

**THE GIFTS OF PROPHECY AND TONGUES—THE FORMER
CIRCUMSTANCES AND PRESENT CONDITION OF THE
SAINTS CONTRASTED—TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS
NECESSARY TO EXALTATION—THE CONDITION OF
DISEMBODIED SPIRITS—REDEMPTION OF THE DEAD.**

A DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG, DELIVERED IN THE BOWERY, GREAT
SALT LAKE CITY, JUNE 22, 1856.

REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.

I am happy for the privilege of rising again before you to converse upon those things that pertain to our peace, that most deeply interest us in our reflections and in our lives, it is a matter of constant joy and comfort to me.

It gives me great pleasure to look upon the congregations of the Saints, while I reflect that some of us have been faithful in this Church for many years, have preached to the Saints and to sinners, have called upon people to repent while the finger of scorn has been pointed at us and all manner of evil has been spoken against us falsely. And many times the Elders, while laboring faithfully in preaching to the people, would not find where to lay their heads, no doors open to receive them, and no one to feed them, yet they have traveled and searched until they have found a great many that ought to be honest in heart—a great many who have embraced the Gospel.

It has been a hard labor upon many of the Elders of this Church to accomplish what has been done, to preach this Gospel to so many people in so many different nations and kingdoms.

If the miles our missionaries have traveled were counted they would amount to a great sum, and if you could know how many days they have been without eating, while calling

upon the people to repent, you would find them to be a great number.

If the troubles of this people from the commencement of this work, from the early history of the Prophet, and the persecutions of the Saints, could be presented before this congregation you would be astonished, you would marvel at them. You would not believe that a people could endure so much as this people have endured, you would think it an impossibility for men and women to endure and pass through what a great many in this Church have. Truly it is a miracle that we are here.

Taking these things into consideration, and viewing our present circumstances and the privileges we enjoy, there is not a heart that fully realizes what we have passed through and the blessings we now enjoy, without praising God continually and feeling to exclaim, "O praise the name of our God."

True, many think and feel that we have hard times here, that it is a hard country to live in. We have long cold winters, and we have a great many difficulties to encounter—the Indian wars, the cricket wars, the grasshopper wars, and the drouths.

What we have suffered during the two years past comes before us, and now the prospect is gloomy pertaining to sustenance for man.

How many are there who feel and