

Ninety-First  
Semi-Annual Conference  
of the Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints



*Held in the Tabernacle and Assembly Hall,  
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With a Full Report of the Discourses*

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doth grant unto all nations, of their own nation and tongue, to teach his word; yea, in wisdom, all that he seeth fit that they should have; therefore we see that the Lord doth counsel in wisdom, according to that which is just and true. I know that which the Lord hath commanded me, and I glory in it; I do not glory of myself, but I glory in that which the Lord hath commanded me; yea, and this is my glory, that perhaps I may be an instrument in the hands of God, to bring some soul to repentance; and this is my joy.

I care not, my brethren and sisters, how much opposition comes from without. We meet opposition in the Western States. There are men and women who, in the language that has been quoted by Elder Iverson, used by the reverend gentleman in a discourse in Denver, "with their hell-flamed tongues are poisoning the minds of the people" against this thing that is known as "Mormonism;" but all the powers of darkness and of earth and hell combined cannot stay the onward progress of the work of God. He has set his hand the last time to accomplish his purposes in the earth, to establish the truth, and to bring to pass his righteousness, and there is no power that can stay its progress. It is destined to go on until it fulfills its destiny in the earth. But there is danger when there is internal strife, when there is bitterness in the hearts of the sons of God, that they will destroy our faith, and undermine our lives, and thus we will be servants to sin; and I raise my voice in protest against these practices.

I rejoice, my brethren and sisters, in the testimony of the gospel and in the privilege that I have of lifting my voice in its defense. There is no joy that comes to the soul equal to that joy that comes in declaring the message of salvation. I want to say to you that men and women by the thousands are willing to listen to our message, and I care little for these fellows who oppose us. I want to testify to you that it is a splendid thing that opposition comes into the lives of the missionaries; it puts them on edge, it makes them determined and very anxious to bear witness of the truth that has been restored in this day and age of the world.

Now, may we, my brethren and sisters, go from these gatherings and carry with us the inspiration and the spirit of them, and let us carry it to our various wards and stakes and missions, that the work of God may go on unhindered, and that our brethren and sisters who hold positions of responsibility may receive the sustaining power of the Priesthood of the Son of God, that they may carry on the great latter-day work entrusted to their care, I humbly pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### ELDER GEO. F. RICHARDS

It was said by our Savior while he ministered among men, that he spoke as one having authority; and the scriptures tell us that if a man speak, "Let him speak as the oracles of God."

## ENDORSEMENT OF THE PREVIOUS SPEAKERS

You, my brethren and sisters, having accepted the principles of the gospel and the ordinances thereof, and having tried as well as you could to keep the commandments of God, in the midst of weakness, you know as well as those who have testified, this afternoon, in your presence, that this is, indeed, the gospel of Jesus Christ, and that it is indeed the power of God unto salvation. I rejoice exceedingly, and join my brethren in adding my testimony to this great truth, and also endorsing that which has been said by those who have preceded me.

## THE PURPOSE OF INSTRUCTION

I take it, my brethren and sisters, that in embracing the gospel and coming along thus far in your life's work, you are resolved and determined to be true and faithful unto the end, remembering that the race is not to the swift, neither the battle to the strong, but to those who endure faithful to the end. The instructions which are given are calculated to bring us to a remembrance of the covenants which we have made, of the undertakings which we have entered into, of the aim and objects we have had when, in our thoughtful moments, we have considered the purpose of our existence here, where we came from, and where we are going to; and to remind us of our weaknesses and imperfections, and of the straight and narrow way in which we must travel continuously if we shall reach the goal and aim of our lives.

I hope, dear brethren and sisters, that we will not be deceivers of ourselves, but hearing these things and locking them up in our lives. This is not what is intended, but rather that we shall consider these admonitions, cherish them in our minds, weigh them, and apply them to ourselves, that we may profit by them. For, if after we have been instructed so thoroughly and plainly, in regard to our duties, we still continue to neglect them, we will not be without condemnation in the day of judgment. This gospel is a "savor of life unto life, or of death unto death" unto those to whom it comes. The hearing of the word is just as much our condemnation, if we neglect to accept and live by it, as it is our salvation if we accept and live by the word of the Lord.

## IN COMMENDATION OF THE SAINTS

I commend you, my brethren and sisters, for your integrity, faithfulness, and many sacrifices which you are making for the gospel's sake. I know that this is pleasing to our Father in heaven. I know that you know that when you have done that which is right, and tried to live the law in the accomplishment of the Lord's purposes, you know he is pleased with you, and that his Spirit is upon you. You are happy in the work. I know, too, and you know, that if we love the brethren, it is a good index to our love of God, and if we love our Father and his Son Jesus Christ, we will keep the commandments;

and if we do that we will obtain eternal life. That is what our heavenly Father has designed that we should do. That is what he has designed that we should attain to; eternal life in his presence. And may God help us to this end, and may none of us be failures, but may the success we will attain be to the advantage and glory of our lives in the world to come, I earnestly pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choir and congregation sang the anthem, "Inflammatu8," solo by Ada McDonald.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Joseph S. Lindsay of the Cottonwood stake of Zion.

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## SECOND OVERFLOW MEETING.

A second overflow meeting was held in the assembly hall of the Bureau of Information at 10 o'clock Sunday morning, October 10.

Elder David A Smith, of the Presiding Bishopric, presided, and called the congregation to order. The music was furnished by the congregation under the leadership of President Winslow Farr Smith of the Northern States Mission.

The congregation sang, "High on the mountain top."

Prayer was offered by Elder Wallace S. Trowbridge.

Congregation sang, "Israel, Israel, God is calling."

## ELDER SAMUEL O. BENNION

(President of the Central States Mission)

I am reminded very much this morning in our assembly here, of conferences that we frequently hold in the mission field. We usually have just such a place as this in many of the great cities of the country, and just about a gathering of this kind—though sometimes smaller; so I feel quite at home here. I have felt the Spirit of the Lord here. I felt it when our young elder prayed in opening the meeting; and I am reminded of the words of the Savior, that where there are a few gathered together in his name, there he would be also. This is the Lord's work, it is not man's work. Our Father in heaven is at the helm, and he governs and controls, according to the conditions of men. It is true that he can do much better with men and women who are faithful, and true than he can with men and women who are not, but he guides and controls. This life of ours has much to do with our future life and with the destiny of the human family.

When the Lord appeared unto the prophet Joseph Smith, he told him that the creeds of men were an abomination in his sight. Now I