good and wise men in carrying out the 
laws and Constitution of our country.

We have pleaded with the Govern-
ment, we have pleaded with the Presi-
dent, and we have pleaded with the Sen-
ate of the United States to send us good
men. Brother Taylor has told us they 
will not do it; and why? Because they 
are not good themselves, they are not vir-
tuous, they are not holy, and they will 
not acknowledge the hand of God at all, 
but seek to overthrow the blessings and 
spirit of that rich legacy bequeathed to 
us through the blood of our fathers—the 
Constitution. Here is where I consider 
that our nation and the whole people of 
the United States are under condemna-
tion. It is because they have a Constitu-
tion and laws of government which the 
people control, for they elect their own 
oficers; for all citizens have the right to 
vote for their Governors, Presidents, and 
oficers in general; and hence they come 
under condemnation.

[Blessed the sacramental cup.]

The whole people have a vote in the 
selection of their officers; and if they ap-
point wicked men for their Governors 
and for their rulers, and then those 
rulers go to work and rule unrighteously, 
tyrrannize over the poor and humble, 
and sacrifice human life to satisfy their 
wicked ambition; at whose hands will 
the Lord require the blood of the inno-
cent? He will require it of those who 
elected the officers; for the responsibil-
ity does not rest alone upon the Pres-
idents, or Governors, or Judges, but it 
rests in a great measure with the people 
who placed them in power, when a nation 
becomes corrupt, and appoints corrupt 
and wicked rulers, and sustains them in 
their wickedness.

When Joseph and Hyrum Smith 
were murdered, the greater part of the 
people rejoiced in it, and would re-
mark that it was a pity the Smiths 
had died in the way they had; but it was 
a good thing they were out of the way. 
Governor Ford said, when speaking to 
the brethren in Nauvoo, that almost ev-
ery man he talked with would say it was 
a pity the Smiths should die under the 
pledged protection of the Governor of the 
State; but yet they were glad they were 
dead. Will not God require an atonement 
at the hands of such men?

Inasmuch as we have trusted in the 
Lord, and have found him true to his 
word, why should we not trust him now? 
If the harvest was ripe twenty or thirty 
years ago, surely it is ripe now; for the 
Elders of Israel have gone forth to the 
nations, and the people have rejected 
their testimony.

The more I look at the words which 
the Lord has spoken concerning our en-
emies, and especially those of this na-
tion, the more I become satisfied that 
they will not escape the judgments of the 
Almighty, anymore than the Nephites 
of old did, or any of the other nations 
who have rejected the message sent unto 
them by the God of heaven. This na-
tion is ripe in iniquity, and the destroy-
ing angels are at their doors; and I am 
as sure that the scourges will follow as I 
am that the servants of God have borne 
a true and faithful testimony unto them. 
I know what the consequence will be of 
the world rejecting the truth, for I have 
the testimony of Jesus and the Spirit of 
God within me; and therefore I say, Let 
us look well to our ways, remember our 
covenants, our duties, and our prayers; 
and I do hope and pray that the Elders 
in Great Salt Lake City will not, in the 
midst of their recreations, neglect their 
prayers or their duties before the Lord, 
or permit anything to stand between 
them and the building up the kingdom 
of God.

"Mormonism" is just as good as it 
was a year ago. The Gospel of Jesus