afternoon to explain our views on this point. Suffice it to say that, in the Scrip-
tures is found, plainly written, the plan of salvation which God has devised.

Who are they who are under con-
demnation, and who need fear at the prospect of the same? Men and women
who, living in the day when the Gospel is preached in its fullness and purity, hear
it and reject it. Against such the anger of God is enkindled, and they are in a far
worse condition than those who die and never hear it. Says Jesus, "It would be
better for a man to have a millstone tied to his neck, and for him to be thrown into
the depths of the sea," than to do such and such things; and in another place
he says, "It would be better for a man never to be born." Why? Because light
having been presented to him, and truth proclaimed in his hearing, he rejects the
same.

The Latter-day Saints, I hold, will be
held to stricter accountability than any
other people on the face of the earth. Men wonder why we have suffered and
been persecuted so much in the past. I think it was partly because of our hard-
ess of heart. Not that the men who persecuted us were justified in so do-
ing. They were tested and tried, the
Lord left them their agency and they
brought themselves under condemnation
because of their conduct. But we never
had anything descend upon us as a per-
secution or scourge that has not been in-
tended for our good; and we are held
to a stricter accountability than any
other people because we have the Gospel
taught unto us. The thousands who
live throughout these valleys testify that
they have received the Holy Ghost; they
testify that they received it in the lands
where they embraced the Gospel; they
say that this love which they have for
one another, and the disposition they
have to dwell together in peace and unity
are the fruits of this Holy Spirit that they
have received. They testify that the Lord
has revealed unto them that this is the
Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. I do
not know but there are thousands here
today who, if they had time and oppor-
tunity, would arise and testify that this
is the truth, and that God has taught
it unto them, and they know it by the
power of the Holy Ghost. When a peo-
ples reach this condition they are held to
stricter accountability than they are who
have not this knowledge. On this ac-
count we must walk circumspectly, with
the fear of God before our eyes. We must
be a pure people or we will be scourged;
we must be a holy people, or God's anger
will be kindled against us. We must not
be guilty of dishonesty or take advan-
tage one of another; we must not bear
false witness; we must not neglect our
duties one to another or towards God,
for we cannot do these things with imp-
unity, for God's anger will be kindled
against us; and in proportion to the light
which men have will they be judged, and
God will reward them according to the
deeds done in the body. An enlight-
ened American will be held to stricter
accountability than an ignorant Indian;
and the man who has heard the sound
of the everlasting Gospel and the testi-
mony of the servants of God is held to
stricter accountability than he who has
never heard them.

I said that time would not permit me
to dwell on points connected with the sal-
vation of the ignorant dead; but there is
a way provided in the Gospel of the Son
of God by which even they can have its
ordinances administered unto them. I
will just refer to one passage, which you
can read at your leisure. In the 15th