

**THE GATHERING—THE LORD WILL PUNISH THE
WICKED—POLYGAMY AND PROSTITUTION—STATISTICS
OF CRIME COMMITTED BY MORMONS AND
NON-MORMONS—THE WICKEDNESS OF THE NEW
ENGLAND STATES—THE DEBASED POSITION OF U. S.
OFFICIALS AS EXHIBITED IN THE COURTS OF UTAH.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, DELIVERED AT OGDEN, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19,
1884.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

I am pleased to have the opportunity of meeting with you in Conference here, and to talk with you a little on some of the principles associated with our duties in our connection with the Church and Kingdom of God.

The Latter-day Saints occupy a very peculiar position in the world, but I do not know that we have any thing very particular to say on that question. It is true, we have used our own agency in coming here, but there are certain purposes of the Almighty, associated with our gathering together, over which we had very little control. There is a remarkable saying in the revelation of St. John, in reference to a certain Babylon, which reads as follows:

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

"For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities."

There is something very significant in the text here quoted. It would seem that John, in a previous part

of his vision, had seen an angel who would precede this other. He says:

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

"Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

As Latter-day Saints we have listened to these things from time to time. We have talked about the opening of the heavens, the manifestations of God our heavenly Father, and Jesus the Mediator of the New Covenant, about the restoration of the Gospel, and the organization of the Church and Kingdom of God. We have talked a good deal about the Holy Priesthood, and the authority of God having been conferred upon man from the heavens, which places us in communication with our heavenly Father; and also of the organization of His Church in a manner that is in accordance