

Brigham Young, 25 August 1867; Provo

Papers of George D. Watt MS 4534 box 4 disk 11 images 48-49, 62-63, 65-66

Sermon not in Journal of Discourses; in CR 100 317 box 5 folder 26¹

Transcribed by LaJean Purcell Carruth 19 November 2010 corrected

INDIANS WANT TO RETURN TO SETTLEMENTS, BE PEACEFUL; TABBY, ANTERO; MAJOR HEAD AND UINTA; INDIANS "VERY UNCERTAIN"; "THEORY OF OUR RELIGION TO PRACTICE GOOD WHILE WE LIVE ON THE EARTH"; REFERENCE TO TALK GIVEN, APPARENTLY BY ORSON PRATT, ON THE FIRST MARRIAGE CEREMONY; BRIGHAM YOUNG CAN FIND VERY LITTLE IN SCRIPTURES ABOUT THAT; MARRIAGE; COUPLES TO RECEIVE THEIR ENDOWMENT THEN MARRY CORRECTLY; DIFFICULTY OF TEACHING SAINTS; CITY OF ENOCH; LATTER-DAY SAINTS PROGRESSING FASTER THAN CITY OF ENOCH; SAINTS TO BECOME ONE IN TEMPORAL MATTERS; EMIGRATION, COST OF EMIGRATION; ONLY ABOUT 1/6 OF THOSE BAPTIZED GATHER TO ZION AND REMAIN FAITHFUL; HE WANTS EMIGRATION FROM SPIRIT WORLD; YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN TO MARRY AND PROVIDE BODIES FOR WAITING SPIRITS; NOBLE SPIRITS RESERVED FOR LATTER DAYS; CHILDREN IN MORMON HOMES GENERALLY SUPERIOR TO THOSE IN OTHER HOMES, MORE EASILY LED; PERPETUAL EMIGRATION FUND; ADAM AND EVE [AT SOME LENGTH]; SISTERS TO LEARN TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES; SISTERS MARRIED TO MAN WHO HAS A WIFE ARE TO GIVE UP IDEA THAT A MAN SHOULD SUSTAIN THEM IN IDLENESS, AND SUPPORT THEMSELVES; SOME SISTERS GET A BILL [OF DIVORCE] FROM MAN WHO HAS NOT ENOUGH MONEY AND GO TO ANOTHER MAN; HE DRINKS WATER; WORD OF WISDOM; SAINTS TO EAT VEGETABLES AND FRUITS, EGGS, BUTTER, MILK AND FISH; GOLD ONLY GOOD FOR ORNAMENT; BE PRUDENT

[Image 62]

Afternoon

President Young

If the people will give strict attention I will try to speak so they can hear it is a large congregation hard speaking here the first of my remarks will consist in relating to the people here at this meeting that the Indians that have been from the settlements for some two years wish the privilege of returning and abiding in the settlements and about the settlements in peace and in safety we had a few of them with us yesterday Tabby Antero and their associates we told them when their Indians come in to come in the road not to come in the brushes and sulk in the grass and but in the road with their rifles up and bows and arrows in their shields and come in as friends they are calculating to bring those unruly Indians to peace to make good peace with them if they can I say still further that Black Hawk has gone south to visit those little disaffected bands and reconcile

