

## **Phineas F. Bresee Sermon Notes - Isaiah 6:8 I heard the voice of the Lord**

Every attempt has been made to transcribe these notes accurately. Indecipherable text appears in brackets [-]. Abbreviations transcribed as they appear in the notes.

Isa VI-8 I heard the voice of the Lord.

We lift today the front cover of the [Nero][Ec j]. The vol is unread. One by one we shall turn its pages. God in mercy orders that we see & read one page at a time. It is his loving wisdom that has ordained that the clouds should hang low & impenetrable over the future. And it is well. And we would say this morning with J.H. Newman in that beautiful hymn of "Lead kindly light" "keep thou my feet: I do not ask to see the distant scene: one step enough for me." But we have come to the preface and that we would read today. Some things may be said in the preface which would be out of place in the Vol &c. Why I am here needs no explanation. I am a Methodist preacher. Eligible to every appointment in any Conf. & liable to any. I have never sought an appointment. I have sought a few times not to have an appointment. Not because I did not feel that they were equal &c. I never felt called to Dist. work – Los Ang. Dist. is perhaps as delightful a Dist. as there is in our church. When the invitation came to me &c. I at once said if it shall seem providential and the Bp. shall see best. I will come. I said yes for many reasons. Because I have great faith in the possibility of this church. That with this magnificent audience room it is situated here in the midst of the city. Easily accessible. And that I believed it possible to gather the multitudes here to hear the gospel. And that here could be opened up an ever enlarging fountain for the salvation of men. That here my Lord would walk amid the multitudes to save &c. That this Ch-would be a great light. Like a lighthouse amid the billows. &c. As I thought of it I think I felt something as Ed-Irving &c. I come as sent of God. It seems to me that nothing but the over-ruling prv. of God has brought me to stand here. I have been hitherto hindered, when once & again you have so kindly invited me. And now at this time I have been brought hither. It seems to me entirely providential. And I know that burning in my own soul is the divine message. I recognize that I am a messenger. A glad messenger of a gladsome message. I come to echo here in the midst of this city the song which the angels sang. Recognizing the fact that my message is the glorious gospel of the blessed God & I bring a message that gives joy to childhood. Leads the boy & girl into the beautiful palace of truth & purity & love. That strews flowers in their pathway & brings crowns for their brows. It brings strength to youth. Brings in high ideals & strong pure motives. And high noble aspirations & blessed touches of divine love &c. My message is to manhood's strength. In prosperity to crown it with the glory of that which is better than earth. In days of conflict & toil & strife to put arms underneath & about of inf. strength. My message is to poverty & despair. It comes as a white robed angel with food for the hungry & cure for the destitute. With hope for the [despairing] & pressing to every lip the wine of inf. love which turns every possible earthly land into a paradise. My message is to the bereaved, the suffering & the dying. To bind up the broken hearted. To whispers of his grace & of the everlasting arms &c. To push back the curtains so that the eyes growing dim may see the doorway of the palace &c. My message is to men unsaved. Full of worldliness. To hold before their gaze the dying-living Christ. To proclaim the law of Sinai in their ears. To pour upon their awakened hearts the hallowed light of Mt. Zion. I come to tread the way – you to lead the way up the Mt. of transfiguration. To stand in the midst of the glory of our Lord & to see Jesus only & hear him. I come with my faith fixed on God with you to meet difficulties & discouragements. Full of confidence in him who has sent me from whom is my expectation. To cooperate with the H.G &c. I come assured of your loving cooperation. Everyone who loves Christ will love me for I am his. And everyone who loves him

and is & shall be associated with this church will stand with me. And we shall have victory according to the will of J. Christ. And now my brethren the commission of our Lord is upon us. Go ye make disciples. Teach. But he says tarry until the Holy [E-] is upon you &c. That [-] Jesus the truth. That going with you awakens men. We are to bring men to Jesus. To this end. To this place if possible to hear the truth. We are to so fill this place with the power of the H.G. that people will be pricked to the heart. Each member of the Ch. is to be a [loud] stone.

**End of notes**