

people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth." This was their song of joy and rejoicing, which was expressive of the glory and power, exaltation and gladness that filled their souls.

There are other interesting and important phases of our great work which bear a striking analogy to the vine and its branches, but I cannot

take time to dwell upon them now, lest I wrong those who have yet to address you. I think perhaps I have said enough to call your attention to the subject and the Spirit will aid you to pursue it. My earnest desire is that we may master this and all principles of the Gospel, and make them our own eternal riches, through our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

**THE GOSPEL LIKE LEAVEN—LABOR REQUIRED OF THE
ELDERS—PROMISES TO ABRAHAM—HONORABLE MEN IN
THE AMERICAN NATION FORMERLY AND NOW—LIBERTY
IN RELIGION AND THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE CLAIMED
AS RIGHTS—THE SAINTS CANNOT AFFORD TO DO
WRONG—RELATIONSHIP TO GOD—EXHORTATION.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE, SALT LAKE CITY, SUNDAY AFTERNOON (ANNUAL CONFERENCE), APRIL 8, 1883.

REPORTED BY GIBBS AND IRVINE.

We have had a very interesting Conference, and a great many very excellent principles have been presented to the people. As I told the Priesthood last evening we are occupying a very peculiar position in the earth, a position that has not been of our own seeking. God has set His hand to accomplish His purposes upon the earth, and for this purpose He has revealed Himself from the heavens, as we have heard since this Conference commenced. In pursuance of this He has mani-

festated Himself and His Son Jesus Christ, and has restored the Holy Priesthood by and through the medium of a Priesthood, or various parts of a Priesthood that existed in former ages—those holding that everlasting Priesthood, which administers in time and in eternity, have been commissioned from the heavens to come to the earth to bring to pass the very things of which they themselves had prophesied. Although we are, comparatively speaking, a small people, few in number,