

TITHES AND OFFERINGS—CONSECRATIONS AND STEWARDSHIPS—THE LAW OF THE LORD TO THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS—THE MEANING OF "SURPLUS PROPERTY"—TITHES AND OFFERINGS IN ANCIENT TIMES—THE YEAR OF JUBILEE OR RELEASE—THE IMPORTANCE OF PAYING TITHING—GOD THE GIVER OF EVERY GOOD GIFT—TITHES AND OFFERINGS HIS DUE.

DISCOURSE BY ELDER FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS, DELIVERED AT LOGAN, ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON, NOV. 6, 1882.

REPORTED BY GEO. F. GIBBS.

My dear brethren and sisters and friends, I am much edified by the remarks which have been made here today. I believe that your president is looking after his work throughout this Stake over which he presides, and I hope you will take into careful consideration the subjects he has presented to you, as they are matters of practical importance. We feel that we are numbered with God's people, and that it is very well with us in a general way, but there is a time coming when we shall each and every one of us be brought to a solemn, serious and faithful understanding of our true relationship to God and to each other, as well as to the work in which we are now called to labor. We all have our free agency to do good or evil. Every faithful Saint will have a desire to find the blessing that legitimately belongs to each particular ordinance and labor in the Church, for there is a blessing belonging to each office and calling, to each labor and duty, and to each particular ministration and work required of us.

The Elders who spoke this morning made allusions to the subject of

tithing, which particularly pleased me; some may think this a hackneyed subject and wish we would talk about something else, believing that they know all that has been spoken or written about it; but I think there are a few things pertaining to this matter which we may not have considered. If there is any brother here who feels that today his tithing is onerous or that this tithing is a tax upon him, and that he has got so much he cannot afford to pay tithing on it, or that he has so little that he cannot spare a tenth of it, such a brother does not realize and sense the blessing that flows from paying an honest tithing, for if he did he would deem it just as necessary to obey that law of God to us, in order to obtain the special blessing thereof, as he would of going to his meals in order to derive the temporal blessing of health and strength from partaking of food. If we could take home to our hearts and understandings the sayings of Bishop Hunter here last Conference, namely, "pay your tithing and be blessed," the subject of tithing would appear of greater moment to us. I recollect, not long ago, being