them and squash their depredations on the whites he wishes to make peace I think that his conversation and his acts probably prove it the superintendent Major Head has been to Unita to see him he would not consent for Head to leave him but cut off his hair don't want to be an Indian any longer wants to have his hair trimmed to look like the whites and said he would go forthwith and reconcile those marauding bands that they may cease their depredations Tabby requested that I should say this to the people at this meeting treat them well but one thing remember be on your watch they are much as the Indian said in York State concerning the whites white men good but very uncertain the Indians want to be good but they are quite uncertain many of them we have heard a great deal at this meeting in the meeting house and in this bowery one of the best discourses I have heard although all good is the remarks of Brother Watt the theory of our religion is practical life this is the theory of our religion to practice good while we live on the earth we have the oracles of the gospel we have the truth with us we have the ordinances of the house of God and every thing that we ask for is put into our possession to perfect] ourselves and prepare ourselves to enjoy the celestial kingdom of our Father and God what is to be done it is for us to reduce the theory of our religion to practice this is my teaching to the people it is very excellent to know and understand the things of God as far as we can his dealing with his children the design of the organization of the earth and peopling of the earth it is very pleasing we had a history this morning of the great celebration of the first wedding that ever took place on this earth I been hunting up to see if found the ceremony I asked him for it and I been hunting up it and I can't find anything more when the Lord presented the woman to the man he said this is bone of my bone flesh of my flesh and I can't find any other ceremony the Lord gave the woman to the man and this is all the ceremony that I can find so it is in this our day with regard to marriage the revelations that the Lord has given to us on celestial marriage that no man has a right to take a wife except she be given unto him of the Lord this is the revelation consequently my counsel to all the brethren and sisters that are in this church to prove themselves worth of receiving their endowment previous to their marriage then go to the alter and be sealed for time and eternity this is my counsel to them then they commence life correctly and if they will pursue the every day life of a Christian this reduces the theory of our religion to practice we have many things to say to the people with regard to purifying ourselves preparing ourselves to enjoy the blessings the Lord has for his saints he has great

blessings in store for his people but the weakness of the saints the ignorance the darkness blindness that seems to cover the saints is so great it is almost impossible to get them to see believe and to practice yet they learn a little we improve a little I have frequently said I think it taking the age of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints which is now taking into consideration this raw material gathered here year by year so unlike the City of Enoch he had his own children he practiced what we are now teaching for the first time] I have every preached this subject in public was last evening my counsel to the young men young women to marry this was the practice of Enoch they had their children born in their midst but still he had to live and wrestle with the Lord plead with the people and practice his religion for over 300 years to make them perfect and taking this people gathered from the sinks of corruption and misery of lower world bring them together to sanctify them I think that our progress is as great as Enoch's and perhaps more I think it is more I think that we progress faster than the people of Enoch did in the things of God if we can really get the people to believe that it is necessary for us to be one in our operations in all our temporal affairs when we can do this we can be united as a family [we?] say to the saints we are one with regard to the ordinances of the house of God with regard to the faith of Jesus with regard to the plan of salvation with a very few exceptions we are one if we are to become one in all temporal

[Image 63]

this will prove the saints so they can receive the blessing of the Lord he has in store for us with regard to our spirits and the spirits still waiting to take tabernacles I think I have had some intimation of facts as they do exist in the eternities of the Gods I think I have I think there is dozens and millions of spirits are anxious to come into the house they will consent to go into these brothel houses here even [need/yet?] to get a tabernacle according to the history Abraham gave us the Lord has reserved noble spirits to come forth in the latter times you parents observe the spirits of your children and you will see a disposition in the most of the children born in this church they are far superior to the children born in the world you try their disposition their wills you sound their integrity and you will find something more than you commonly find in the world you cross them abuse them and you will find disposition that is hard to grapple with lead them in the path of truth and righteousness they can be led with a thread with a hair you undertake to break that and you will find that this is not found in the world as a general thing our school teachers mistake the disposition of our children every mortal there is only here and there one that know how] to control the children Latter-day Saints these spirits that are anxious to come here and take tabernacles we call upon brother Joseph William and Henry to go preaching you go and spend two years preaching and when you come back how many souls have you saved and gathered into this kingdom I don't know been means of converting one and some baptizing many but few would gather the two Orsons Orson Pratt and Hyde preached and traveled more than any man in the church now they have been the means of baptizing a great many and bringing them into the church no question of it I asked the question last year what portion of those that came into the church by your labors have gathered with the saints about one third I reckon how many remained in the church about one half and to get about one 6th that remain in the church and remain faithful to those] who were baptized I believe I have been as successful in my labors and baptizing as any man in this church with regard to getting those firm and steadfast] yet we look to see how many have we got we want an emigration here and here is a good time to throw an idea in the minds of people another year we are going to send for the poor well I m willing that George could have

some of those girls and you should send for some of them in the first place I say marry [these/those?] young girls and commence this emigration at home

