

stitutions revealed and carried out in the days of Christ and his Apostles?" No, this is not what I mean, because it must differ in some of its bearings from those institutions. "Wherein?" In this respect, if nothing more—Peter and the rest of the Apostles having done what we are doing now, that is, talked about that "standard," and the restoration of the kingdom and government to Israel, said to Jesus, "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" That is, "Wilt thou at this time *raise a standard* with all the powers of government, break down the Roman Empire, and give the kingdom and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven to thy Saints, that so all Israel may be saved?" So far from a satisfactory answer being given to Peter and the Apostles, the Savior said, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons" when this shall be done, letting alone doing it, for the knowledge of these times "the Father hath put in his own power." Jesus did not turn round and answer them as the sectarians would—"You are entirely mistaken, my kingdom will always be a spiritual kingdom; and you will be very much disappointed if you look for anything else." He virtually said—"Suffice it to say, it is not given to you Apostles to hold the keys of my kingdom in that day and age of the world, or even to know the time that I will do that work." "Well, Lord, what will you have us to do? As the Scriptures are more full upon that subject than almost any other, for kings and Prophets spoke of little else, and you will not tell us of that, but reserve it for some other people, and to be known at some other time, which we are not to know, what is it you would have us to do?" "Simply be witnesses of me in Jerusalem, Samaria, and in the uttermost parts of the earth. Baptize the people, if they will repent, after you have taught

them to believe in me, their eternal King and great High Priest, who rose from the dead, and ascended up on high in your presence, to reign in heaven, and eventually upon the earth. Go and tell the people that, and let them repent, and turn to me with full purpose of heart, and know that I am the law, and the way, and the truth; and if they shall keep my words, they shall have eternal life; and if they do not, they shall remain in condemnation. If they hear you, they hear me; and if they receive you, they receive me; and if they receive me, they receive him that sent me; and if they reject you, they reject me. And whatsoever they do to you, it is the same as though they did it to me. You are my ambassadors, my representatives, my ministers, and if they do good to you, it is the same as though they did it to me. If they discard you, and believe not your words, and withhold their hands from helping you to carry out the principles of truth, it is the same as though they did it unto me." "But, master, how shall we establish a *standard* of government, and peace, so as to maintain these principles?" "*You cannot do it.*" Did Jesus Christ and his Apostles say these things in so many words? No. But in words that amounted to the same thing. Says he—"The time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service." And unto Peter, the head of the Apostles, Jesus said, speaking of the death Peter should die—"When thou shall be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not." Jesus told his servants they would be scourged from city to city, and from place to place, and from synagogue to synagogue, and be overcome, for another power would rise different from the kingdom of God, and it should make war with them, and overcome them, and be drunken with the blood of the