

**THE CREATION, MALE AND FEMALE—CALLING OF  
 ENOCH AND NOAH—GOD SELECTED ABRAHAM AND HIS  
 SEED TO BE A CHOSEN PEOPLE—HE COMMANDED HIS  
 PEOPLE TO MULTIPLY BUT FORBADE ADULTERY AND  
 WHOREDOME IN EVERY FORM—PLURAL MARRIAGE  
 ENJOINED UPON ABRAHAM AND HIS SEED TO MAKE  
 THEM A GREAT PEOPLE—THE PRINCIPLE OF LIFE AND  
 ETERNAL INCREASE IS A SPIRITUAL POWER—MODERN  
 CHRISTENDOM OPPOSED TO LARGE  
 FAMILIES—LATTER-DAY SAINTS ENCOURAGE  
 THEM—THE EDMUNDS LAW PASSED WITH THE  
 PRETENCE OF REPRESSING IMMORALITY AMONG THE  
 MORMONS—THAT MASK OF HYPOCRISY NOW THROWN  
 OFF—THE RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT OF THE LATTER-DAY  
 SAINTS THE REAL OBJECT OF  
 PERSECUTION—CONCLUDING EXHORTATIONS.**

DISCOURSE BY APOSTLE ERASTUS SNOW, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE, PROVO,  
 SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 31 (QUARTERLY CONFERENCE), 1885.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

The speaker commenced by reading from the 1st chapter of Genesis—from the 25th verse to the end of the chapter.

Proceeding, he said: In the writings of Moses we have an account of the creation of this earth and the inhabitants thereof, both man and beast and every living thing, as also vegetation. In the first verse we read, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

In attempting to communicate intelligence upon any theme, if we attempt to do it by using words and phrases, we are obliged to use such language as the hearers or readers are able to comprehend, and if the language be imperfect the ideas conveyed may be somewhat imperfect or defective, and if the understanding of the persons to whom this language is addressed is limited, and their use and understanding of lan-

guage is limited, the information sought to be communicated to them will be correspondingly limited and defective. It is only by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost that we are able to see clearly the things of God; but the language employed by the writer of the Book of Genesis and by the translators of that work is perhaps sufficiently clear for our purpose at this time, though the inspired translation rendered by the Prophet Joseph Smith is somewhat clearer and more impressive than the present King James' translation. In the inspired translation by the Prophet Joseph Smith, it is written that in the beginning the Gods created the heavens and the earth; that the earth was empty and desolate, and God said unto His Only Begotten, let *us* do so and so; let *us* divide the light from the darkness; let *us* separate the waters and cause the