now ask yourselves who is it that funds this money to sustain this emigration do you my brethren and sisters been brought here by the Perpetual Emigration fund are you willing to pay into the treasury what you pay got from it over 900 hundred thousand owing to this fund

if we had this we could send for the poor saints we could bring them here independent of George well those that minds assist in bringing the poor from the old country there has not been a season for 15 years when we gathered the saints but what your humble has backed up 100 and 40 thousand dollars a year to pay the hook and crook as obliged to get it I don't rob any body for it if there is 500 girls in England waiting to be sent for and will not get married there I want you should raise means] and send for them if I raised the money to send for the parents and children can you raise enough to send for those girls the expenses of the teams we have sent diverse and general expenses is 500 thousand dollars a year then provisions down there clothing and tents and wagons which amount to 40 thousand more which has to be raised in cash will you think of it if you will I let this pass now I want my brethren and sisters it is a subject never mooted before

I have been very delicate it is a matter I always felt uneasy about I could always court for myself I never do any dictation whatever consequently I feel delicate with regard to mooted question of this kind and young gentleman and lady I am not a match maker if you knew now that there was a thousand souls in the spirit world the children of our Father in Heaven that is waiting longing desiring anxious to come here to this covenant now think you young men those spirits have had promises of coming in the year 1867 and 68 now there is a thousand of them and you will not prepare the tabernacles for them they must go into the state of New York perhaps and take tabernacles of parents opposed to the truth fight the gospel of Jesus rebel against every holy principle revealed and they are wicked ungodly devilish and going to destruction and they have got these children and [lead?] there is there any responsibility on the people here there is you take those boys and girls raised up in the church they believe all that we believe and their hearts

and their affections are as pure and as clean as the snow and they are just as Brother Hyde was [noting?] to the people that we should live to have

[Image 64 is back cover of notebook; it contains only drawing of an unidentified man.]

[Image 65]

the Spirit of Lord let every one us old sectarians purify ourselves that our minds be like pieces of blank paper
the Lord write on it what he
pleases not much danger the Lord will dictate but this will place us in situation that the Holy Ghost can indite
continually but I will say this for explanation
many and many a man and women that has had the Spirit of the Lord is just as enthusiastic to yield in some of
their expressions and doings and just as far from the spirit
of Holy Ghost and priesthood as east from the west yet they are influenced by the Spirit of the Lord not but
would the Lord take a child and learn a child to read thousand times
sooner than our school teachers can] he doesn't do it for the simple reason he has put this power in our
possession and it is for you and I to use it
one of the best men I ever saw in my life I knew man when a Methodist and as a Mormon elder one of first I
ever saw as good a man
as ever lived he didn't know enough to hoe a row of potatoes [6?] feet apart across and a lot get on to a dozen
row going across [the light/he right?]
good preacher yet the Holy Ghost didn't tell him how to hoe potatoes and get a living because those principles
are put into our possession for us to improve
upon and learn without asking the Lord to be our school master true he learned our parents how to sew up
the fig leaves he showed them
how to sew those up cover the nakedness and then they learned how to [kill?] the [kits?] but [--?] didn't
know what to do with the skins and the Lord
had to show them how to make clothing of them while Brother Orson telling you a great deal about this holy
great wedding first ever celebrated³ Father
Adam one that helped to make the world he helped to organize this earth and it was organized expressly for him
and he is the king and the lord
of this earth and when he came here he came with an understanding that he would do just as you and I do go to
sleep and dream for 6
hours steady and continue to dream what we call dreaming [are/our?] reflections in our sleep wake up and could
not think of single thing in dreaming but
it always been so with every dream come here and forget what had been past to commence anew I don't
know but I had better tell you I tell
the people when they are prepared to profit by these principles and knowledge the Lord has revealed but I say
this to you every spirit there is prepared to inhabit

