

**WHY WE GATHER—DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE
LATTER-DAY SAINTS AND THE WORLD—ORGANIZATION
OF THE CHURCH IN FORMER DAYS—CONDITION OF THE
WORLD PREVIOUS TO THE RESTORATION OF THE
GOSPEL—THE REFORMERS AND THE WORK THEY
PERFORMED—ALL MEN ENJOY A PORTION OF THE
SPIRIT OF GOD—THE JEWS—THE GOSPEL MUST BE
PREACHED—ORGANIZATION OF NEW
STAKES—MISSIONARIES' FAMILIES TO BE PROVIDED
FOR—BUILDING HOMES AND BEAUTIFYING THEM—THE
DESTINY OF ZION.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, DELIVERED IN THE BOWERY AT REXBURG,
BANNOCK STAKE, IDAHO, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, AUG. 17TH, 1884.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

I am pleased to have the opportunity of meeting with you in this place, of visiting your homes in these new settlements, and of striking hands and conversing with many of our old friends with whom we have been associated quite a distance from here, and some a very long distance indeed.

As Latter-day Saints we have gathered to these valleys of the mountains. We are assembled together for certain purposes associated with our own individual interests; in other respects for purposes connected with the welfare of our families, of our wives, our children, our husbands, etc. And then, further, we have gathered together as we have done in these mountains to comply with certain requisitions made by the Almighty upon His people in these latter days. We have come here in accordance with a message that he has communicated from the heavens to the inhabitants of the earth. These ideas and feelings are

at the foundation of all our movements, of all our acts. We occupy a very peculiar position in the midst of these United States, and also in the world. We differ from others in a great many respects, in our ideas of God, in our religious sentiments, in our social views, and in our relationship with each other, and in many respects in all the leading characteristics of human life and existence pertaining either to this world or to the world that is to come. We assemble here as Latter-day Saints—for it is to these that I am speaking—and I understand the term Latter-day Saint is used in contradistinction to former-day Saints. The Church of Christ existed some 1,800 years ago, when Christ himself was its teacher. He came down from the heavens to teach and instruct the people in the ways of life. Those who believed in Him were baptized in His name for the remission of sins, and they had hands laid upon them for the