

**THE CREATION, MALE AND FEMALE—CALLING OF
ENOCH AND NOAH—GOD SELECTED ABRAHAM AND HIS
SEED TO BE A CHOSEN PEOPLE—HE COMMANDED HIS
PEOPLE TO MULTIPLY BUT FORBADE ADULTERY AND
WHOREDOME IN EVERY FORM—PLURAL MARRIAGE
ENJOINED UPON ABRAHAM AND HIS SEED TO MAKE
THEM A GREAT PEOPLE—THE PRINCIPLE OF LIFE AND
ETERNAL INCREASE IS A SPIRITUAL POWER—MODERN
CHRISTENDOM OPPOSED TO LARGE
FAMILIES—LATTER-DAY SAINTS ENCOURAGE
THEM—THE EDMUNDS LAW PASSED WITH THE
PRETENCE OF REPRESSING IMMORALITY AMONG THE
MORMONS—THAT MASK OF HYPOCRISY NOW THROWN
OFF—THE RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT OF THE LATTER-DAY
SAINTS THE REAL OBJECT OF
PERSECUTION—CONCLUDING EXHORTATIONS.**

DISCOURSE BY APOSTLE ERASTUS SNOW, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE, PROVO,
SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 31ST, (QUARTERLY CONFERENCE) 1885.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

The speaker commenced by reading from the 1st chapter of Genesis—from the 25th verse to the end of the chapter.

Proceeding, he said: In the writings of Moses we have an account of the creation of this earth and the inhabitants thereof, both man and beast and every living thing, as also vegetation. In the first verse we read, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

In attempting to communicate intelligence upon any theme, if we attempt to do it by using words and phrases, we are obliged to use such language as the hearers or readers are able to comprehend, and if the language be imperfect the ideas conveyed may be somewhat imperfect or defective, and if the understanding of the persons to whom this language is addressed is limited, and their use and understanding of lan-

guage is limited, the information sought to be communicated to them will be correspondingly limited and defective. It is only by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost that we are able to see clearly the things of God; but the language employed by the writer of the Book of Genesis and by the translators of that work is perhaps sufficiently clear for our purpose at this time, though the inspired translation rendered by the Prophet Joseph Smith is somewhat clearer and more impressive than the present King James' translation. In the inspired translation by the Prophet Joseph Smith, it is written that in the beginning the Gods created the heavens and the earth; that the earth was empty and desolate, and God said unto His Only Begotten, let *us* do so and so; let *us* divide the light from the darkness; let *us* separate the waters and cause the