this. It will be found in the 11th verse of
the 2nd chapter of the 1st epistle to the
Corinthians—"For what man knoweth
the things of man, save the spirit of man
which is in him? even so the things of
God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of
God."

The experience that the Latter-day
Saints have had has taught them that
this is true, and we know that when
a man deems himself capable of acting
solely on his own intelligence, and ne-
eglects to seek for the wisdom of Heaven
to guide him, he is very apt to go astray. This feeling of independence of
the Almighty has caused the apostasy of
some, whom we, perhaps, have thought
it would be almost impossible to blind to
the truths they once advocated so well;
but it is the case. Men do not look at
things as God looks at them, therefore
it is indispensably necessary for each
individual Latter-day Saint to have the
Spirit of God within him, that he may do
His will and not carry out his own views.

Look over the nations of the earth,
and where is there a government estab-
lished on correct principles, that is, in
accordance with the commandments of
God? There is not one, for they are
all established by the wisdom of men,
and men's ways are so different from the
ways of God that it is impossible, with
all their intelligence and knowledge—
and we know they possess a great deal—
for men to establish a government after
the order of God. In some minor particu-
lars such a government might not be far
out of the way, but in all the essentials
it would be dissimilar. It is the same
with us, the Latter-day Saints, without
the inspiration and wisdom of Heaven to
guide us, we cannot hope to carry out
and accomplish God's purposes. Many of
us have not had the educational advan-
tages enjoyed by the wealthy in the out-
side world, having belonged to the la-
boring classes—to what is termed the
downtrodden portions of the population
of Europe and America, and I say thank
God for it, for as a general thing the ed-
ucated classes are fast becoming unbe-
lievers in the Old and New Testament.
We, having been taken from the lowly
walks of life, have not, according to the
ideas of the world, the intelligence nec-
essary to establish a form of government
equal to that which other men have es-
tablished who have been more learned,
better educated than we are, and who
have had more wisdom than we seem to
have, in a temporal point of view. But
God, in his infinite mercy, has inspired
our leaders, he has endowed them with
wisdom and understanding to take the
course and perform the work that he de-
sired. I have heard men of the world
point out to President Young and other
leading men in this Church the course
they should pursue under certain cir-
cumstances, to ensure the approval and
friendship of, and to give satisfaction
to, the leading men of our nation and
the nations abroad; and to my certain
knowledge their counsel was diametri-
cally opposed to the course taken un-
der those circumstances. I have noticed
these things, and I know it is true that
God's ways are not as men's ways; and
for a man to undertake to be a Latter-
day Saint while groping in the dark by
trusting wholly to the intelligence of his
own mind, is the hardest work imagin-
able; it is the most laborious task that
can be, for any individual on the earth to
try to be what he ought to be before his
God without the Holy Spirit to assist and
guide him. We know that naturally our
hearts are far removed from God; and,
speaking to the ancient Saints, one of the