

**PRIESTHOOD—ITS AUTHORITY NECESSARY TO
ADMINISTER IN THE ORDINANCES OF THE
GOSPEL—THIS PRINCIPLE WELL ILLUSTRATED IN THE
LIFE AND EXAMPLE OF THE PROPHET JOSEPH—JESUS
OFFICIATED BY VIRTUE OF THE MELCHIZEDEK
PRIESTHOOD—DESCENT OF THE PRIESTHOOD FROM
ADAM—NECESSITY OF TEMPLES IN WHICH THE POWER
OF THE PRIESTHOOD CAN BE EXERCISED FOR THOSE
WHO DIED WITHOUT THE GOSPEL—RESTORATION OF
THE PRIESTHOOD IN THESE LAST DAYS—THE
LEGITIMATE ACTS OF THOSE HOLDING THE
PRIESTHOOD ARE ACKNOWLEDGED AND RATIFIED BY
THE LORD—BINDING POWER OF THE HOLY
PRIESTHOOD—OPPOSITION OF SATAN TO THE
PRIESTHOOD—VIRTUES OF THE LATTER-DAY
SAINTS—CONCLUSION.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE,
OGDEN, SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 18, 1884.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

I will read a portion of the 7th chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews.

[The speaker read the whole of the 7th chapter.]

Proceeding he said: This chapter that I have read in your hearing is the 7th chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews. In this entire book of Hebrews, Paul reasons with the Jews, unto whom the epistle was addressed, to show them that Jesus, the Son of God, whom they had crucified, was a Priest after the order of Melchizedek, and that the Priesthood which had been taken away during the days of Moses in the wilderness, had been restored through Him. The Jews entertained the idea that Priesthood necessarily came through the tribe of Levi, and that the power and the authority

thereof—that is, to minister in all things pertaining to the Priesthood were confined to that tribe, and that no one had the right outside of that tribe to officiate in the ordinances pertaining to God and to mediation between God and the people or the people and God. But Paul very clearly proved in his reasoning with them that there was a Priesthood higher than that which had been exercised by the descendants of Aaron.

It is well for us, who, as a people, believe in Priesthood, that we should understand the nature and character and power of the Priesthood which God confirms upon man when He calls him to act in His stead in the midst of the people. As a people we differ in our views upon these points from almost every other church.