

**JOSEPH SMITH'S TESTIMONY NEVER PROVEN
FALSE—PRIMITIVE ORGANIZATION OF THE
CHURCH—WORK OF CHRIST NOT COMPLETED WHEN HE
SAID, "IT IS FINISHED"—WHY SHOULD SO MUCH FAULT
BE FOUND WITH THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS?—THE
WORLD'S OBJECTION TO "MORMONISM"—HISTORY OF
THE APOSTLES—AUTHORITY TO PREACH THE GOSPEL
RESTORED—TEMPLES—BAPTISM FOR THE DEAD—BOOK
OF MORMON—RESTORATION OF THE
PRIESTHOOD—CAUSE OF PERSECUTION—NO
SURRENDER—PLURAL MARRIAGE.**

DISCOURSE BY APOSTLE GEORGE TEASDALE, DELIVERED IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL, SALT
LAKE CITY, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 13, 1884.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

I likewise can bear my testimony to the truth of this work that the world please to call Mormonism. The "Mormon problem" is very easily defined if we consider the pretensions of the people called "Mormons." From the time that Joseph Smith first declared that he had had a vision of the Father and the Son—from that time to the present, I know that the world have never been able to prove that his testimony was false. I know that they have never been able to prove that Moroni did not give to him the plates of gold, or that the translation called the Book of Mormon is false. I know that they have never been able to prove that John the Baptist did not visit Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery, and confer upon them the Holy Priesthood, even the Aaronic Priesthood; neither have I ever heard that it has been proved that the Melchizedek Priesthood and Apostleship were not restored by Peter, James and John. There has been a great deal said about Mormonism; quite a number of books written upon the

subject; a great deal of derision has been made of it; but the testimony of the Latter-day Saints has never been proven to be false.

We have declared to the world that God has spoken from the heavens; that angels have appeared to the children of men; and that the keys of the Priesthood and intelligence have been restored to the earth—and we know it. We have invited the people to search the Scriptures to see if these things were not predicted—to find out if it had not been declared therein that it should come to pass in the last days that the God of heaven would establish His Kingdom upon the earth. There had to be a commencement. We read in the Bible that God set in the Church firstly Apostles, then Prophets, then Evangelists, and Teachers, for the work of the ministry and for the edifying of the body of Christ. Paul declared that the Saints were the body of Christ, members in particular, and he bore the same testimony to the Corinthians that he bore to the Ephesians, concerning the fact that God had