

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

November 20, 1931

47 E. SOUTH TEMPLE ST.

Hon. Reed Smoot
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C.

Personal

Dear Brother Smoot:

Enclosed is an advance copy of a pamphlet carrying the much discussed address "The Earth and Man." Since you left us the matter of the proposed and opposed publication of this address has had further consideration, the final and deciding stages of which, so far as I have learned, are about as follows:

Two weeks ago the Presidency called for a report on the matter and for an explanation as to the cause of the long delay. On being informed of the diverging views of some of the brethren the Presidency (President Ivins presiding in the absence of President Grant), announced that they would re-assume charge. On Monday last, the 16th, I was called into consultation and saw that the Presidency had already arrived at a decision; but they desired to consider with me some of the minor changes that had been proposed, and this was done on the following morning. Then I was instructed to send the copy to the printer without further delay. The address will appear in tomorrow evening's Deseret News, and by special direction of the Presidency the address is issued in pamphlet form. I shall see that a package of these pamphlets is sent you as soon as delivery is made here by the printers.

You will observe that the one proposed change to which you objected has not been made, the brethren having expressed your own thought that this point is important. A very slight re-wording has been made; but as a matter of fact there are none but such slight and minor changes, excepting one proposed by myself -- the cutting out of about half of the long quotation from Dana, the doing of which is an advantage.

When I consider the extent of the collateral or but remotely connected subjects that have been discussed in connection with the consideration of this address I am astonished at my own remarkable ability (?) to crowd so much into that forty minute talk. Yesterday after the decision had been announced a query was introduced as to whether all individual life forms below the status of man -- these including the higher animals and plants down to the coral polyps and the bacteria -- are to be separately, that is individually, re-created! The subject was carried over for further consideration, and I wish you could be here to take part in the friendly discussion. Of course, all the brethren accept the decision of the First Presidency with good feeling.

Kindly give my very best regards to Sister Smoot and be assured of prayerful and loyal support in your exacting service.

Cordell H. Parnaby, brother,

Talman

COPY

Nov. 24, 1931

Hon. James E. Talmage
47 East South Temple Street
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Brother Talmage:

I sincerely thank you for your letter of November 20, 1931, in which you enclose an advance copy of a pamphlet of the much discussed address "The Earth and Man", delivered by yourself in the Salt Lake Tabernacle.

I am also pleased that you have sent me a package of the pamphlets for I shall take occasion to see that some of my particular friends will receive a copy of the same. I read the address over this morning and I haven't a word of complaint to offer against it and I am sure that it will be received by many of our thinking young men and women and greatly appreciate by them.

Give my kindest regards to Sister Talmage. With very best wishes for your future happiness, I remain

Your brother,

Reed Sweet