

COMMUNITIES ARE MADE UP OF FAMILY ORGANIZATIONS—THE MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP INSTITUTED BY THE ALMIGHTY—DESCENT OF THE HUMAN FAMILY FROM GOD—PLURAL MARRIAGE SYSTEM OF ANCIENT ISRAEL—POTENCY OF LOVE—ETERNITY OF MARRIAGE NECESSARILY LEADS TO PLURAL MARRIAGE—POLYGAMIC FORM OF MARRIAGE MOST PREVALENT IN THE WORLD—FROM WHENCE MONOGAMY IS DERIVED—MONOGAMY SOMETIMES NECESSARY—FRUITS OF MONOGAMY AND PLURAL MARRIAGE COMPARED—THE MARRIAGE COVENANT CHANGED FROM A RELIGIOUS RITE TO A CIVIL CONTRACT—MARRIAGE REQUIRES THE SANCTION OF THE HOLY PRIESTHOOD—THE SAINTS SHOULD NOT MARRY OUTSIDE THE CHURCH.

DISCOURSE BY ELDER H. W. NAISBITT, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE, SALT LAKE CITY, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 8, 1885.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

My brethren, sisters and friends: The congregation is large, and I hope to be so directed by the Spirit, that all present who so desire may be enabled to hear and understand.

The Sabbath is the day provided expressly for the reception of spiritual food. The speakers, or those who may be called upon to teach, need all the resources that are within their reach in order to satisfy a congregation of hungry souls, they need particularly the faith and prayers of the Saints, the influence and power of the Holy Ghost, the manifestation of the authority of the Holy Priesthood, so that there may be instruction upon the important topics and principles of the Gospel, not the theoretical ones alone, but those that are interwoven with our daily life.

There is a vast amount of experience in the aggregate among the people. Individual experience forms one of the treasure houses from whence a speaker can draw the supplies that are necessary and advantageous for a sympathetic audience. There is a great deal implied in a congregation like the present one; there is much more implied in the aggregation of congregations forming a community, from communities to nations, from nations to mankind at large. The most narrow as well as most dense communities are made up of the family organization. There is found circle within circle, or as the Prophet had it, "wheel within wheel;" and the homes of a community should be the outgrowth, not of theories alone, but of the faith, knowledge, and understanding of those relationships which exist there.