crooked and perverse generation. I ask
this congregation if there is an individ-
ual present here, but your humble ser-
vant who is under this direct command?
No. If you have been commanded to
do the same, you have been commanded
by a distinct revelation. The revelation
given to me was not given to any other
individual, and was not binding upon
any other. So in regard to the gather-
ing up of the Saints. We were dwelling
in the State of New York, and on the
second day of January, 1831, God com-
manded that all the Saints in that State,
the State in which the Church was orga-
nized, and all who were dwelling in all
the regions round about, should gather
up to the State of Ohio. Is that a com-
mandment binding upon any of this con-
gregation? Not one of them, it was only
suited to the circumstances that then ex-
tend, and when fulfilled it was no longer
even binding upon them. The Lord gave
a commandment after we had gathered
up to the land of Kirtland, that some
of his servants should go forth, two by
two, preaching through Indiana, Ohio,
Illinois and Missouri, that they should
meet together in general Conference on
the western boundaries of the State of Mis-
souri, and that the Lord God would
reveal unto them the land which should
be given unto them for an everlasting
inheritance. These persons were com-
manded to do this. This commandment
was binding upon them and them alone.
They were the individuals who were
commanded to do this work—it was not
required of the rest of the Church. They
fulfilled their appointment—as many as
were faithful went through, two by two,
on different routes, preaching and call-
ing upon the people to repent and be
baptized, confirming them by the water
side, and organizing Churches. Finally
those persons thus commanded assem-
bled in August and September, on the
western boundaries of the State of Mis-
souri, in Jackson County. Then the com-
mandment was fulfilled; and it was no
longer binding upon those to whom it
was given. Thus you see that what is
suitable for this month is not always
suitable for next month, and what is
suitable for today is not always suitable
for tomorrow. It needs new revelation.

When these missionaries assembled
in Jackson County, the Prophet Joseph,
being with them, inquired still further,
and a commandment was given on that
occasion, before the Church had gath-
ered, except one small branch, called the
Coalsville Branch, and that command-
ment was to be binding upon all the
Latter-day Saints who should gather up
to that land. What was it? That all
the people who should gather to Jack-
son County, the land of their inheri-
tance, should consecrate all their prop-
erty, everything they had—they were to
withhold nothing. Their gold and sil-
ver, their bedding, household furniture,
their wearing apparel and everything
they possessed was to be consecrated.
That placed the people on a level, for
when everything a people has is conse-
crated they are all equally rich. There
is not one poor and another rich, for
they all possess nothing. I do not know
but you might call that poor; but they
have something in common, namely, that
which they have consecrated, and this
brings me to an item which I happened
to think of just about half a minute be-
fore I arose.

I will now read to you what took
place on this American continent
thirty-six years after the birth of
Christ. Jesus appeared here on this
continent and organized his Church.
He chose twelve disciples and com-