

PRIVILEGE OF MEETING TOGETHER—WE ARE HERE TO DO OUR FATHER'S WILL—ALL DEPENDENT UPON GOD FOR ASSISTANCE, GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION—THE LORD REVEALED TO ADAM THE PURPOSE OF SACRIFICE—ADAM, BEFORE HIS DEATH, CALLED HIS FAMILY TOGETHER AND BLESSED THEM AND PROPHESED—MANY SPIRITS HAVE BEEN DESTINED TO HOLD CERTAIN POSITIONS AMONG MEN—WHY WE ARE GATHERED—WE MUST FOLLOW THE TEACHINGS OF THE SPIRIT, AND HONOR THE PRIESTHOOD IN ALL ITS CALLINGS—PREPARE OURSELVES TO ENTER HOLY PLACES—THE PRIESTHOOD MUST NOT TOLERATE INIQUITY—THE CHURCH MUST BE PURIFIED—CONCLUDING EXHORTATIONS.

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, DELIVERED AT A PRIESTHOOD MEETING, HELD IN THE SALT LAKE ASSEMBLY HALL, SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 6TH, 1883.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

It is quite a privilege for us to meet together in such assemblies as this—to associate with the Priesthood of the Son of God, which Priesthood is also after the order of Melchizedek, and after the power of an endless life. It is a great privilege for us to meet together, to talk over the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God, and to reason and reflect upon those things that God has revealed for our salvation in time and throughout the eternities that are to come. It is proper that we should comprehend the various positions of men in relation to this Holy Priesthood, and further that we should understand the various orders, callings, ordinances and organizations associated with the Church and Kingdom of God upon the earth; that we each of us may be prepared to magnify our calling, to honor our God, and to pursue that course always which shall be acceptable in the sight of our Heavenly Father.

We are here as Jesus was here, not to do our own will, but the will of our Father who sent us. He has placed us here; we have a work to do in our day and generation; and there is nothing of importance connected with any of us only as we are associated with God and His work, whether it be the President of the Church, the Twelve Apostles, the Presidents of Stakes, the Bishops, or anybody else, and we can only thus be of any service by placing ourselves in a position to act as God dictates us; as He regulates and manipulates the affairs of His Church in the interests of humanity, in behalf of the living and of the dead, in behalf of the world in which we live, and in behalf of those who have lived before us, and who will live after us. We can none of us do anything only as we are assisted, guided and directed by the Lord. No man ever lived that could. Adam could not. Noah could not. Even Jesus could not.