

**THE PRESIDENT FEELING A LITTLE WEAK IN BODY
ASKED THE CONSIDERATE ATTENTION OF THE
CONGREGATION—GOD INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE
OF ALL THE HUMAN FAMILY—THE ORGANIZATION OF
THE CHURCH, AND THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTING UPON
THE PRIESTHOOD—GOD HAS GIVEN TO EVERYONE A
PORTION OF HIS SPIRIT—THE PROMPTINGS OF THAT
SPIRIT—THE WICKEDNESS OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE
EARTH IN THE DAYS OF NOAH—WHY THE FLOOD
CAME—THE ANTE-DILUVIANS WOULD NOT REPENT—THE
GOSPEL AGAIN PREACHED AS A
WARNING—PERSECUTION—OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THIS
NATION IN A POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW—A
COMMONWEALTH HAS BEEN BUILT UP IN THESE
MOUNTAINS BY THE "MORMONS" UNDER THE BLESSING
OF GOD—UNFAIRLY TREATED AS A PEOPLE BY THE
PARENT GOVERNMENT—THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS HAVE
RIGHTS WHICH THEY WILL SEEK LEGALLY TO
MAINTAIN—CONCLUSION.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR AND PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON,
DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE, SALT LAKE CITY, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 7,
SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1883.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

Permit me to say that in consequence of the immense multitude that has assembled on this occasion, it will be absolutely necessary that the strictest order and quietude should be maintained, in order that all may hear; for it is a great labor to address so many thousands of people. As I feel a little weak in body I hope, therefore, you will give me your quiet and considerate attention.

We have listened to a great many interesting principles since the commencement of this conference.

We occupy today a very peculiar position, and it is proper that we, as Latter-day Saints, should comprehend that position and our various responsibilities in relation to the world in which we live, the nation

with which we are associated, and the duties and responsibilities which devolve upon us as messengers of salvation to proclaim the Gospel to mankind. It is further necessary that we should comprehend the past, that we should comprehend the present, and that we should also—under the influence and by the direction of the Spirit of the living God—comprehend the things of the future; for we, as Latter-day Saints, have to do with the past, we have to do with the present, and we have to do with the future.

In relation to the inhabitants of the world generally, I sometimes think that we entertain very erroneous notions concerning them—that our ideas are too narrow and