

Lord gives unto us belongs unto Him, and it is our first duty to the Church to pay it, and after that the sacred precepts, teach offerings and a generous benevolence to the poor and needy, whether in gifts or loans—discouraging greed or covetousness of this world's goods, which is idolatry.

I earnestly pray that the Spirit of God may enable us to master this and all other principles of the Gospel, until we shall possess the riches of eternal life, the greatest gift of God to man. Amen.



MAN'S NATURAL SPIRIT AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD—
OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM—HIS DEALINGS IN THE
LATTER DAYS—WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE SAINTS—THEIR
POSITION AND LABORS AMONG THE NATIONS—CHRIST
THE EXAMPLE TO ALL HIS FOLLOWERS—WORDS OF
COUNSEL TO PRIESTHOOD AND PEOPLE

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, DELIVERED IN PAYSON,
THURSDAY EVENING, NOV. 23, 1882

Reported by John Irvine

We are living, as Brother Cannon has remarked, in a most important day and age of the world. The times are pregnant with greater events than any we have any knowledge of in the history of God's dealings with His people among the nations of the earth in the different ages. The very fact of our gathering together as we do is a very peculiar thing. It differs from the way of any other people. It is a part of the Gospel, and inspired by the spirit of revelation, even the gift of the Holy Ghost which comes through obedience to the Gospel. There is and always has been a spirit

abroad in the world which is really a portion of the Spirit of God, which leads mankind, in many instances, to discriminate between good and evil, and between right and wrong. They have a conscience that accuses or excuses them for their acts; and although the world of mankind is very wicked and very corrupt, yet it will be found that almost all men, though they may not do good themselves, appreciate good actions in others.

The scriptures say that God "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined