

NATURE OF THE GOSPEL, AND OF OUR POSITION AND
 CALLING—RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS—THE
 RIGHT OF ALL MEN TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM—HONORABLE
 MEN OF THE EARTH—WE AIM AT A HIGHER EXALTATION THAN
 THE REST OF THE WORLD

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE,
 OGDEN, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 20, 1884

Reported by John Irvine

We are occupying a very peculiar position in the world, and in many respects different from the position that is occupied by any people that at present live upon the earth. Our ideas, and views, theories and doctrines; our principles and our mode of life generally are very distinct from that of other people. We look at things from another standpoint to that which the world generally do. Our ideas are predicated upon the work that God has commenced, by the ministration of holy angels, by the opening of the heavens, by the voice of God, and by the revelation of His will to the human family; in which all mankind, whether they comprehend it or not, are very much interested. The Lord has been pleased to make known unto us certain things of which we were ignorant; and certain things of which also the world of mankind are ignorant; and of which we know nothing, and could know nothing, only through the revelation of God to man.

The Gospel, we are told, brings “life and immortality to light”—life for ourselves, life for our families, for our wives and children, life for our progenitors, and life for our posterity; and consequently it is pregnant with greater events than anything that has yet transpired upon the earth. It goes back, back, back into the eternities that were, it unfolds things that now exist, and are on the eve of fulfillment, and it develops things which are to come. Consequently, as I said before, we are in a different position from that of other people. We do not look at things from the same standpoint which they do. We have other ideas and feelings and anticipations, and are in possession of another spirit and principle of intelligence other than that which is generally diffused in the world. Men in the world talk about the Gospel, but they do not comprehend it. We as Latter-day Saints talk about the Gospel, yet we understand only very little about it. Just in proportion as