

faithful sleep in Jesus and rest in Him—and that the souls of them that sleep in the Lord enjoy perpetual rest and felicity.

If the dead can be raised from the grave to appear again upon earth, either in flesh or in spirit, then 'Christ is not the *first fruits of them that sleep*.'—Then death can have had no sting, and the grave no victory! If the human worm that is said to have crawled at the foot of its confessor, and to have violated oral and written oaths, can unlock the holy sanctuary of the dead, and disport with their mutilated remains before the living, he has anticipated the blast of the dread trumpet which is to summon the mighty dead from their graves, and usher in the great assize that is to fix the immortal destiny of man.

*"Mormonism—Past and Present."*

It is nearly impossible, so fluctuating are their religious views, to ascertain precisely what form of belief the Mormons adhere to. A new 'revelation' may descend any day, to revolutionize their whole convictions. So far as we have been able to ascertain it, however, the following is, in brief, something like what the Saints maintain. It is of course considerably simplified, and stripped of a fair share of unnecessary verbiage. From the authorised Confession of Faith one can gather that the Mormons profess to believe in the word of God recorded in the Bible, in the Book of Mormon, and the Book of Doctrines and Covenants, which in their view completes the 'Scriptures,' and forms the fulness of the Gospel. Their mode of interpreting is new, and quite peculiar. They describe 'God' in their symbolic books as 'a material, organized intelligence, possessing both body and parts. He is in the form of man, or rather man is in the form of God.' In answer to the question, 'Can you prove, then, that man is in the form of God?' the Mormon readily answers, 'Yes; Genesis v. 1: In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made He him;' and so on with this realistic way of looking at nearly every word of the Scriptures. They maintain that the gift of prophecy, and the power of working miracles still belongs to the true Mormon Church, and that many of their number can work miracles and cast out devils. They hold that the end of the world is very near, and that they are the 'Saints' spoken of in the Apocalypse, who will reign with Christ in a temporal kingdom in this world. The seat of this kingdom they allege will be either Missouri or Great Salt Lake City. Men, in order to be saved, must comply with four conditions: they must believe in the atonement of Christ; they must repent of their sins; they must receive baptism by immersion, at the hands of an apostle of Christ's appointment (a Mormon one, of course); they must receive the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, by duly authorized apostles (that is, by the apostles of the Mormon Church). They recognize two orders of priesthood, the 'Aaronic' and the 'Melchizedek' orders, and are governed by a prophet, twelve apostles, the seventies, bishops, high-priests, deacons, elders, and teachers.

In 1859 M. Remy estimated the Mormons in Utah at 80,000, and 186,000 throughout the world. The anti-mormon Federal Marshal in 1860 gives the Mormons in Utah at 40,266. The Saints themselves aver that they cannot be less than 90,000 to 100,000 in Utah, and from 300,000 to 400,000 throughout the world.