present His laws upon this earth, and
to get the children of men to obey those
laws that they might fulfil the object of
their creation.

The Lord gave father Adam the
priesthood, and the Gospel of the Lord
Jesus Christ, after the fall. When he
went out into the dreary world, driven
from the Garden of Eden, he received
the Gospel, he received the priesthood,
and he started forth upon the face of the
earth with the keys of the kingdom of
God, to endeavor to establish the works
of righteousness upon the earth. He
gave this priesthood to his sons. A num-
ber of them were ordained high priests.
But in the commencement we find not
only the work of God but the work of
the devil manifest in the hearts of men.
Cain was stirred up in anger against
his brother Abel, and rose up and slew
him, shedding innocent blood, and the
power of evil commenced in the begin-
ing. We find from the Bible, as well
as from other revelations which God has
given us, that Adam and the early pa-
triarchs, those who were willing to be
led by the law of God in that generation,
received the high priesthood, and lived
to a great age. It is said Methuselah
lived to be almost 1,000 years old, and so
did father Adam and others. They held
the priesthood, and taught their children
truth and righteousness to establish the
kingdom of God in their day and gener-
ation. Herein is where I say the Lord
commenced and labored to establish his
kingdom and to guide men to receive the
word of the Lord, that they might walk
in obedience to His laws, fulfil the ob-
ject of their creation and be saved when
they got through with this probation—
that they might keep their estate and re-
cieve an exaltation and glory in the pres-
ence of God.

We are informed by revelation
that Adam, three years previous to
his death, "called Seth, Enos, Cainan,
Mahalaleel, Jared, Enoch, and Methuse-
lah, who were all high priests, with
the residue of his posterity who were
righteous, into the valley of Adam-
ondi-Ahman," and there bestowed upon
them his last patriarchal blessing; and
he prophesied what should take place
even till the coming of Messiah, which
prophecy is said to be written in the
Book of Enoch. But men soon began to
work corruption and unrighteousness on
the earth in that early age; and in trac-
ing the history of the church and king-
dom of God from those prophets down,
we find that the majority of the human
family were unwilling to keep the com-
mandments of God or to live according
to those principles which were revealed
to them for their salvation. It was but
a little time after, comparatively speak-
ing, that Enoch, who was acquainted
with the teachings of Adam and of his
fathers who held the holy priesthood,
labored to gather the people together
to practice righteousness, but the ma-
jority of them would not be guided by
him. He labored 365 years, we are
informed by revelation, teaching them
principles of righteousness, that they
might become sanctified and prepared
to receive celestial glory, but his labors
were not appreciated by them. Why
did not Enoch remain on the earth and
Zion prevail? Because wickedness pre-
vailed. The majority of the human fam-
ily in that generation were wicked; they
were not ruled over by the Lord; and,
therefore, were not men enough on the
face of the earth, in that generation, who
were willing to receive the Gospel, keep
the commandments of God, and work
the works of righteousness, for Enoch
to have power to remain on the earth.
Therefore it was that the Lord took
Enoch and the city of Enoch to himself;