony of the divinity of the gospel—if you are not producing or bearing fruit. Speaking of those who receive the word, which means those who are members of the Church, some produced one hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. In which category are you? Where do you find yourself? Are you producing? To what degree are you producing? What does it mean to produce?

Are you doing anything to teach someone else the gospel, if this is where your abilities and opportunities lie, or are your abilities and opportunities elsewhere? Are you doing your share in family research, temple work, teaching a class, or some other activity? Are you doing something to be of service to someone else? Are you one who is tottering on the fence, staying away from church activities, not growing in spirituality?

Have you become stagnant in priesthood advancement? Are you an adult but have not yet received the Melchizedek Priesthood or temple bless-

ings? Are you working toward that end? What is producing?

### Becoming productive

Producing means, first, preparing yourself, then helping someone else. You cannot wait until you are perfect before you teach or assist someone else, but should pass on to others all you receive, as you receive it. This is how we fulfill the advice of President David O. McKay when he said, "Every member a missionary." Live so your life reflects the blessings of the gospel. Obedience to eternal law is to produce, to serve, to work.

In another parable, the Savior gives us the answer to how we bear fruit and become productive.

"When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

"And before him shall be gathered all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

"And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

"Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

"For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

"Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

"Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

"When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

"Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matt. 25:31-40.)

Here the Lord has mentioned the

necessities of life—food, shelter, and clothing. Then he said to visit the sick or the imprisoned. This means to give comfort and encouragement to those who are less fortunate. He does not necessarily mean to use the dole, but to help others to obtain the benefits of life, help others to enjoy life.

### Serving each other

Jesus gave his life for us. He took upon himself the burden of all the sins of all mankind who will accept him and do his will, who will produce, to build up his kingdom upon the earth.

He has asked us to serve each other, to help each other, to do good to each other. As one of our hymns suggests:

"Have I done any good in the world today?  
Have I helped any one in need?  
Have I cheered up the sad, and made someone feel glad?  
If not, I have failed indeed.  
Has any one's burden been lighter today,  
Because I was willing to share?  
Have the sick and the weary been helped on their way?  
When they needed my help was I there?"

(*Hymns*, No. 58.)

There are many unexpected ways to serve, in addition to that of church service.

### Example of service

A young man driving down the street one early morning saw several streetcars lined up one behind the other. The motormen were all gathered together by the front car. He stopped and went over to see what was happening. He saw that one streetcar was off the track, and the motormen were trying to put it on again.

Finally they gave up, and each went to his own car and went back the other direction around the loop, back to town, leaving the one motorman in his car, all alone, just to wait for help.

The young man sized up the situation, then asked the motorman if he might try to put the car back on the track.

"Do you think you can?" asked the motorman.

"I'd like to try," the young man said.

He took the steel bar off the hooks on the side of the car, blocked it against the wheel, gave directions, and in just a minute the wheels dropped into the track with a thud. The young man hung the bar back on the car, and the happy motorman was again on his way.

The poet and song writer Harry Robert Wilson has expressed the thought so beautifully.

"Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is doubt, let me sow faith;

Where there is despair, let me sow hope;

Where there is darkness, let me sow light;

Where there is sadness, let me sow joy!

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled as to console,

To be understood as to understand,

To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

May we all receive the word of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and bear fruit one hundredfold, and sow seeds of joy, happiness, and eternal life, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### President Alvin R. Dyer

The congregation and chorus will now join in singing the first and last stanzas of "Come, Come, Ye Saints." After the singing, Elder Milton R. Hunter of the First Council of Seventy will speak to us.

---

The congregation and chorus sang the hymn, "Come, Come, Ye Saints."

---