

sisting the interruptions, and overcoming the obstacles thrown in his way by the scoffing sinners around him; and finally, in entrusting himself with his wife and family, in a vessel the capability of which to stem the turbulent manes of a mighty flood, he necessarily had no means of ascertaining—in all these things see we clearly that the practice of Noah, not less than his faith, entitled him to the proud cognomen of “a righteous man, perfect in his generations.”

And now, brethren, we would proceed to ask how this behavior of Noah should affect our own conduct as Israelites, and as members of the human family. It were scarcely needful to remind you that as the peculiar people, selected to fulfil the glorious vocation of missionaries of the Most High to the world, it devolves upon you, even more than did it upon Noah, to exhibit in faith and deed the fullest appreciation of your grand destiny. And while, like Noah, you strive to be perfect with the Lord your God, you must also exhort to faithfulness those amongst you, who too fondly attach themselves to the world, and for its empty honors and hollow triumphs will barter all, that can give them a claim to the proudest of all titles—that of an Israelite, and seem but too anxious to deny a descent the most ancient, and the most aristocratic, the world can show—even that from the princely Abraham; and all this for the shadow and the tinsel, which can never ultimately satisfy. Such carnal-minded degenerates, worthy compeers of the corrupt race of the flood, unable to lift their infatuated gaze from earth, can neither see nor understand aught that is above their restricted vision. They cannot understand that, if they are “righteous” as Israelites, they may yet be “perfect” in the discharge of all the duties devolving upon them as citizens of the world. But, my hearers, for our part, we will not be thus wilfully blind. We will examine our history as a people, and we shall find that, from the period of the earliest progenitors of our race, a strict observance of all the requirements of Israel’s religion has ever been found by our fathers to be quite compatible with the fullest and most zealous discharge of their duties as citizens of the various Gentile states in which their lot has been cast. We will not stop to notice how this compatibility has extended even to the discharge of the