

look over here at Jerusalem, opening our ears also, in order that we may see and hear at the same time.

The authority of the gospel preached to Abraham was that of the Father, in true popular style, "God the Father." The preacher was God himself. The things uttered were the items of a promise, not one fact, properly so called, being on the lips of the preacher. The audience was one man, Abraham. The object, something else than the salvation of Abraham, for before the gospel was thus preached to him he was the friend of God. Such was the gospel preached to father Abraham: and now let us turn to the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Jesus. Here the preaching is by the authority of Jesus Christ, certified and endorsed by the Father and by the Divine Spirit. The preacher is one of the ambassadors of Christ. The things declared are the great things that *had transpired* on the advent of Christ and his reign as Prince of Salvation. The audience, an assembly of sinners. The object, salvation of sinners from their sins.

For the sake of being still more impressive, let us put these two gospel messages in the following order:

THE GOSPEL IN THE YEAR OF THE WORLD 2083.

1. The authority—the Father Almighty.
2. The preacher—God.
3. Things uttered—only predictions or promises.
4. The audience—one person.
5. The object—to make a marked beginning in the development of heaven's grand purposes.

THE GOSPEL IN THE YEAR OF THE WORLD 4037.

1. The authority—Jesus Christ.
2. The preacher—an ambassador of Christ.
3. Things preached—the *facts* concerning Christ.
4. The audience—sinners who needed the salvation of Christ.
5. The object—remission of sins through Christ.

How any son of reason or how any pupil of the living oracles can regard these divine pictures representing these two messages as the same, is only to be accounted for on the general principle that "darkness covers the land and gross darkness the people," and therefore amidst this darkness the eye cannot discriminate between the things that differ.

Yours, as a friend of divine truth, D. OLIPHANT.