a body has been born of our parent[s] in heaven and their spirit[s] and that that was born of the spirit is spirit and they commenced the operations here on this earth and Father Adam and Mother Eve ate of the fruit until their systems were charged with the dust of this earth then they was prepared to form a body they were prepared to form a spirit long before then they were prepared to prepare a body from the food they ate to form the body for the spirit to rest in and not until then these things Adam forgot a great deal but he knew it all before hand] and the wedding nothing more less his father came to him there is a wife you have had for so many years ~~you have had one~~ you are going to have one wife to go to that earth and if your wives ever going to earth it will be another not that one she is called Eve because she is the mother of all living and that is the title given to every woman and if any other wives Eve she be the queen of that earth we have Adam to be the lord of the earth and the father of all living on this earth and Mother Eve to the mother of all living we [come/came?] all [on it/into?] there is a great many things to learn I don't care anything about these things I ask myself will we as Latter-day Saints sanctify ourselves to become one so we receive the blessings the Lord has for us I care nothing about these theories we may know and understand them a great many of them but what will it profit us unless we serve God nothing if we can only become one so that we can raise and save our grain they will have to apply to the sisters they will have to get these young women to enter into societies married ladies too in the first place and next and we will see we improve our bonnets make the ornaments to wear on them and we will make that we will wear and we will not be expensive we will give up that idea if marry a man that has a wife got to sustain me in idleness and ~~come~~ have every thing that [--?] I want if not I get a bill and go to another man there is some of this occur our young ladies must stop and reflect until they consider this as they are told it is their duty to learn to labor for themselves to sustain themselves a young man comes along I want to marry but I can't sustain you as I want but I can maintain myself I can earn all I want to eat drink and wear it is said that 7 women take hold of the skirts of one man

and say we will eat our own bread wear our own apparel only let us be called by thy name go and the elder be
sealed to you that we may bear
[your?] name in resurrection we will sustain ourselves suppose we commence a little and the girls go to work
and say now if a young man steps [up?] I should
like to marry you but I don't know [--/how?] I can sustain you we have fair [good beds?] all but could we
make a little duck pond and another
have a feather bed put on straw bed and get a few sheep and goat Brother Watt has not got his every day coat
he has got on pantaloons
that I assure you wear 5 to ten years he says he can raise the silk cheaper than manufacture the flax and make
it into cloth

[Image 66]

you go to China you see that they wear silk because easier manufacture than silk we have got as good a silk country as China no better on this earth if we can raise silk cheaper than we can flax we ~~can~~ should do so we have had too many gold mines for us to know anything about this

[--?]⁴ we will go into the elements and bring them together and organize them for the health and wealth and comfort and beauty of the people gold does us no good except for these ornaments if you and I been as prudent as should be 12 years back your fathers had silver and gold and made themselves beads to wear around your necks and [bonnets?] and had them easier and would not have worried after gold cost them as much to buy those frivolous beads wear on their necks and [ear?] if we not be prudent until we can have our ornaments of gold and silver manufacture our ear drops bosom pins and every ornament we wish for if we be prudent we can take the gold we get here and manufacture it in these ornaments and we can have clasps of silver and of gold and I have not said as much as I would like to say but I have talked all I should talk I could reason out the life of man and show to any independent being how we can get health there is a subject I mentioned last year I expect to [rd/rz?] upon the people it is our life and turn our attention I just mention it turn our attention to a different method of living live on vegetables use butter milk and eggs great deal more than we do make our plans as soon as we can get a large fine fish pond down here let every man get one of those springs prepare it and put the trout in and raise his fish and live on fish eggs butter milk and potatoes cabbage and all kinds of vegetables and fruit grows in these valleys but let our tea coffee whiskey and tobacco alone let it pass by and never use any of it anymore this the people have done well in observing the Word of Wisdom the season passed for years past I have been in habit of drinking warm drinks. It is little milk and [city/soty?] in it in the city we call it contentment I have given this up and I drink cold drink all the time and I say I don't think as I ever took as much satisfaction in drink cold water as this season past drink down glasses half glass good [yes?] water and if I were not in habit of drinking cold drinks [standing?] never to have done it as I have this summer that is before you God bless you.

¹ Transcript has been published in Complete Discourses of Brigham Young 4:2482.

² Only closing] is given throughout; George Watt used] to mark his place, probably while transcribing.

³ There is no Watt shorthand extant for this sermon.

⁴ Word written over or crossed out; illegible.