takings in righteousness. In those early
times we were made to realize the truth
of the Scriptures which Paul addressed
to the Corinthians—

"For ye see your calling, brethren,
how that not many wise men after the
flesh, not many mighty, not many no-
ble are called: But God hath chosen
the foolish things of the world to con-
found the wise; and God hath chosen
the weak things of the world to confound
the things which are mighty; And base
things of the world, and things which
are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and
things which are not, to bring to nought
things that are: That no flesh should
glory in his presence."—1 Corinthians, i
chap., 26-29 verses.

The world are in the same or a more
ignorant condition than we were before
the Gospel found us. We live in a very
peculiar time; it is a day of warning and
not of many words. The Elders now have
to labor a great deal harder to bring peo-
ple into the Church than they did in the
first rise of it. There is not now one man
brought to the knowledge of the truth by
receiving the Gospel to where there was
a hundred thirty years ago. It seems as
though the people are blind now than
they were thirty years ago, and igno-
rance prevails to a greater extent than
it did at that time. Jesus says, "Come
unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy
laden, and I will give you rest. Take my
yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am
meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall
find rest to your souls. For my yoke is
easy, and my burden is light."—Matt. xi.,
28-30.

Now, brethren and sisters, reflect
upon these things, and remember that
those who have embraced the Gospel
and do not make it their study to
promote the interests of the king-
dom of God, neglect their duty to
that kingdom of which they are sub-
jects. It is the duty of every one to labor
day by day to promote each other's hap-
piness, and also to study the well-being
of mankind. When we take a course
opposite to this, we become uneasy, un-
happy and discontented; we are not sat-
fied with anything that is around us;
our food, our raiment, our habitations,
and all that we possess becomes an an-
noyance to us; now what is the cause
of this? It certainly does not originate
with the Spirit of God, for that will never
render anyone unhappy. You all under-
stand, when you are in the right, that it
is the spirit of the world, or that spirit
which controls the world, which causes
people to feel in this way; and unless
they drive it far from them it will lead
them down to sorrow, misery, and death.
It is a spirit that inclines to kill and
destroy, and that inclines the wicked to
waste away everything there is upon the
earth. The Saints should be particu-
larly careful to avoid the influence of this
spirit of destruction, for it is not of God,
and we can all see now it leads mankind
to destroy each other.

Jesus says, "Verily, verily, I say unto
thee, Except a man be born again, he
cannot see the kingdom of God." It is
very easy to understand that a man can
see very little of a kingdom unless he
goes into it, and a man to see and under-
stand the kingdom of God must first be-
come a member of the Church of Christ,
and then he progresses until he has an
opportunity of looking into the kingdom,
of becoming acquainted with its officers
and laws, and hence it is that Jesus
says, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, ex-
cept a man be born of water and of
the Spirit, he cannot enter the king-
dom of God." When the kingdom of God
is organized upon the earth, it is done
to protect the Church of Christ in its
rights and privileges, so that you see the