Tabernacle

Remarks By Pres. B. Young,

                                                  on Sunday Morning  Nov. 19, 1854

                                                           Reported By J, V. Long.

I wish to add my testimony to some of the remarks of Bro. Pratt.  With regard to the location and blessings of the saints, they do not realize the blessings that we as a people enjoy.  It seems that the people do not realize the position they occupy and the blessings they enjoy at the present time; they are to them as a passing thing,-- a thing that has not been.  I wish the Latterday saints could realize the sayings of the prophets in former and in Latterdays.  I wish that good men, men that are in authority in this Kingdom, I wish they could realize one fact, Viz. that you are saints, and that you wish to do right; just realize that this people had better be few in number and be as they should be than to increase, become numerous, and be as they should not be.  If they could realize this they would answer my request of last Sunday, Viz. to sever the dead and rotten branches from the Church, for if they are left on they will effect the whole tree.  I would rather be left with the few than go with the mass to destruction.  Then why are the Elders so soft and sympathetic in their feelings that they will fellowship the most rotten hearted rascals that can be found Drunkenness, swearing, stealing, all going on at head quarters.  Let us fellowship suth characters and be influenced by them, and I tell you sorrow awaits this people.

Bro. Orson has told you that we can prepare for greater blessings than we have heretofore received, and we can prepare for sorrow too.  As I said last sunday cease to fellowship those characters who disgrace all the morals of a Christain.  I know that the Brethren are saying why such a man is a good saint, he is a real Mormon; yes he is a Mormon, and he would steal the coppers off his dead father's eyes; and there are many such like characters in our midst.  For   a man to fight the indians, defend me, go on a mission, all this does not prove that he is a Latter-day saint, but to prove this to me and to God he must show by his life, conversation and general deportment that he lives his religion.

I say to this people if you wish to sanctify yourselves before the Lord, sanctify your Quorums, purify them.  We want them to know that it is better to be classed with the few, who are willing to do right than to go with the mass to destruction.  Rise up then and cleans yourselves and your quorums ye Elders of srael, trim up your quorums and cut off the dead Branches that the tree maythrive.  I want all saints to live their religion, and then I dont care what the gentiles think or say; one thing I realize day by day, viz. that Christ and Baal have no fellowship one for the other, but it seems as if some of the Brethren are so anxious to go hand in hand with the world, that they want to say Bro.  Gentile, Bro.Latter-day saint, Bro. Devil and Bro. every body else.  I never feel so; I care no more about them than I do for the dust upon their feet.

Bro. Orson has been preparing to deliver a great mystery to us.  I am not an astronomer, nor a philosopher, neither did I ever profess to be, but there is one thing I wish him and all philosophers of the day to do, when they make any discovery to bring it out right here, and not go to work and be six months writing a Book to reveal this great mystery in.  Take a reservoir that will hold five thousand gallons and fill it full of chaff and then put in a kernel of wheat and it will take a man about six months to hunt for it; and it is just so with all these great discoveries.  I say fetch it out, and dont keep us waiting till you write a Book that will fill 600 pages to tell what could be told here in a Minute.  I could tell the philosophers something more than they know,I could tell them that instead of it taking them 8 years to get a lunar observation, the time will come when men will be able to get one to tell it in half a minute,and instead of writing great Books of 800 or 900 pages to explain the rotations of the planets, they will tell all about their rotations in half a page,  for they are all governed by the laws of the eternal priesthood.

I tell you there is no Kingdom in which there is no space, and nospacc in which there is no kingdom, according to the revelation given to Joseph, but when men sit down to tell us the great first cause of all things that are, I will tell you what they do to me, they expose their poor, miserable ignorance,    let themselves into the dust.  I am not an astronomer, nor a philosopher; I have no learning, nor don't profess any, saving what the Lord taught me when I was in the woods chopping and rolling logs.  But I know it is just as easy for the Lord to teach a man, who has no learning, to understand the rotations of planets or any other mystery of nature as it is to teach us farming or any other simple principle, and make us see and understand it in half a minute.

Well, Bro. Orson has told us what he discovered, or rather prepared to do so.  Now I am plain in my remarks, and I wish to say to the Brethren if you discover anything, get right up here and tell it out.

What would this people do if they were not guarded on every side?  They would dwindle away into darkness so that there would not be five persons in two years who could tell God, Angels, Men, devils, one from the other scarcely;--would not be five left in these mountains, for the righteous would go away.  Do you see those Elders of Israel drunk in the streets, so drunk that they cannot see, and you may pull them over in the streets, and ask them do you beleive Mormonism?  They are so drunk that they cannot speak plainly, but they will drail out y-e-s, I-'m a Mormon" And if you contradict them they will do as one fellow did in Kanesville when he was asked if he was a saint, and he said I'll swear I'm a Mormon.  What shall we do with such men, tie them up and give them a whipping?  They deserve it.  I have told the Mayor of the City to stop those grog shops, and Breweries so that for one winter we will not have so much drunkenness as we have been troubled with previously.  Well but says one it is not so bad as in other Cities are; but what is this City, how did it come here?  Why any body will tell you that; the Latter-day saints were driven from the U. S. and have built a city near to the Great Salt Lake, and called it S. L. City.  Who is it that is getting drunk, is it the Latter-day saint who is going to the Kanyon to get wood, is it the Latter-day saint who is farming, and building--

0 shame on the people of this place; is a man obliged to sin, or to do wrong?  Is he obliged to steal his neibor's Ax, if it happen to be left in the Kanyon?  Or his neibor's clothing when he finds it in the streets?  Some will actually hide up things which tl'ey find so that their neibor shall not find them.  0 shame on such Latter-day Saints.  There is a portion of this comaunity calculated to pull this City ------

Rise up then and let us wipe out these nasty grog shops; we can do that or drive them (the owners) to California, where some now going; I beleive they have just started, and I wish their companions would go after them.

After all this my heart says Lord have mercy upon us; help us to sanctify ourselves before thee.

    May God bless you:            Amen.