

**THE PRINCIPLES OF THE GOSPEL PROMOTE UNITY,
FAITH AND LOVE—THE HUMAN FAMILY ARE FREE
AGENTS—THE EVIDENCE OF OUR HAVING DESCENDED
FROM THE GODS—THE WORLD IS FULFILLING ITS
DESTINY—THE CHURCH AND KINGDOM OF GOD ARISING
IN INFLUENCE AND POWER—THE RESTORATION OF THE
HOLY PRIESTHOOD—PLURAL MARRIAGE—MORE
HAPPINESS IN DOING RIGHT THAN WRONG—ALL REAL
ENJOYMENT COMES FROM GOD—THE LATTER-DAY
SAINTS TRUST IN GOD—'MORMONISM' THE ONLY
RELIGION WORTH LIVING FOR—THE CHRISTIANITY OF
THE PERIOD A TREMENDOUS IMPOSITION UPON THE
CHILDREN OF MEN—'MORMONISM' WILL EXTEND
FURTHER AND FURTHER—CONCLUSION.**

DISCOURSE BY COUNSELOR D. H. WELLS, DELIVERED IN THE SALT LAKE ASSEMBLY
HALL, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 28TH, 1883.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

The principles of the Holy Gospel are calculated in their nature to unite the hearts of the people one with another, and to promote faith, union and love towards our fellows.

We are an independent set of beings. The human family possessed of intelligence, are agents unto themselves to receive or reject that which is good or that which is evil. Indeed it was one of the objects, I suppose, of our coming upon this earth, to learn to know the good from the evil, the right from the wrong, the light from the darkness, the bitter from the sweet, the joy from the sorrow, that we might the better appreciate the blessings of joy and peace, of light, of intelligence, of truth, and of every virtue. Now, as it is written, man having partaken of the forbidden fruit became as one of the Gods, knowing the good from the evil. Therefore he

must be cut off; he must not be permitted to live forever in his sins; a flaming sword must be placed to guard the tree of life. Hence mortality, the wages of sin.

Herein lies the great evidence of our lineage, of our having descended from the Gods, reasoning, intelligent beings possessing the capabilities of the Gods—that is, the power to rise to their capabilities, being of that nature and of that kind of which are the Gods. And I might say that a person who is not capable of being a peculiar agent of the devil need never aspire to become a son of God, for, according to the Scriptures, we are "heirs of God, and joint heirs with Jesus Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." If it would have been as well for us to have remained in our pre-existent state; if we could have learned and