

CONTINUED OBEDIENCE TO THE LAWS OF GOD IS NECESSARY
TO INSURE A COMPLETE SALVATION TO THE LATTER-DAY
SAINTS—THE DISOBEDIENCE OF ANCIENT ISRAEL IS SHOWN AS
A WARNING TO THE PRESENT GENERATION OF HIS PEOPLE—
THE NATURE AND NECESSITY OF THE LAW OF TITHING—THE
FEWNESS OF THOSE WHO FAITHFULLY OBSERVE THAT LAW

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG, DELIVERED IN THE BOWERY,
LOGAN CITY, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 27, 1873

Reported by David W. Evans

I am very much gratified for the privilege of coming to this place to see the faces of the Saints, to speak to them and to greet them as a brother and a friend. If we could see and understand things as they are, if we could have the veil withdrawn from our eyes and behold the things of eternity, and the connection and relationship that we sustain to the eternal worlds, and to heavenly things, our minds would be very much inspired to speak, sing, pray, listen attentively, meditate upon and contemplate the wonderful things of God. A great deal is said to the Latter-day Saints concerning our religion, which does in reality incorporate and circumscribe the whole life of man. We need teaching. We are like children with regard to learning. If we could understand the effects of the fall or of sin upon intelligence, we would see that its tendency is downward, that it is retrograde in its nature. The things pertaining to life are of the opposite character—they are exalting, increasing, multiplying, gaining, receiving a little here and a little there—our minds and under-

standings expanding by that which we learn by reading, by the seeing of the eye and the hearing of the ear.

The Bible, the Book of Mormon, and the revelations which the Lord has given to his people in the latter days, contain a great deal about the kingdom of God on the earth. We have also histories of the kingdoms established by the children of men. From these we learn that a great many changes have taken place owing to the revolutions that have occurred in the past and which are still in progress. From our own conclusions on these matters there is one fact of which we are sensible, and understand to a certainty—namely, that purity preserves, sustains and increases, while sin and ignorance, in all their horrid forms, have just the opposite effect. We need only look at the nations of the earth for confirmation of these ideas. We need not go far; we may look at the aborigines of our own country. Why are they in their present condition? There are reasons for this. They, just as much as we, belong to the human family—