expand and the heart to leap with joy. I 
admit that there are certain Saints who 
consider certain items as small affairs, 
but the least thing, however small it may 
appear to some, in its results may be 
great. If we as Saints of God do right, 
no difference about who calls us simple. 
I tell you, that if you have the Holy Ghost 
you can understand, and you can be im-
pressed with truth, and that truth will 
make you free, and you will not forget 
those things which you receive under the 
impressions of the Holy Spirit.

A great many people feast upon imagi-
nation instead of feasting upon that 
which is tangible, and they will allow 
their minds to be led away by fancy, and 
will make out how great they will be at 
some future time, and how good they in-
tend to be and how much of the Holy 
Ghost they expect to receive; but the idea 
is, what do you enjoy at the present time, 
and what are the blessings you enjoy at 
this present moment, right now? Am I 
doing right today? Is the Holy Ghost 
in me now? Is God’s blessing with me 
now—(not at some other time)? If so, 
then all is well.

I want the Saints to be impressed 
with the motto of being happy all the 
time; if you cannot be happy today, how 
can you be happy tomorrow? I speak 
this from what I have learned myself; 
though it has given me much of trouble, 
and a great amount of perseverance, to 
be happy under all circumstances. I have 
learned not to fret myself. It has taken 
me a great while to arrive at this point, 
but I have obtained it in a measure, and 
perhaps many of you have obtained the 
same thing, but I doubt whether a great 
many have learned the secret of happi-
ness.

In order to understand the prin-
ципle of happiness you must not be ever 
complaining, but learn not to fret your-

rough, let it be so; if all hell boils over, 
let it boil. I thank the Lord for the bit-
ter as well as for the sweet; I like to 
grapple with the opposite: I like to work 
and have something to oppose. I used 
to dread those things, but now I like 
to grapple with opposition, and there is 
plenty of it on the right hand and on the 
left. When trouble gets in among you, 
shake it off, or bid it stand out of the 
way. If the devil should come and say, 
"Brother Brigham is not doing his duty; 
or is not doing right," kick him right out 
of your way; bid him depart, do not allow 
him to have place in your habitation, but 
learn to be happy.

I remember a noted deist who said 
that it was a poor religion that would not 
make a person happy here in this life: he 
would not give a fig for such a religion; 
and I would say the same; give me a reli-
gion that will make me happy here, and 
that will make me happy hereafter. If 
you have the blues, or the greens, shake 
them off, and learn to be happy, and to 
be thankful. If you have nothing to eat 
but johnny cake, be thankful for that, 
and if you have not johnny cake, but 
have a roasted potato and buttermilk, 
why, be thankful; or if you have a leg 
of a chicken, or any other kind of food, 
learn to be thankful, and if you have only 
one dollar in your pocket, learn to be as 
happy under these circumstances as if 
you had ten dollars.

One time in Nauvoo, some English 
brethren did not like to eat corn bread, 
and one of them says to another, just 
before partaking of some, "Are you go-
ing to ask a blessing? I am not going 
to thank God for nothing else but corn 
bread, potatoes, and salt." Brethren, 
those feelings should not be, we ought 
to be happy and shake off the blues, 
no difference what we may be called 
to pass through, but let us have the